Uncalled For

I think Nargis Dutt's comments on Satyajit Ray ('Ray's View of the World', December 3,1989) were in very bad taste. All that she had in her favour was becoming the first Indian heroine to prance around in a bikini besides overemoting in films like *Mother India*.

By saying that Ray's films only portray poverty, she displays her ignorance since India is one of the poorest countries in the world and there is nothing that Ray can do about it.



Nargis Dutt: Uncharitable

Did she not realise that Ray portrayed almost every aspect of human relationships and situations through his movies? Utpal Dutt gave a fitting reply to her uncalled for remarks when he said the holy cow should have stuck to her *Mother India* roles.

Amit Kumar Pramanick,
Bangalore

Timely Piece

It was high time that the Colour Magazine published an article on Camilio Jose Cela, this year's Nobel Laureate for literature ('A Poet first of All,' November 26,). Prior to Cela's announcement as the winner, the younger generation hardly knew about his work. One hopes that you will publish more articles on different aspects of his writing.

Joydev Das
Narendrapur
(West Bengal)

Academic Pressure Too Much

I fully agree with Arun Patodia (Post Mortem, December 5, 1989) when he says that given the vast syllabi in most schools, students, our future generation, have become mechanical entities and not the good human beings they should have been.

The education system should be made uniform throughout the country and studies should be a source of joy, not of boredom to our youth. Besides, our classrooms are so over crowded that students rarely get individual attention. It is time that parents took more interest in their children's future.

Maya Modi,
Calcutta

Environment At Risk

It was heartening to read that concerned countries are taking positive steps to avert the environmental disasters that threaten to overcome our planet. ('Operation Worldwatch', November 26, 1989)

A matter of great concern is the increasing concentration of poisonous gases like sulphur dioxide carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide in the environment. As these gases dissolve in the atmospheric moisture, they form acid rain which is disastrous to our national monuments and living beings.

Another threat lies in growing deforestation and desertification. Sea levels all over the world are rising and in most countries the ecosystem has been thrown into disarray.

Javed Nishat
Calcutta

More on the Stars

It is a pity that the Colour Magazine has stopped publishing its section on Hindi filmstars. You should resume the column and give us news about Hollwood stars as well. A section on Hindi and English music would also be appreciated.

Ashish K. Sahu,
Dist Sambalpur (Orissa)

Wrong Title

Your cover story, 'Royal Challenge' (November 19, 1989) made interesting reading but I would like to point out an error. The last ruler of Tripura's Manikya dynasty is Maharaj Kumar Manikya Kirit Bikram Kishore Dev Burman and not Maharajkumar Kirit Bikram as you have mentioned.

Aloka Kalley,
Sahaganj

The Telegraph
7 JANUARY 1990



4 Unscrupulous middlemen are ripping off kidney donors in desperate need of money and helpless patients with terminal renal failure. An investigative report on the growing illegal multicrore kidney trade in the city

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T • H • E KIDNEY BAZAR

Money-hungry middlemen are taking kidney donors and helpless patients with terminal renal failure for a big ride. Monimoy Dasgupta and Surit Doss investigate this growing, illegal trade

Calcutta's private hospitals and doctors have teamed up with a breed of agents to turn the city's 65,000 professional blood donors into living organ banks ready to be cut up for sale. The commodity being hawked is the kidney and its price is Rs 80,000 or more, depending on the desperation of the patient at the point of terminal renal failure.

Kidney transplants have become a Rs 6-crore industry in the city and the worst sufferers are the donors and, sometimes, the recipients. With the business booming more and more, doctors and their kidney brokers are moving in for the lucrative kill. This blatantly unethical and gory business thrives because, shockingly, there is no law to check the kidney merchants. The International Ethics Committee for Kidney Transplants does forbid doctors to carry out transplants between unrelated people who sell and buy their organs for money, but doctors in the kidney business argue that they cannot let a patient die for want of a related donor.

Of the country's total requirement of about 50,000 kidneys a year, Calcutta alone accounts for a substantial share. With many related donors scared to donate their kidney, the supply has to be maintained from somewhere else. For this, the hunting grounds for the kidney touts are either the city's slums or the professional blood donors, who are always in dire need of money.

The favourite haunt of the touts is SSKM Hospital, one of the few government hospitals offering dialysis facilities free of cost. Dialysis is an artificial kidney machine which clears the blood of its impurities when the kidney fails to perform this vital function. Donors at the SSKM, unable to cope with the rush of patients, are forced to resort to a process of elimination. Those patients who have found a potential related donor are allowed

Ashok Das



A kidney transplant in progress

to be put on dialysis, pending a transplant. The hospital refuses to entertain those without a related donor because dialysis could go on indefinitely. Also, it does not want to get involved in the different ethical and legal problems that may emerge in the case of unrelated donors. Thus, there is a steady flow of disappointed patients out of the SSKM because of the absence of donors.

The touts, ever on the lookout, quickly swoop in on the patients and promise to arrange a kidney for a sum. In the meantime, the patient gets himself admitted to a private nursing home which has dialysis facilities. For the affluent, it is no problem, but for the poor this means a minimum cost of Rs 1,800 a week at Rs 600 a sitting for dialysis. A kidney transplant is more beneficial because it can be done for a fixed expenditure of Rs 2 lakhs whereas dialysis becomes a recurring expenditure for a lifetime.

The tout now swings into action, getting in touch with the hospital staff and doctors. He finds out the financial condition, the blood group and how the patient can be contacted. The tout then shortlists from his "bank of professional blood donors" according to the blood group. He follows this up by arranging a meeting between the donor and the patient so that pathological tests can be carried out. For a patient to accept a donor's kidney, the tissues also must match. The tout, in connivance with the technician in the laboratory, comes to know the result of the vital HLA test (tissue matching) before the patient and the donor, and thus prevents the two from striking the deal between themselves.

Armed with the result of the tests, he goes to the patient and tries to extract the maximum price. He sets a price anywhere between Rs 80,000 and Rs 1 lakh. The desperate patient, seeing some hope of a longer lease of life, readily agrees to the price. The tout takes his cut of Rs 50,000 or more and the balance goes to the potential donor. He then allows direct contact between the two and the donor signs a declaration saying that he is donating his kidney "voluntarily". This is done because the law does not allow a doctor to take out an organ if it is not beneficial to the person's health unless he is donating it voluntarily. The surgeon can be charged with criminal offence under Section 126 of the Indian Penal Code for having caused grievous hurt to the person if the organ is removed unnecessarily.

"However, going by the circumstances under which most of these operations or kidney graftings are done in the city it is doubtful whether the consent obtained is uncoerced," says a surgeon who refuses to do transplants from unrelated donors.

Here coercion can be used by taking advantage of the poverty of the donor by luring him with huge sums of money or offering him a job or even promising him to pay the dowry for the marriage of his daughter.



Ashok Das

Donor's kidney being removed: Grisly business

At present there are only two nursing homes in the city where kidney grafting is done. Both accept cases of only related donors. But doctors very often abuse the term "related" thereby encouraging trade in human organs. An unrelated donor often obtains an affidavit from the court saying that he is related to the patient and thus escapes any legal complications. The doctors, aware of this fraud, choose to turn a blind eye because he earns upto Rs 50,000 by carrying out the transplant.

With India now the world's biggest centre for the kidney trade, it has become a multibillion dollar business across continents. Arabs, Singaporeans and the wealthy from neighbouring countries make a beeline for India and pick up a kidney for a song

A leading city urologist and transplant surgeon, Dr Mohan Sil, who does most of the transplants at the Belle Vue Nursing Home, says, "Although grafting an organ from an unrelated donor is unethical, how can I let a patient die if his relatives are unwilling to donate their kidney ?" However, he expressed himself against the commercialisation of organs and says that he keeps being approached by middlemen willing to procure a kidney for his patients for a brokerage.

Investigations reveal that more often than not the doctor takes up the offer of the middleman. Since the search for an appropriate donor is a time consuming process with many pathological tests involved, the patient, meanwhile, pays through his nose undergoing dialysis at the nursing home. The all-important HLA-typing is done at only one nursing home in the city. Since it has only recently begun doing the tests independently, the doctors suggest that the samples be sent for crosschecking to Bombay and Madras. This is done deliberately to prolong the

GIFT OF LIFE

Twenty-year-old Vandana Modak from Krishnagar came to Belle Vue Clinic (BVC) in February 1988 with features of terminal renal faliure. She was advised immediate transplant and, meanwhile, put on dialysis. Both her parents agreed to donate one of their kidneys.

4.6.88: At 11.30 pm the nephrologist of BVC received a call from Krishnagar that Vandana's father had suffered a brain stem haemorrhage and the doctors there had given up hope of his survival. They wanted to know if one of his kidneys could be used to save his daughter.

5.6.88: At 11 am a team from BVC reached Krishnagar and brought Mr Modak to Calcutta on an artificial respirator and cardiac monitor. At BVC, the patient was put on a ventilator. He was examined by two neurologists including the present vice-chancellor of Calcutta University, Dr Bhaskar Ray Choudhuri. They pronounced the patient brain dead although the ventilator continued to maintain the cardiac function.

6.6.88: Simultaneous surgery on Vandana and her father began in the evening. While Vandana's surgeon prepared the bed for the grafting, her father's surgeon removed his left kidney. His heart still beating, Mr Modak donated his kidney to his daughter before bidding a final adieu to the world.

Calcutta's first transplant from a 'brain-dead' cadaver was complete. His daughter lives today and is cited by doctors as they try convincing the government on the need for a cadaver transplant bill.

Vandana Modak



Ashok Das

period of dialysis in order to inflate the patient's bill and squeeze out the maximum amount of money so that the nursing home and the doctor attached benefit. One of the renowned hospitals in the city minted money till recently doing transplants from unrelated donors. Thereafter, perhaps out of ethical considerations, it stopped these operations and covered up its losses by hiking the charge for dialysis from Rs 650 to Rs 800.

With the doctor-middleman nexus complete, the search for the donor inevitably zeroes in on the ill-fed, undernourished and diseased blood donors, weakened by years of repeated donation. Whereas a person is permitted to donate 200 ml of blood once in three months, these professionals donate thrice in one week. They are thus vulnerable to several diseases and their life span is greatly reduced.

A survey of professional blood donors in Calcutta has shown that while the minimum standard weight for a donor is 47.5 kg. the weight of these men vary between 35 and 45 kg. The required haemoglobin content in the blood of a healthy donor is at least 12.8 gm, but the average among these professionals is only 10.34 gm. Says a doctor, "If such a person sells his kidney he will only endanger the patient's life and change his condition from bad to worse." In such a situation, if the kidney broker, surgeon and the donor have to make their money the results of minor pathological tests have to be tampered with. Says a doctor, "The touts cannot tamper with the vital HLA typing but what they do is hike the haemoglobin count to normal level or suppress things like whether the potential donor recently suffered from malaria, jaundice or had diabetes. This is done with the help of the assistants in laboratories who are also given a cut."

In Calcutta's organ market the touts have spread their wings over every laboratory, clinic, hospital, nursing home and diagnostic centre. With the mushrooming growth of such medical centres, especially blood banks, professional blood donors and touts do not find the blood business lucrative anymore. Blood banks earlier used to pay Rs 20 a bottle if they could make someone donate blood. Now with so many such centres, the professionals get in touch with the blood banks directly. Donors are paid Rs 30 a bottle and they donate a maximum of thrice a week. A donor thus earns Rs 360 a month or Rs 4,320 a year.

Ranjit, a tout operating in the SSKM hospital area, explains why donors now prefer to part with a kidney rather than weaken themselves by donating blood. "If I can catch a blood donor ready to sell his kidney, I can make anywhere between Rs



Ashok Das

Kidney kept in ice and saline: A commod

25,000 and Rs 50,000. He too makes an equal amount." He adds: "The Rs 30 they earn with one donation does not stay with them even for 15 minutes as they head straight for the country liquor den." With such big money coming in at one go there

These correspondents, posing as prospective clients, met a medical officer on duty at a blood bank. The officer readily offered to find a kidney from his list of professional blood donors—for a package deal of Rs 50,000



Ashok Das

Donor being operated on: Desperate money

is no shortage of willing kidney donors. Things have come to such a pass that even the blood banks have taken to arranging kidneys for sale for a brokerage, but no receipt is issued. There is no way that the transaction can be detected.

These correspondents, posing as prospective clients, met a medical officer on duty at a blood bank. The officer readily offered to find a kidney from his list of professional blood donors for a package deal of Rs 50,000. The package included all pathological tests and a signed declaration that the kidney was being given voluntarily. The only catch was that we could meet the donor only after the transaction was completed.

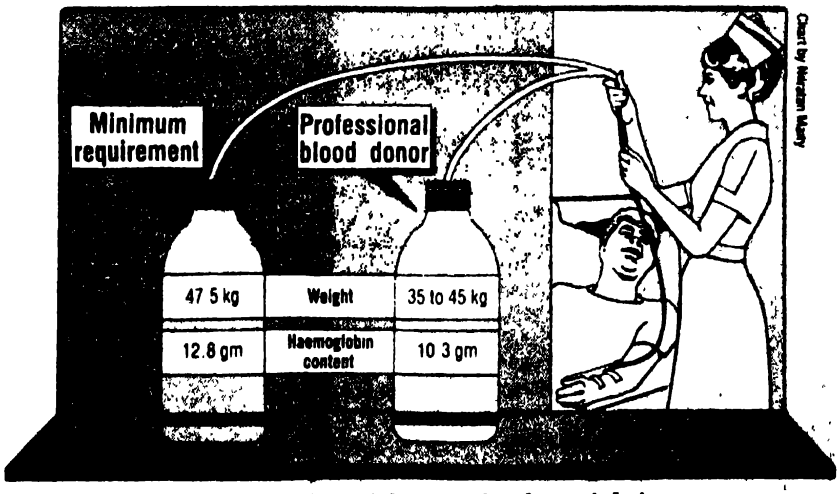


Chart by Wasim Haq

It is mostly the professional blood donors who 'donate' their kidneys. Naturally, they do not (officially) meet the minimum health requirements.

All the professional blood donors are in the clutches of these unscrupulous officials at the government and private blood banks. Since they donate more than is legally permissible, the private banks keep their bills pending. They cannot even go to a different blood bank each time because the banks do not entertain people from outside their list of donors. In fact, there is an unwritten understanding between blood banks so that the bills can be kept pending for months. So these blood banks expand their list of donors by enlisting only those who have just begun donating blood for the first time.

Ashok Roy, a professional donor fed up with the harassment, says, "I don't want to donate blood any more. I have asked the *dadas* (touts) to look for a patient to whom I can donate my kidney." He cannot approach the patient or the hospital doing the transplant directly because as he put it, "These nursing homes are very posh and sophisticated and they do not like rifraf

like us loitering around their premises." He says this is why the nursing homes take their supply of blood from these banks whose well-dressed peons go and make the delivery. He says for a kidney transplant only the *dadas* can fix the entire contract. "They keep visiting these nursing homes and know the technicians in the dialysis units from whom they get the information about who needs a kidney. The *dadas* pay the technicians quite a lot."

Roy thought he could carry on his profession by donating blood in the government-run banks, but found out the harassment is worse there. These banks record only one donation from a person every three months. To be able to donate weekly, which is illegal, the records have to be doctored. Says Roy, "Every time we want to donate extra blood the *babus* keep on taking a bigger cut from us. Sometimes they issue us false identity cards to help us donate repeatedly, but when we go there they threaten to expose us if we don't pay them adequately."

Most blood donors in the city took to the 'profession' to supplement their income from regular jobs, but in the process lost their job. One of them was working in a hardware shop, but when the employer found out he was donating blood he threw him out. "I used to donate only once a week, but when you do something that the body does not permit it is bound to affect your work," he says. To escape the wretched life many have tried to find jobs, but have been rejected because of their poor health.

The only way out of their misery now is to part with a kidney. Says a tout, "This big money gives them a chance to rehabilitate themselves. Many have ended up opening up fruit shops and tea stalls." Even urologist Mohan Sil endorses this. "Till now I have done transplants from two professional donors and both of them have started businesses of their own from the money which they have earned."

But despite what the doctor says there is no proper facility for the rehabilitation of a professional donor. One person who donated his kidney for money says, "As soon as the operation was over the patient's party stopped bothering about me. They simply threw me into the gutter. After the stitches were removed I had to find my way back home on my own. With the patient well they treated me as if they did not know me."

The poor gullible donors are the worst sufferers. The greedy kidney transplant industry has even taken to foul methods to reap in their bonanza. In Calcutta and many other metropolitan cities, Bangladeshis have been lured with jobs only to have their kidneys removed. Since a person can survive with one kidney, he is given a paltry sum of money and sent back home, his dreams shattered. At times a person admitted to a hospital for a minor surgery has clandestinely had his kidney removed without his knowledge. In Calcutta and Bombay many persons reported missing have ended up in the hands of doctors in private hospitals, his kidneys removed and his body stealthily disposed of in the sewers of the city.

With the doctor-middleman nexus complete, the search for a donor inevitably zeroes in on the ill-fed, undernourished and diseased blood donors, weakened by years of repeated donation...In such a situation, if the kidney broker, surgeon and donor have to make their money, the results of minor pathological tests have to be tampered with

With India now the world's biggest centre for the kidney trade it has become a multibillion dollar business across continents. Arabs, Singaporeans and the wealthy from neighbouring countries make a beeline for India and pick up a kidney for a song. A few years ago a British surgeon refused to do a transplant on the wife of a Calcutta businessman who was identified as Mrs Ansuya Bagla after he found out that the donor was from a city slum. Earlier he was tricked into performing the operation in London by two other Indians who had bought the kidneys from slum-dwellers after swearing in affidavits that they were relatives. Disgusted with the practice he decided to visit India and to his horror found one donor living in a Bombay hovel who had parted with a kidney in return for an alarm clock and a few radio batteries.

To stop the sharks in the medical profession who have put the entire business on a commercial footing doctors advocate cadaver transplants, that is taking out an organ from a dead person. With cases of renal failure in India at 50 per million or 37,500 yearly this could save many lives. At present only Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have legislation on cadaver transplants. The law specifies the circumstances when an organ can be removed from a dead person. The only hitch here is that the switch has to be made within an hour of the person dying and the kidney can at best be preserved for two days. Also, very few hospitals in the country have the expertise and equipment for such transplants though it is common abroad. In the US, western Europe and Australia more than 90 per cent of the transplants are done through cadaver kidneys.

Indian law also makes such transplants difficult. In most countries a doctor can declare a person dead when the brain stops functioning, but here doctors can declare death only when the heart stops beating. Moves are afoot to change the definition of death in India as a "brain dead person" could save several lives. Says a doctor, "Two kidneys could save two lives, a heart can save one life, a liver, another life. What the heck, if I am brain dead, I am of no good anyway."

But the ethical and moral situation continues to confound doctors. They point out that it is different in India where the relatively low standards of medical services means the opportunities for cadaver transplants are more limited than in the West. A ban on transplants from live donors would only lead to more deaths. Whereas for live donors, out of every 13 transplants only two fail, for cadaver transplants 90 per cent are failures in Calcutta. Dr Robert Sells, architect of the guidelines drawn up in Britain on kidney transplants, had earlier advocated the drawing up of a universal code because of this disastrous and immoral trade in kidneys. "But I have thrown all that out of the window after visiting India," he said very recently.

Meanwhile, it is business as usual and money for everyone, but at this rate by the year 2000 most poor people in India will be walking around minus one kidney.



GOOD BREEDING SHOWS

I had always thought that a dog should present, at all times, the most alert appearance possible. Cocked ears, flowing tail, front paws poised to spring. The sort of thing that earns points at dog shows.

Not that I had been schooled in my thinking by dog shows. For one thing, my mother always said that dog shows and baby shows were degrading to dogs and babies, that it was a loss of dignity to be put on show. For another, we lived in a rather parochial town for all the years of my childhood when I was learning about dogs through the steadfast friendship of Jespah, our highly cerebral, eccentric Alsatian who, visitors were told, was exactly as old as I was. (But, I had learned, every year in my life counted for seven in his, and I determined to treat him with reverence though my seven-year-old's logic was unperturbed by the fact that I forced on him the indignity of having to take part in dolls' tea parties.)

Many years later, when Jespah was long dead and I was in my early twenties, I attended my first and only dog show as part of a journalistic assignment. That dog show is associated with two of the three most momentous events of my adult life. I found myself a husband and a dog. (I am certain that none of my readers have confused, even momentarily, the identities of the two but, knowing my husband, I feel bound to assure him in print that I mean no insult to him.)

When I first met them, my husband was an intern in a government hospital and Bonzo, then an eight-week-old Alsatian, was cuddled in his arms while my future mother-in-law was displaying Bonzo's father's flanks to the judge. Both man and dog were thin, alert and energetic and took as immediate a fancy to me as I to them.

Within a month I was married and the three of us began life together. However, soon both husband and dog grew fat and most of my time at home seemed to be spent in studying the ungainly postures adopted by one or the other during sleep. I thought it unreasonable to complain because I was generally working on night shifts and thought to myself that *they* probably studied *me* when I was asleep.

But Bonzo went from bad to worse. One day, having invited some friends for lunch, I spent the entire morning scrubbing and polishing. I also drove away Bonzo from his favourite place on the doormat before the front door which was located, my husband informed me after some mathematical calculation, halfway between the kitchen (where the part-time help fed him tidbits) and the bathroom (where Bonzo's legitimate meals were served).

In due course, the doorbell rang, the visitors were ushered in and, gratified by their exclamations of how beautiful our little flat was, I led them into the bedroom and to the balcony. To my acute embarrassment, the first sight that met everyone's eyes as they trooped back into the living room was that of fat Bonzo fast asleep in a possum-like posture on the doormat.

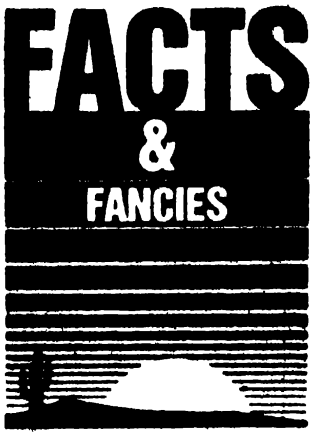
Or does it?

There were peals of laughter and cries of 'Lazy dog!' and 'Nice dog, he doesn't bark at strangers,' as I tried to shoo him away. But Bonzo refused to budge. All through lunch, he sprawled right under our noses with his eyes shut. The guests left, stepping over him, and Bonzo continued to lie supine on the doormat. I persuaded my husband to examine him as I thought he was probably ill. "The rascal's being stubborn and lazy," he said, "Did you see the way he's been wolfing down food?" After some days, when Bonzo's appetite and health remained unaffected, I too stopped worrying.

A month later, my husband and I arrived home together one evening to find a cluster of excited neighbours and their servants on the landing. The elderly gentleman who lived alone with an Apso in the flat across the landing told us that he had returned home and found his flat had been burgled. The burglars had picked the lock on his front door and had scalded the dog with boiling water—she had been barely alive when he found her. We discovered that the burglars had also picked the lock of our flat and stolen cash and jewellery. But Bonzo was unharmed.

That night, after all the excitement had died down, I sat with Bonzo in my arms. I asked my husband why he thought the burglars had left our dog untouched. "Silly, don't you see that he just *slept?*" said my husband. It was then, after the third momentous event of my life, that I revised my notion of a dog's presentability.

Yana Banerjee-Bey



When the Desert Blooms....

Deserts and blooms make strange bedfellows. But that is exactly what the people of south Australia witnessed—a desert in bloom!

Last April and May, Australia's autumn months, nature went berserk. Australia experienced its second Big Wet in a century (the first one in 1970). Millions of flower seeds, naturally sun-dried for two decades, now revived by the torrential rains, suddenly burst into a riot of colours; the desert-land was transformed into a polychromatic carpet of flowers.

And, all living creatures rejoiced. Particularly sheep and cattle for the bountiful livestock, and the primitive painters, known as the Brushmen of the Bush.

The painters put aside their earthy browns and greens, and replaced these with the vibrant red of the Sturt's Desert Peas, the sunny yellows of *Cassia chatelainiana*, the electric blue of the Bachelor's Buttons and the different hues of the hundreds of species of different flowers.

The spectacle, sadly, lasts but for a few months. But this crop of flowers will have set their seed in the soil, awaiting the next deluge.

Zero Gravity

It is 20 years since man stepped on the moon, but the living conditions of cosmonauts have improved in small steps rather than giant leaps. If the 12,000 long list of applicants who wish to join the Anglo-Soviet space mission is anything to go by, it would appear that most people have not given a second thought to the actual conditions that prevail in zero gravity.

Twenty years ago the Appollo crew had to be grateful for small comforts. At least on Appollo there was enough room for the crew to take their suits off and wipe their whole bodies whereas in their predecessors, Mercury and Gemini, the cosmonauts had to keep their suits on all the time.

"The waste management technology in the 1960s was the plastic bag", says James Lewis, manager of the manned system division at the LBJ Space Centre. In zero gravity where everything floats, the indignity of the procedure was considerably heightened. Sanitation has benefited to some extent after 20 years of R&D but although NASA is reputed to have spent $12 million on developing a toilet more like a WC and less like a plastic bag, in tests it keeps breaking down.

Improvements in the food department have been the most striking. A typical shuttle menu today might feature bread rolls, cookies and even yoghurt. Twenty years ago, all the food came powdered in plastic containers or squeezed into tubes. But, however, delicious the food may be, the problem of the crew feeling too ill to eat it remains. Space motion sickness is experienced by 60 to 70 per cent of people leaving the earth's gravitational field and lasts up to four days.

Some experts feel that the sickness is not caused by motion but by the lack of visual cues aboard a space craft. The crew member has to fix his own floor and ceiling and orientate himself accordingly. So, when he sees someone resting on what he counts as his ceiling it triggers nausea.

Weight watchers might do well to remember that Appollo astronauts put on about a pound a day because of the enforced inactivity and therefore make good use of a treadmill, a cross country skiing machine as well as a roving machine that will be available to them.

Though experts are now exploring the possibilities of deep freezes and microwave ovens on future trips the chances of by-passing zero gravity, pressurised conditions are remote.

Shamlu Dudeja and Nalini Sitlani

BARTER BANK

• **Camera:** I offer an Agfa Click III camera for a Casio nine-digit calculator or anything of corresponding value. Contact Sudipta De, 4A, Jamini Kaviraj Row, Calcutta 4.

• **Rubik's cube, magazines** and **dictionary:** I offer a Rubik's cube, several issues *Dalal Street Journal* and Cambridge children's dictionary for anything of corresponding value. Write to Dipak Mantri, 103, Shovabazar Street, Calcutta 5

• **Cassettes:** I offer cassettes by several singers like Jagjit and Chitra Singh, Beatles, Duran Duran, Eric Clapton and Don Williams for anything of corresponding value. Contact Moheet Gupta, HM Colony, TW 130, PO Hindmotor, Dist Hooghly, West Bengal.

• **Magazines:** I offer 24 issues of the *Reader's Digest* for a calculator or anything of corresponding value. Contact Ankur Mukherjee, c/o Kalyan Mukherjee, Ajanta Para, Hirapur, Dhanbad 826001.

• **Tape recorder:** I offer a Bush stereo cassette tape recorder for anything of corresponding value. Contact Susanta Chowdhury, c/o Bela Stores, Ward no. 18, Siliguri 734404

• **Organ and study material:** I offer a new Casio PT-1 organ for a five-speed bicycle gear system and a Walkman or 35 mm camera or Spanish guitar. I also offer Brilliant's target IIT correspondence course for a digital wristwatch with chrongraph or double screen video game. Write to Soumitra Bhattacharjee, KD Flat no. 17 B. Road, Telco Colony, Jamshedpur 831004.

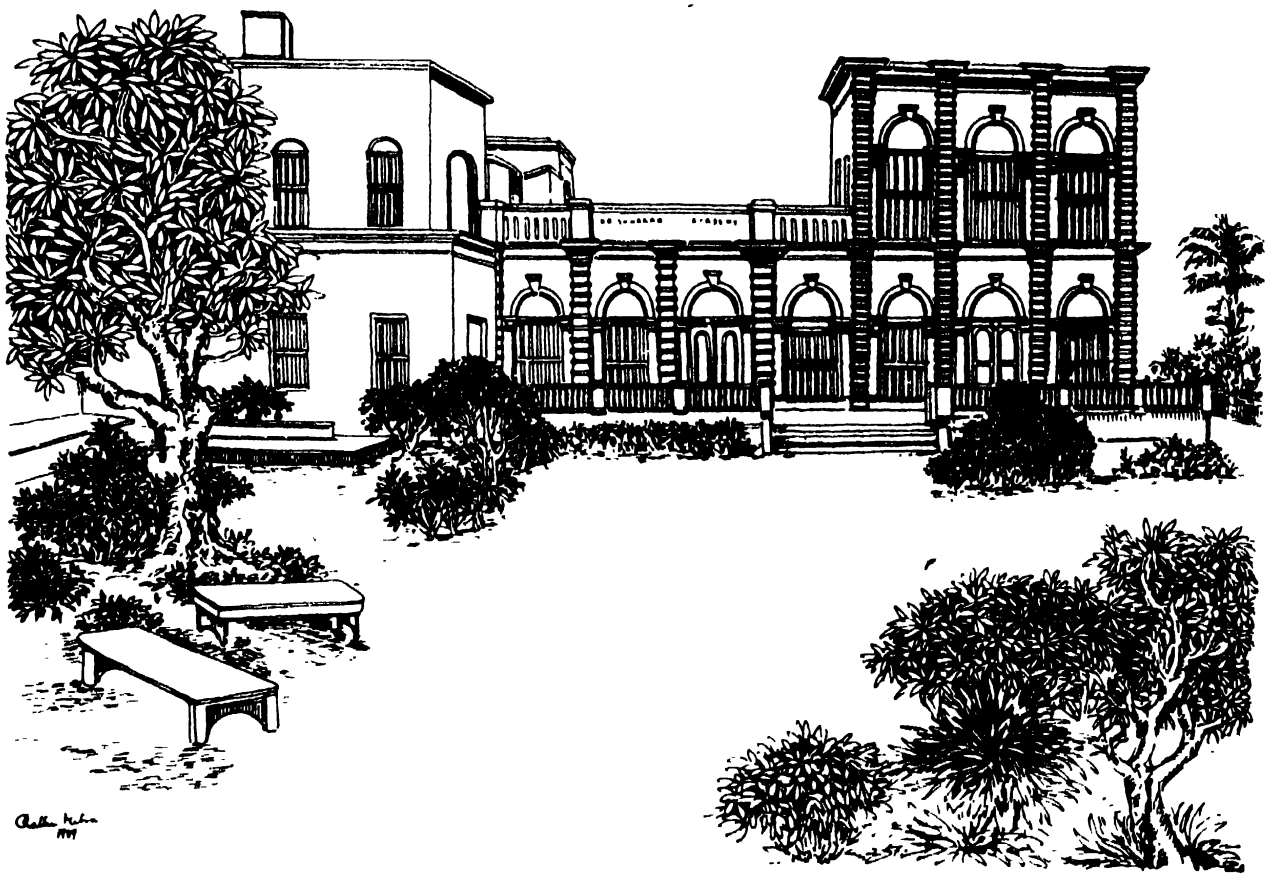
• **Study material:** I offer Sachdeva's new PT College model test papers and study material for the MBA entrance examination, 1988, for anything of corresponding value. Contact Pushpa Majumdar, DA/15-A, Hari Nagar, Near Clock Tower, G-8, Rajori Garden area, New Delhi 64.

• **Motor cycle:** I offer an Enfield Explorer motor cycle in good condition for anything of corresponding value. Write to Sabyasachi Sen, 32/8, Gariahat Road (south) Calcutta 31.

• **Bicycle, calculator, books** and **magazines:** I offer an Avon 707 bicycle in good condition, a scientific calculator (Casio JX 82), the 1986 *Guinness Book of Records*, the *Random House Dictionary* and several issues of *Science in the USSR* for a slide projector or anything of corresponding value. Contact Raj Kumar, 3, Jyotish Roy Road, Calcutta 53.



RAMTANOO LAHIRI (1813-98)



Born in Baruidaha, Nadia (West Bengal) in April 1813, Ramtanoo Lahiri was one of those brilliant Hindu College students, who, inspired by their renowned teacher Henry Louis Vivian Derozio, sought to bring about a social and moral regeneration in Bengal. His father, Ramkrishna Lahiri, was the manager of the Nadia raj family estate while his mother, Jagaddhatri Devi, was daughter of the Krishnagar raj family's dewan.

Ramtanoo studied at the village *pathasala* before joining Hare School in Calcutta. After completing his college education in 1833, he was appointed junior teacher at Hindu College. He was later transferred to the then newly-founded Krishnagar College. In his long teaching career, he served the Burdwan Government School, the Bali-Uttarpara English High School, the Barasat School, once again the Krishnagar College and retired as headmaster of the Barisal Zilla School in 1865.

Ramtanoo was married thrice. His first wife died when he was still a college student. His second wife, whose parents did not allow her to live with him on account of his close association with Derozio, died within a few years of marriage. He had three daughters and four sons by his third wife.

All along, Ramtanoo led a pious and humble life. A true follower of Derozio, his love for freedom of thought and expression was exemplary. He practised what he believed. He instilled in his students a sense of boldness in conviction and straightforward action. Ramtanoo, along with his celebrated college friends, Ramgopal Ghosh, Rasik Krishna Mallik, Krishnamohan Banerjee and Peary Chand Mitra, were associated with a number of social and intellectual societies like the Academic Association (founded by Derozio), the Circulation Library, the Epistolary Association and the Society for the Acquisition of General Knowledge. Sir J.B. Phear, ex-judge of the high court, and Keshub Chandra Sen, the Brahmo reformer, were also his close friends.

Ramtanoo was deeply impressed by Macaulay's writings. He denounced the caste system and untouchability. Though not a converted Brahmo he supported widow marriage and inspired Vidyasagar in his reform movement. He also took active part in promoting the woman's position in Bengali society. He advocated English education and yet did not lose his national identity. He died on August 18, 1898.

The sketch above shows his residence in Krishnagar which now houses the Krishnagar Academy.



Can you give more details about Darwin's voyage (Quiz, 24 December. 1989)? writes S. Basu,Calcutta.

In 1831, the 22-year-old Charles Darwin, embarked on the Royal Navy survey ship H.M.S. *Beagle* as an unpaid naturalist on a five-year voyage around the world, visiting the coast of South America (with extensive interior land excursions), Tierra del Fuego, the Galapagos Islands, Australia, and New Zealand. When his father, who wanted him to become a minister, forbade him to go unless he could find "any man of common sense" who would advise him to undertake the journey, Charles produced Uncle Josiah Wedgwood (of the china-making dynasty), who felt the study of natural science (God's creation) was appropriate for a minister.

Indeed, Robert Fitzroy, captain of the *Beagle*, wanted a naturalist aboard to gather proof of the literal truth of Genesis.

Ironically, the voyage ended Darwin's career as a minister and, eventually, undermined literal interpretation of Genesis. It changed the easygoing, unambitious dabbler into a mature man burning with scientific zeal. Despite seasickness and homesickness, he daily observed mountain chains, wide grass lands, desolate plains, tropical forests, and volcano reefs; collected fossils, seeds, plants, insects, and animal specimens; and studied Lyell's *Principles of Geology*, which applied evolutionary principles to geology. Contemplating subtle variations among God's creatures, especially 13 species of finches in the Galapagos Islands, he realised that Lyell's principles could be applied to animals as well. As a result of his voyage, collections and 24 field notebooks, factual evidence for his theory of evolution came to light.

Part of the piece on Christmastime (December 24, 1989), was omitted for want of space. Here is the portion that was left out: December 26, is "the feast of Stephen," the first Christian martyr. It is also traditionally known as Boxing Day. On this day, church poor boxes are opened and the alms money shared out among the poor of the parish. Later, it was the custom to give servants a Christmas bonus, which they came to expect. John Clare describes how:

"The prentice boy wi' ruddy face
And rime bepowdered dancing locks
From door to door wi' happy pace
Runs round to claim his 'Christmax box'."

December 28 is the Day of the Holy Innocents, recalling the babies killed by Herod in his search for the baby Jesus.

In Spain this is the equivalent of our April Fool's Day. Instead of calling someone an April Fool, you call them an innocente (someone who is naive or simple), and try to play jokes on them or send them on fruitless errands. It has been suggested that there is a connection here with Herod's unsuccessful search for Jesus among the "innocents."

December 31 is the last day of the year or, more optimistically, New Year's Eve. Many people see the old year out with a party, welcoming the New Year with toasts of champagne, and exchanging good wishes for a "Happy New Year." This celebration is particulary dear to the Scots. They call it Hogmanay and welcome in the New Year with much spirit.

Prasenjit Das, Howrah 1, writes:

"The first inter-school quiz was organised by Kon-Futlon, old quiz team of Howrah Zilla School.

"The final was a marathon affair. From the very first round, it was a close contest between HZS 1 and B.E. College Model School with St. Agnes Convent School following closely. But towards the end, with the high scoring audio-visual rounds St Agnes, represented by Yama Agarwal and Atrayee Basu Mullick, pulled steadily ahead to win the crown. B.E. College Model School finished a close second.

"Thanks to the organisers for an exciting event and special thanks to the quiz masters, Partha Raut, Arijit Das and Shantanu Banerjee."

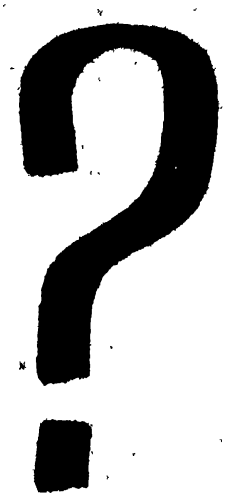
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11th Question: **What did the *The Englishman* in 1874 call the "great shoe question"? (Radhakanta Hota, Titilagarh 767 033, Orissa).**

Ans. **Iswarchandra Vidyasagar was prevented from entering the Indian Museum because he was wearing palm-leaf sandals.**

QUESTIONS

1. Where are the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee? (Durgadatta Bhoi, Bargarh 23)
2. What was the name of the "First Dog" of the US? (Koyeli Das, Calcutta 84)
3. What was the first Nepali feature film? (Ashok Kr Mohanty, Sambalpur 4)
4. Which English explorer negotiated a commercial treaty with Jahangir, the Mughul emperor? (Sk. Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
5. We speak so often of a bird's eye-view. What is the opposite of this term? (Jacqueline Druart, Cal 23)
6. Which is the only time when India won the World Cup in Hockey? (Biswanath Dutta, Sambalpur 3)
7. Three provinces form the "toe" of the "boot" of Italy. What is this portion known as? (Aditya Kr Padhi, Rourkela 7)
8. What is an encyclical? (Manoj Kr Singh, BIT Sindri)
9. What is the *kriegspiel*? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 5)
10. "...seditious Fakir striding half-naked up the steps of the Viceroy's palace there to negotiate..." Who made this statement about Mahatma Gandhi? (Ashok Purohit, [illegible])



ANSWERS

10. Winston Churchill.
9. A war game played with three blocks, on a map to train officers in military manoeuvres.
8. A letter addressed by the Pope to the Bishops on matters of doctrine or discipline.
7. Calabria, the three provinces are Catan-Zaro, Cosenza and Reggio.
6. Kuala Lumpur, 1975.
5. A worm's eye view.
4. William Hawkins.
3. Nala Dhan.
2. Jabba Kan Bush, she is the pal of the Bush family.
1. Lausanne.

HITTING THE RIGHT NOTES

An encounter with young violinist Arijit Chakravarty

There isn't much use hunting around for flamboyant adjectives to describe this quiet young man. He strikes one as reserved, thoughtful, intelligent. His words are neatly phrased and delivered with a certain graceful conviction. There are flashes of humour, however, that embellish the afternoon's conversation. Droll little anecdotes; an underlying joy of living and a freshness and lack of cynicism, which sort of transfers itself to me and suddenly the world is nice, clean and a good place to be in.

I ask him about himself and he seems embarrassed that this should contain any kind of tribute to him. He demurs; what can he tell me? So we talk about his emergence as a professional musician, making a reasonable living in England and visiting his home once a year in Calcutta. We are sitting in a charming little living room of this tidy and organised home with the intriguing flower-tiled flooring and pretty, well-kept backyard, all tucked away at the end of a twisty lane in Jyotish Roy Road, New Alipore (will I ever find it again?) and occupied now by three charming gentlemen of as many generations: Arijit himself, his father and his 98-year old grandfather. There is an aura of deep affection and caring for each other, so rare today. He talks briefly of the loss of his mother and his struggle to maintain a scholarship during her illness, which seems to have moulded and strengthened an already fine character into a very special personality. I suggest that we go to the music room and hear him play something.

Arijit was born in Bombay in August, 1965. His father's work in England necessitated schooling there for himself and his brother. I refer to his bio-data and note under "important examinations taken," 10 'O' levels taken in 1981 and four 'A' levels with an A in Music, and Single Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics as the others. He did his BA (Hons) in June 1986 on the strength of which result, he was given a place at King's College, Cambridge, to study for an M Phil. He was also offered a one-year studentship by the British Academy, which he declined and in preference went to study at the Royal Academy of Music, London. Grants and awards include the Alice Rodgers Scholarship to attend a summer music course at Bushey, Herts, the Draper's Company Award and the Royal Academy of Music Bursary, in 1987.

His repertoire is impressive for such early days and as he is tuning up, I browse through his music on the piano. Arijit is quite a competent pianist which makes him a sympathetic and easy soloist to accompany. There are some dabblings in composition on a simple *raag*, a putting together of the Grappelli variations with chord realisations by Chakravarty. He plays a few improvisations on the piano for me and with a rueful smile admits that he "isn't much good at doing these spectacular modern composition", his "inspiration runs on rather conventional lines." And what of that? I ask, as long as the music is good and you enjoy it, well then! He plays some Bach and Mozart. His playing is immensely sensitive, vibrant and expressive, his intonation pure and technique nifty. There is a fresh crispness and great musicality. Then, rather abashed, he admits that he has made a recording of himself playing the Stephane Grappelli variations, the piano part and would I like to hear it, with him playing the live violin? Yes, of course! And this is a most entertaining swing thing. Not great in the Mozart- Bach-Beethoven style perhaps, but great toe-tapping fun music, a good note to end on or for an encore.

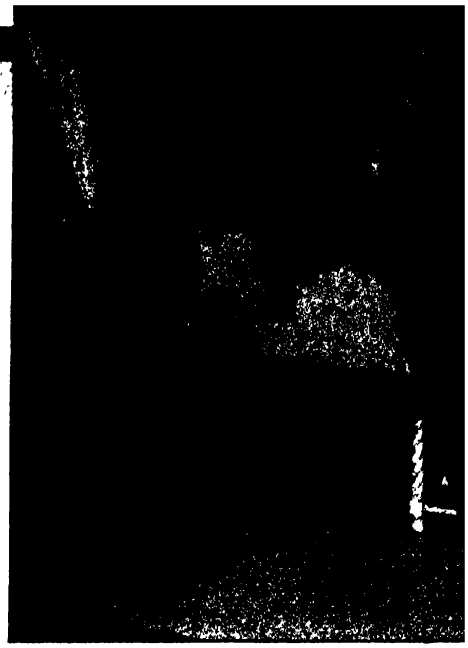
His A string keeps going down. It's the weather, he says. He's brought a good stock this time. We discuss the availability or non-availability of musical equipment and the tribulations of the student of music in this city. The lack of a future as a professional and therefore the lackadaisical attitude towards training, and practice and discipline. But how does it endure? That in itself is tribute to the incredible potential of the average Bengali. Latent talent in almost everyone. If only this could be encouraged and developed. We talk about the necessity to upgrade the quality of teaching, then perhaps we shall get standards qualifying for overseas scholarships etc. We talk a lot and are hard put to form a solution. He plays some more. We have tea and biscuits and suddenly it is dark and time to say goodbye for the moment.

Arijit is working towards a concert in early January at Max Mueller Bhavan. In the meanwhile, he visits Puri, meets relatives and friends, practises the violin and spends as much time as possible with his family.

Fauzia Marikar

Another Calcuttan goes West





Neena De: Tough material

DOING IT THEIR

What does it take to be a successful businesswoman? Shoma Bhowmik met some achievers to find out

It is almost passe now to talk of women's achievements—or so most women think. Some want to talk of what they have given up to be super-achievers and others of how they want to draw a line at some point—they're not sure where. But achievements, they say, become "nebulous" after being under the belt for a while. Perpetually walking the thin line takes its toll, but would they switch roles—the answers are ambiguous.

Businesswomen, particularly, seem pulled several ways. It's a little like riding a tiger, only some of them want to fall off. The excitement of conceiving a project, fighting for funds, convincing the doubting Thomases and pulling off the deal, they all agree, is addictive. Some of them, however, bitterly resent the frayed nerves, the annoyed husbands, the never-ending explanations. Others have learnt to disregard the intrusions.

Most of them are where they are through sheer grit, some luck, lots of manipulating. The last is no longer a dirty word, "everybody's doing it." That's the reality. Learning to isolate an idea with potential from a sea of chaff is among the first lessons learnt in the women's own business school.

Very few of these women talk in terms of security, of permanance. These, they feel, are signs of stagnation and complacence. Petite Aditi Bose, who runs her own interior designing business, feels "doing business is a lot easier if you're not scared of the continuous grind. If you want the kind of security which is no real security at all you should get a job."

Echoing this thought, 35-year-old Krishna Gupta says her salaried job with Balmer Lawrie "put me to sleep." She now controls, singlehanded, a flourishing leather items export enterprise. Breaking free of a so-called secured job, they feel, is the most important step.

Ms Bose started out four years back, with enthusiasm and talent on her side. She wove her dreams so successfully into the interiors of people's houses and offices that she can now afford a privileged lifestyle. Only 25, she is definite about her plans in the short-term.

Ms Gupta, on the other hand, tried her hand at teaching and a mundane job before she realised she wanted something else. Soft-spoken and beautifully turned out, Ms Gupta's little empire is worth about Rs 2.5 crores. Her plans are to bring it out of the "small league" in the next five years. Ms Gupta travels abroad about three times a year. She has a loyal clientele in the United States and West Germany.

Believe it or not, these women actually feel secure when in the middle of designing a complicated office interior or executing a particularly tricky export order. Krishna Ray, who runs an advertising agency, brushes aside questions about problems with family or friends. "You have to be clear in your mind what it is that you want. After you've decided it becomes a lot easier to deal with the nitty gritty," she asserts. Openly aggressive, Ms Ray says she needs to have control of the reins.

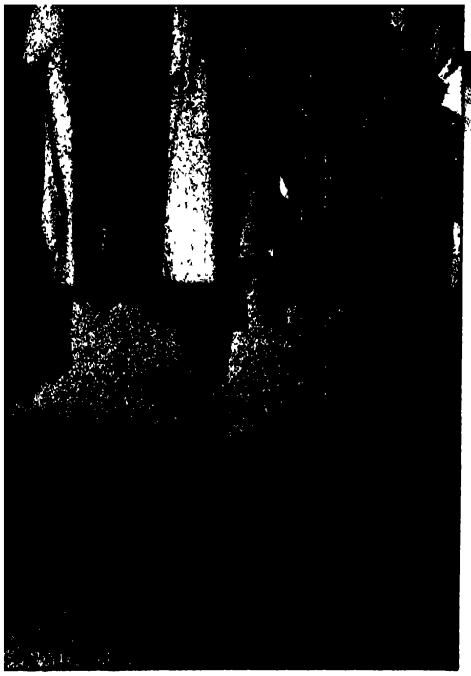
"Today I control five people, tomorrow it has to be 500." Money, she says, ceases to be important after a point. The knife-edged competition in the nakedly ambitious world of advertising makes survival a fine art, she says, eyes agleam.

Ms Gupta, in sharp contrast, toes a more subtle line but is no less successful for that. "I have had to fight tooth and nail to get this going. Everybody in my house was against my going into business. I had no support from anyone. My total dependance on myself makes the difference in my attitude. I can't afford not to be sure of what I want," Ms Gupta says.

Determination, Ms Gupta says, is the

Krishna Gupta: Hell for leather





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key. "It hones to fighting readiness all your other strengths," she claims. There is no doubting that these women are determined—in fact the word seems inadequate. The steely strength that one glimpses—if only in flashes—is enough to convince anyone of their utter seriousness, their belief in their strengths.

Ms Bose hastens to add that she does draw support from some people. "It may not be a conscious effort on my part but I do it all the time," she says. Living and working alone as she does, Ms Bose is entirely justified in her attitude.

Krishna Ray: Ad-ding to the business



She, however, hates looking back. "It blocks my progress," she claims. Driving herself hard to gain that extra edge, Ms Bose asserts that "you have to do a little better than your best to do complete justice to your clients and you own creativity." Can it get a little tiring, living at the edge all the time—yes, but "just train yourself to think like that." Ms Bose has participated successfully in almost all the interior designing fairs held in the city. She has to her credit a number of offices and homes. She enjoys a particularly strong advantage—being young and flexible in her approach.

Ms Gupta has had to rely greatly on her latent abilities. "It was a problem in the beginning," she says. "I had to frequently travel abroad to make and renew contacts, get orders. Even they wouldn't take me seriously. They would think I was an idle wife being indulged by a rich husband. Now, of course, my word is good enough," she smiles, taking obvious pleasure in her victory.

She enjoys the patronage of several prestigious chains in the United States and West Germany. Ms Gupta owns two units and provides captive business to 20 others. "This, of course, is not enough. I can't keep up with the demands of my clients," she says. Her plans are ambitious but meticulously detailed—one hesitates to doubt them.

Ms Gupta fights her daily battles with elan. Banks, government authorities, agents, dealers, all raised eyebrows when confronted with her elegance. Her brand of determination is well hidden from the eye and works its way into all her actions. It's difficult to see the lady retire from battle without proving her point.

A little different is Neena De. At 26, she heads her small, thriving garment manufacturing business. Trained at Bombay's Sophia College in garment designing and tailoring, Neena is quick to acknowledge the support she has received from her parents. Just as determined as her counterparts, Neena is obviously keen on sticking to the middle path. She designs and manufactures her own line of garments—Nino's. She has also designed the Tiny Tot range of children's garments for Bata. Besides, she supplies to Burlington's, Dolly's Collection and the Hotel Hindusthan International boutique.

"I definitely want to get married and have children," says Neena, whereas Aditi asserts that she "can't think of marriage now." She feels she wouldn't do justice to her plans or to the man she marries.

The women are unsure, for the first time, when talking of men. Each has her definite views on the subject and definite reservations as well. Ms Bose feels they are easier to deal with than women because they are more "logical and their commercial sense is better." Women, she admits, are more aesthetic. "I consciously avoid taking small, residential jobs because hen I have to deal mainly with housewives," she says.

Ms Ray says "it really doesn't matter." The whole process, she feels, is a means to the end. Essentially concerned with satisfying her clients, Ms Ray takes a firm line with persons she deals with on a day-to-day basis. She does not believe in limiting herself to prescribed parametres, which has gone a long way in contributing to her success.

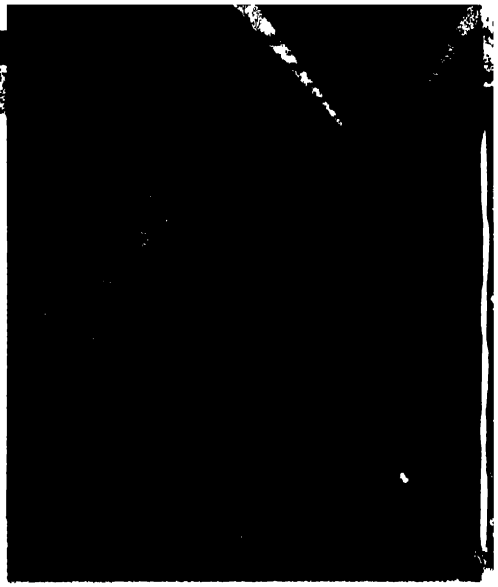
Ms Ray got accreditation for her small advertising agency in nine months flat, no mean feat in itself. She services about five big clients and says her main weapon is her ability to talk her way into or out of a situation. Highly qualified, she holds an MBA and an LLB. Ms Ray also taught for a while before finding her meteir.



Aditi Bose: The right designs

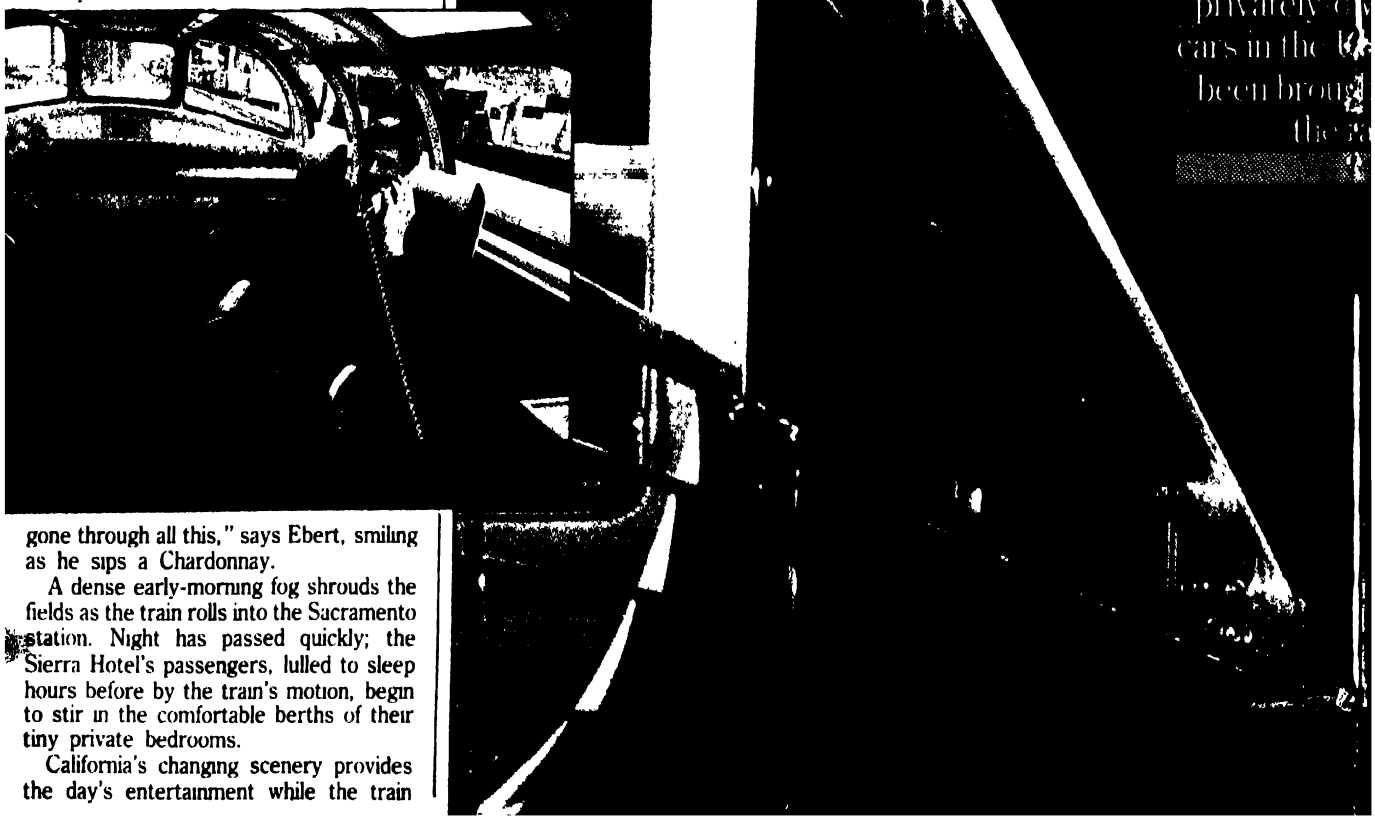
Neena thinks otherwise. She doesn't believe in making waves when they are not called for. She is not past manipulating circumstances to achieve her end but she will hesitate. Ms Bose, who deals almost exclusively with men, says a firm but polite attitude goes a long way in ensuring one's success. "Just lace it with liberal doses of charm," she smiles.

These women, all successful in their own ways, refuse to fit in to any of the conventional roles. Each, in her own definite way, is out to make a mark. Neither will commit herself to anything definite for the future, preferring to keep all options open and let their considerable talents take care of the rest. ■



Tracking Dov

Train lanterns and coloured signal lights warm a San Diego train yard where more t



Despite dirt and fumes, there's no finer vantage point than the rear observation platform of the last car, watching the countryside unfold to the rhythmic clickety-clack of steel wheels over rail joints.

And that's where passengers gather on the stainless-steel, domed Budd car that brings up the rear of Amtrak's number 11, The Coast Starlight, as it begins its 28-hour journey down the West Coast from Portland, Oregan (in north-west US) on a sunny October afternoon.

It is the maugural run for the newly rebuilt Sierra Hotel, one of several hundred individually-owned private train cars that are enjoying a renaissance, rising from the scrapyards to grace the rails once again with their stately splendour. In its heyday the car carried passengers on the California Zephyr.

For owner Doug Ebert, 43, a Chicago-based airline pilot, the trip fulfills a long-held belief that this genteel mode of travel must not fade into obsolescence.

"In college I was a cook on the Great Northern Railroad's Empire Builder, part of the last generation to experience passenger-train travel as it once was," says Ebert.

As The Coast Starlight ambles south, the car's vista dome offers an unobstructed view of the Cascade Range's snow-peaked mountains bathed in the glow of the setting sun. An elegant dinner is served on white linen tablecloths, with heavy flatware. "This is the reason I've gone through all this," says Ebert, smiling as he sips a Chardonnay.

A dense early-morning fog shrouds the fields as the train rolls into the Sacramento station. Night has passed quickly; the Sierra Hotel's passengers, lulled to sleep hours before by the train's motion, begin to stir in the comfortable berths of their tiny private bedrooms.

California's changing scenery provides the day's entertainment while the train wends through fertile valleys. By mid-afternoon the tracks leave the parched hills to hug the Pacific Ocean near San Luis Obispo. At last, the skyline of downtown Los Angeles appears.

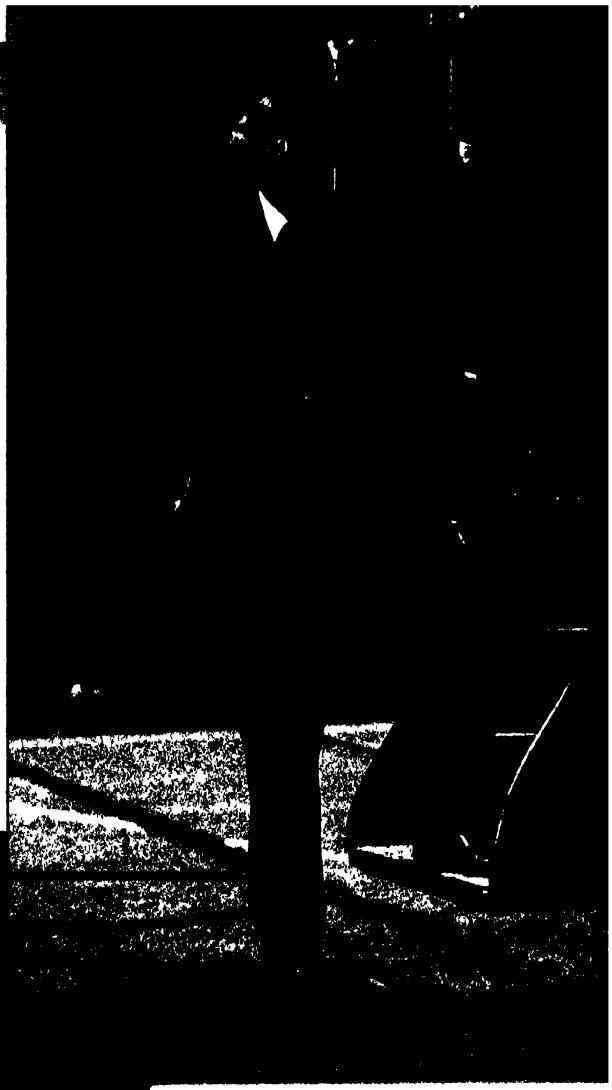
There the Sierra Hotel and a caravan of cars from around the country are readied for the trip to San Diego, site of the 12th annual convention of the American Association of Private Railroad Car Owners.

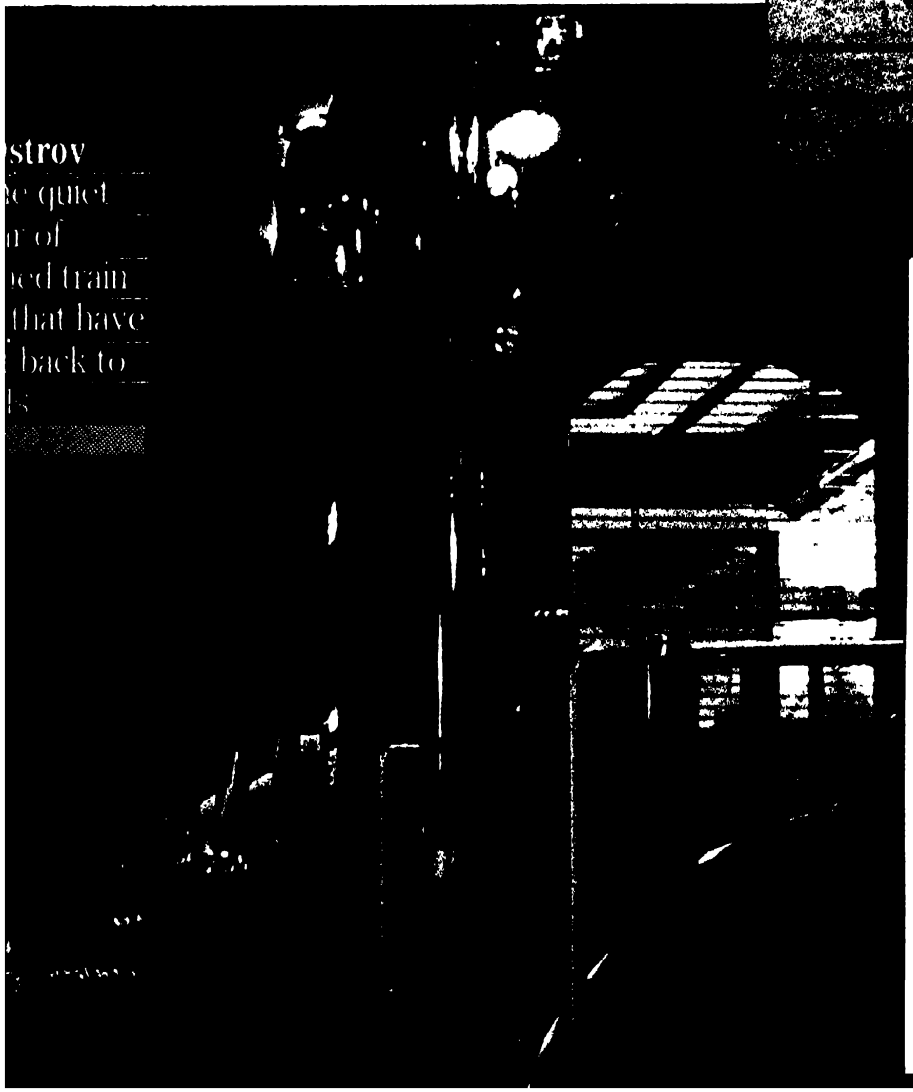
"We are highly dependent on Amtrak for movement and must respond to its equipment standards," says membership chairman Larry Haines. Most private cars run almost exclusively on Amtrak trains, but a few occasionally operate on freight and private lines.

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an 30 private cars assembled for a convention





An empty San Diego train yard has suddenly become a museum of beautifully restored private cars, as crews hose the dust off the cars' sides and polish their brass rails. Formerly the exclusive domain of presidents, railroad executives and the very wealthy, private cars, or "private varnishes," have gone mainstream. Today's owners, bound by a passion for railroads and a commitment to preserving this link with the past, often borrow heavily to finance their dreams. Many have the ability to do much of the restoration and maintenance themselves.

Although a few reserve their cars for private use, most owners occasionally charter them to help offset their investment ($125,000 and up for a car that qualifies to run on Amtrak).

"I don't know anyone who makes a profit," says Haines. "Some, if they have the time to devote to it, operate intensively and will claim to break even." Chartering fees range from $1,000 to $3,000 a day.

As twilight falls over San Diego, lanterns suspended from dozens of observation platforms cast a welcome glow throughout the train yard. Fold-down steps usher visitors from car to car, while well-dressed owners and crew proffer drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

If any car there retains the spirit of its previous owners it is the Virginia City, whose ramblings were chronicled by the late *bon vivant* journalist Lucius Beebe three decades ago.

Decorated by a Hollywood set designer in the mid-1950s, it epitomises baroque opulence, with crystal chandeliers, gold-leaf trim and imported Venetian Renaissance furniture.

"One of the reasons there are private cars today is the interest generated by Beebe in his books," says owner Wade Pellizzer, as he lights the logs in the marble fireplace.

(National Geographic News Service)

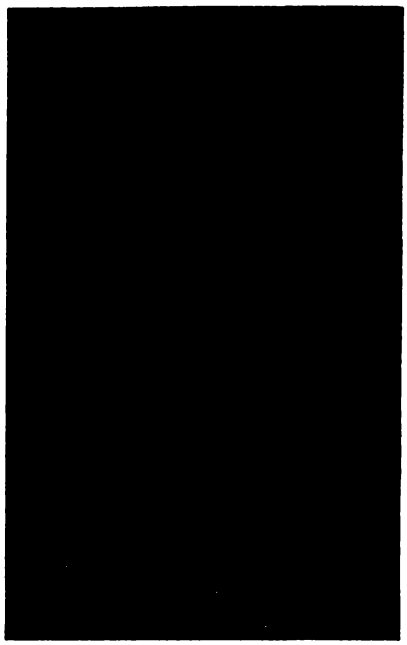
THE MARK OF A TIGER

Tigers have always fascinated man First, when it was abundant, as a prize animal for hunt, next, when its population dwindled, it formed the nucleus of a major conservation strategy under the aegis of Project Tiger; and now, when the population is in the recuperative stage, for a major man-animal conflict because of its cattle-lifting and man-eating. Fortunately, man has decided, though belatedly, to protect this beautiful animal and conserve it for prosperity.

Wildlife conservation has now come of age and scientific management permits effective manipulation of the natural parameters of a park to ensure optimum growth of the animal population, commensurate with its carrying capacity Regular animal count or census is an effective tool in the hands of the manager to determine how the population dynamics are responding to such management practices. It also indicates whether any course correction is required.

Various methodologies have been developed for counting various key species in wildlife parks. They are dependant on the main animal species to be counted and topography of the area, among other factors. Animal sighting in any park is erratic and it is almost impossible to identify each and every animal sighted for a short period of time spread over a very large area of the park. Indirect methods denoting the presence of animals is the only means of computing their population. For tigers, pugmarks are an effective tool for identifying the animals. They have distinctive features, and with some practice, it is possible to distinguish between the pugmarks of two different tigers and also to determine their age and sex Together with information about the place of pugmark collection, stride of the tiger, etc., it is possible to arrive at a reasonable estimate of the population. Census by pugmark analysis in parks where visibility and accessibility are good and the ground is firm have been reasonably standardised.

The 2585 sq. km. forest area of the Sunderbans tiger reserve, which is estimated to have the highest concentration of



Ann Ghosh

Tiger pugmark



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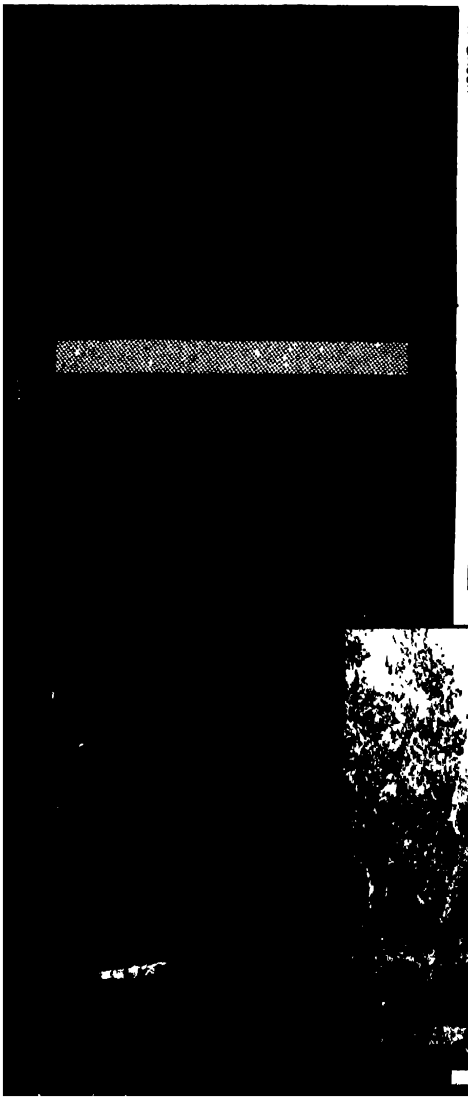






Rajib De

plaster cast of a pugmark



Ann Ghosh

the animal among all such parks in the world, however, poses an altogether different set of problems. Briefly, they are:

- The forests are very thick and virtually inaccessible. Visibility is poor.
- The bank and a large portion of the forest floor gets washed twice a day by tidal waters, thereby greatly obliterating the pugmarks within a very short time.
- The ground is soft and sticky, causing splaying and distortion to varying degrees. This adds to the confusion.

Prior to last month's census, only three serious attempts had been made to estimate the tiger population. These were in 1972, 1978 and 1983. Learning only from our own experience and with practically no standardised method for such an area to fall back on, we designed our own methodology. To double check whether the population arrived at matched the available prey base, we divided the entire census operation into two distinctive parts: prey base census and actual census of the major carnivora—tigers.

The first part was carried out from December 6 to 10. Four representative areas of about 10 sq. km. each were chosen from four zones of the project areas—the sanctuary zone, the core zone, the core-buffer combine and the multiple-use zone. In each of the chosen areas, a party of six trained staff kept constant watch over the area from their house boats in the peripheral creeks and rivers all through five days. In their enumeration sheets, they recorded actual sightings and also indirect evidences, like calls, hoof marks, droppings etc. Such observations are now being put to strict scrutiny and shall be compounded and discounted for various factors like visibility and multiplicity of sighting to arrive at a rockbottom figure of the prey animal. These figures shall then be statistically extrapolated for equivalent areas to get an idea of the main prey base available.

The second phase of the operation was more elaborate and lasted from December 16 to 19. The entire project area was divided into 36 small units, well-delineated by natural water courses. They were also demarcated on the map. Each segment was entrusted to a group comprising five people including armed guards. The group leaders and their assistants were given extensive training in pugmark tracing and taking-plaster casts (with plaster of Paris). Each group, equipped with their census kits, took up position in their watercraft (with sleeping accommodation, kitchen and toilet facilities) in their assigned areas by the evening of December 15. The entire project area was in constant touch with each other through radio telephone network. For four days, they moved along the periphery of the areas, entering the forest floor wherever possible to look for pugmarks. Whenever one was sighted it was traced out on a glass tiger tracer and then transferred onto a tracing paper as permanent record. As an additionality, a plaster impression of the pugmark was also taken. They were labelled and marked on the relevant map. Site information like soil condition, vegetation type, time of taking the pugmark and the condition of the pugmark (fresh or old) were recorded on the information sheet. After continuously traversing the area for four days and gathering all the information they were expected to about the elusive carnivore, the census parties returned to Sajnakhali on December 20, armed with volumes of information, pugmark tracings and a huge load of plaster casts (about 15 quintals of plaster of Paris were used).

On the tiger trail



Rajib De

The information gathered is now being put to thorough scrutiny and processing. The final results are expected to be ready by the end of this month. We hope to arrive at population figures of prey and predator species, defining confidence limits and correlating predator-prey biomass ratio, hitherto unattempted in the Sunderbans. This should enable us to test the effectiveness of our managemental measures and tell us if any course correction is necessary. But that would be another story. ■

The writer is field director, Project Tiger, Sunderbans tiger reserve

Previous Tiger Census Results

	1972	1978	1983
Total population	120	205	264
Adult males	—	77	137
Adult females	—	92	115
Cubs	—	36	12

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aag Ka Gola:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849), Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757).

Directed by David Dhawan and with music by Bappi Lahiri the film stars Sunny Deol, Dimple Kapadia, Shakti Kapoor, Archana Joglekar, Raza Murad and Prem Chopra

• **Bhrashtachar:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—4 shows; Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—3 shows.

A film by Ramesh Sippy, starring Rekha and Mithun Chakraborty. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Chandni:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442)—11, 2.15, 5.30, 8.45.

A film by Yash Chopra, starring Rishi Kapoor, Vinod Khanna and Sridevi. The music is by Shiv Hari

• **Ghar Ka Chiraag:** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani; 270147), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141), Malancha (Regent Park).

Rajesh Khanna, Chunkey Panday and Neelam are in the lead in this film, directed by Sikander Bharti. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Jurrat:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue; 390762), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road, 478808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 390190), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road; 474403), Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road; 363264).

Shatrughan Sinha, Kumar Gaurav and Amala play the lead. The film is directed by David Dhawan and the music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Jawani 16 Saal Ki (A):** Society (Corporation Place; 241002)—4 shows.

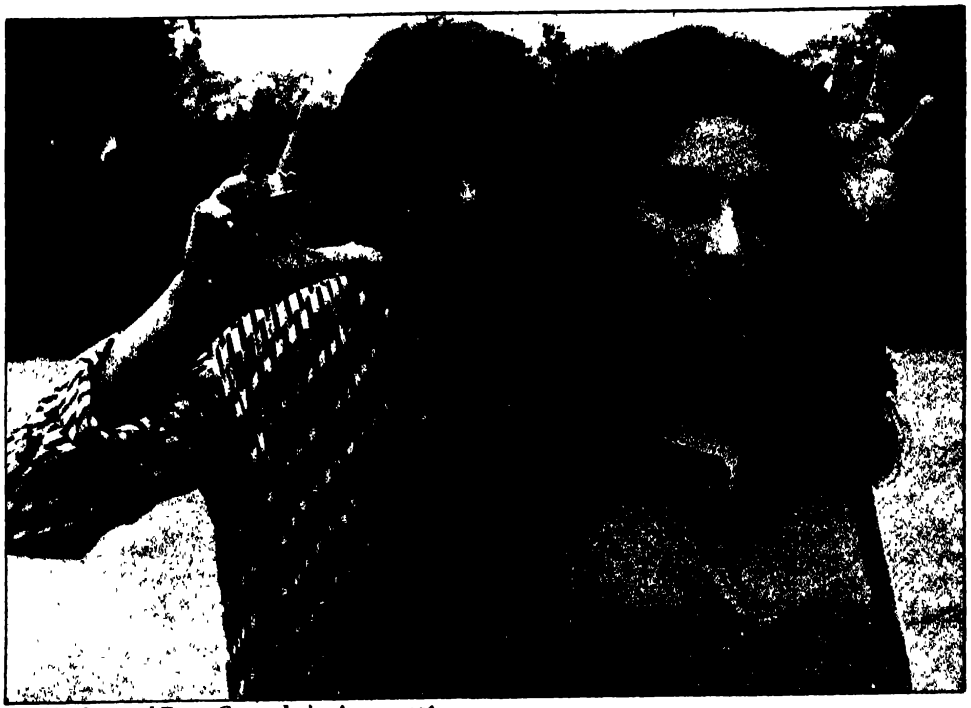
Directed by Jaya Dewan, the film stars Uma Maheshwari, Jaya Lalitha and Raj Tilak.

• **Main Azaad Hoon:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266)—4 shows.

Amitabh Bachchan and Shabana Azmi are the lead pair in this film, directed by Tinnu Anand and music by Amar Utpal.

• **Paap Ka Ant:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

Hema Malini, Govinda and Madhuri Dixit are the principal attractions in this film. The direction and music are by Vijay Reddy and Bappi Lahiri, respectively.



Abhijit Sen and Rupa Ganguly in *Aamaanat*



Jaya Lalitha in *Jawani 16 Saal Ki*

Bengali Films

• **Aamaanat (A):** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045)—2.30, 5.30, 8.30; Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3, 6, 9.

Directed by Shantanu Bhowmick and with music by Amit Kumar, the cast includes Rupa Ganguly, Abhijit Sen, Deepankar De, Sumitra Mukherjee, Shakuntala Barua, Master Bitu, Satabdi Roy and Prasenjit.

• **Kari Diye Kinlam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)—1.30, 4.30, 7.30; Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—2, 5, 8.

Based on Bimal Mitra's novel and directed by Biresh Chjatterjee, the film stars Moushumi Chatterjee, Arjun Chakraborty, Kali Banerjee, Madhabi Mukherjee, Utpal Dutt, Haradhan Banerjee, Supriya Devi, Tapas Paul and Aparna Sen. The music is by Swapan Chakraborty.

• **Pranomi Tomaye:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—3 shows.

A film by Prabhat Roy, starring Prasenjit, Arjun Chakraborty and debutante Reshma Singh. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Swarna Trisha:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

Directed by Mangal Chakraborty and with music by Salil Chowdhury, the film stars Mithun Chakraborty and Japanese actress Hisako Kato.

Special Events

7 January onwards: 3 pm and 8 pm

The 54th all-India annual fine arts exhibition, organised by Academy of Fine Arts, till January 17.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

7 January onwards: 6 pm

Calcutta Tamil Sangham and Udayam celebrate 'Thyagabrahma Utsavam' with a programme of Carnatic vocal and instrumental music by budding artistes, till January 15.

At Sankara Hall (93, Southern Avenue).

9-13 January: 6 pm

To mark Swami Vivekananda's 127th birth anniversary, the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture and Devi Pratidhawani present a tabla trio by Kishen Maharaj, Alla Rakha and Shamta Prasad with Ramesh Mishra on the nagma on 9th; a guitar-sitar duet by Vishwa Mohan Bhatt and Shahid Parvez with Anandagopal Banerjee and Anindo Chatterjee on the tabla, on 10th; a vocal duet by Ajoy Chakraborty and Madurai T.N. Sheshgopalan on 11th, a sarengi-violin duet by Sultan Khan and D.K. Datar on 12th, and tal vadya katcheri featuring Kishen Maharaj (tabla), Arjun Shejwal (pakhawaj), Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman (mridangam), Vinayakaram (ghatam) and Harishankar (kanjira) on 13th.

At Vivekananda Hall (Gol Park).

12 January: 6.30 pm

To commemorate Rukmini Devi Arundale's 82nd birth anniversary, Natanam Kalakshetra presents a solo Bharata Natyam recital by Arati Ghosh, disciple of Guru Khagendra Barman.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

13 January: 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

Anamika Kala Sangam presents the Hindi comedy play, *Sambhog Se Sanyas Tak*, written and directed by Satyadev Dubey.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325; Dep. (2): JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (3): RA-214 at 1050, Dep. (5): RA-214 at 1650, Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740; Arr. (1): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (3): RA-213 at 0950, Arr. (5): RA-213 at 1550, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1640.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (4): IC-443 at 0830; Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110; Dep. (4): IC-444 at 1150.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730, Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1410, Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1610, Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1445; Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1705.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

RE-SCHEDULING OF FLIGHTS

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. However, Indian Airlines was following a partial emergency schedule when we went to press. Passengers may contact 264433, 263135, 266869, 262602, 569433, 204433, 569611 (Ext. 314) for assistance.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700, IC 763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710, Arr (daily): IC-401 at 1200, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2210

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0900 and IC-273 at 1920; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0810 and IC-274 at 1830.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1715; Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (daily): IC-771 at 0705; Arr. (daily): IC-772 at 1240

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily): IC-205 at 1330; Arr. (daily): IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1630.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-542 at 0555; Arr. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-541 at 1225.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2045.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 1840.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-703 at 0605 and IC-229 at 1320, Arr (daily): IC-704 at 0855 and IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-219 at 0605 and Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-220 at 1045 and Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1650.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1710.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0900.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1010.

Silchar-Imphal-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-259 at 0730; Arr. (daily): IC-260 at 0900.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 0825.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-741 at 0945 and IC-743 at 1300, Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-243 at 0610; Arr. (daily). IC-742 at 1205 and IC-744 at 1520, Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-244 at 1030.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

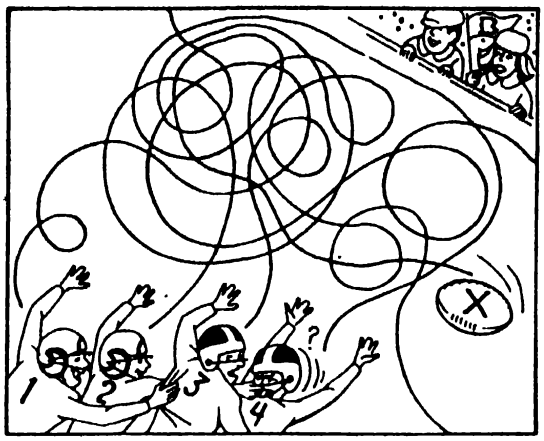
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri —Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp.** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr.—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep. & Arri.—Wed. & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

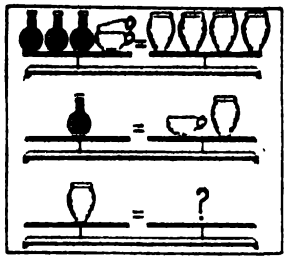
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromondal (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only.	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



TOSS UP! Who threw the football above — player 1, 2, 3 or 4? See if you can pick out the player on your first try.



IT'S HEADS UP BALANCING

Let's see if you can solve this weighty balancing problem in your head pronto

Three bottles and two cups weigh the same as four vases

One cup and one vase equal the weight of a single bottle

Knowing the comparative weights of bottles, cups and vases as thus described, you are asked to determine how many cups it will take to equal the weight of one vase (see illustration above).

It's to be assumed that similar items are of the same weight

Five cups = one vase

• LOST 'N FOUND! The ferocious monster shown below is Tyrannosarus Rex, a creature that roamed the earth eons ago. The small figures in the inset—when properly identified and then added and subtracted letter-wise—will leave a place where Tyranno is most likely to be found today. Where's that?

Mouse + boat − bat + drum − door leaves
MUSEUM



• BODY SHOP! Quickly, name five parts of the body above the shoulders that are spelled with four letters. Head, for instance, and so on.

Face, neck, chin, nose, brow, lash, hair, etc

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1. Mustache is smaller. 2. Tie plate is missing. 3. Basket is smaller. 4. Clock is missing. 5. Glasses are missing. 6. Hat is moved.

FUNSPOT



DOG ABOARD! Hikes are fun, especially if you are a lucky dog and hitch a ride. Apply colors: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Purple.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words.

INVOLUTE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram: Tune, vital



ARIES
March 21– April 20
Moon's quarter in your sign indicates domestic disputes You will have clashes with family members but given time and patience everything will get sorted out eventually. Home and property affairs will also take on a new significance Romance is in the offing but do not expect everything to be smooth sailing Financial juggling will be called for

TAURUS
April 21- May 20
Socialising, expenses, trips, collaborations, ties and rendezvous are now highlighted The health of family members will cause concern This is the time to invest in a new scheme Children will make demands on both money and your patience. While outside influences will interest you, make sure that you devote enough time to home affairs as well.

GEMINI
May 21– June 20
Even if you face opposition to your plans from some quarters, go ahead with any ventures that you have in mind. Matters pertaining to legacies and partnerships will interest you Health may run into rough weather, so take adequate care and go for regular checkups It would be best if you wait for a while before embarking on a journey Home affairs will now demand attention

CANCER
June 21—July 20
Hard work is in the offing for you as Venus trines Mars Elders will demand a great deal of your time. Travel is foretold for the next fortnight. Changes on the home front are destined. Romantic affairs are likely to add excitement to an otherwise humdrum week.

LEO
July 21—August 21
Romance, entertainment and socialising are foretold. Financial transactions, buying, selling and investments are also foretold. Stomach and heart ailments cannot be ruled out. Travel is likely. Children will give much joy and happiness. Visits to the nursing home are likely.

VIRGO
August 22 -Sept 22
Loans and funds will now be available to start any venture that you have in mind Romance is indicated as are matters pertaining to children and grandchildren You may suffer from a bad toothache this week, so a visit to the dentist is advisable You may be making a major move by January Socialising and entertaining are highlighted as are renovation and alteration

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22
The moon's quarter highlights matters relating to links, ties, contacts and collaborations. Money should come in by the weekend Romance will not prove to be as rosy as you thought Overindulgence should be avoided at all costs Travel is indicated Children, hobbies and pastimes are highlighted. Entertainment and socialising will prove to be beneficial this week

BIRTHDAYS

January 7
Sun conjunction Saturn: Despite this tough conjunction, you will do well, as the moon trines Neptune. It will be best to accept responsibilities gracefully.

January 8
Sun sextile Pluto: Lovers, poets, editors and scientists will fare well. Look forward to a promotion and perks. This year, a job-switch is probable

January 9
Moon trine Node: Western astrology: Financial gains and a possible job-switch are likely. Those in communications and transport and import and export have it made. You will be active and alert this year.

January 10
Moon-Jupiter conjunction: [illegible]

January 11
Full moon, Cancer, Western astrology: For confirmed bachelors and resigned spinsters, a chance to wed now possible. Relationships and travel are indicated. Artists and scientists will do a remarkable job.

January 12
Moon opposition Venus: Trading, commission and agency work, buying and selling will turn out favourably. Lovers will be happy and contented. A happy though unscheduled homecoming awaits Capricornians. Finances, though fantastic, need careful handling.

January 13
Moon trine Mars: Tycoons and industrialists will [illegible]

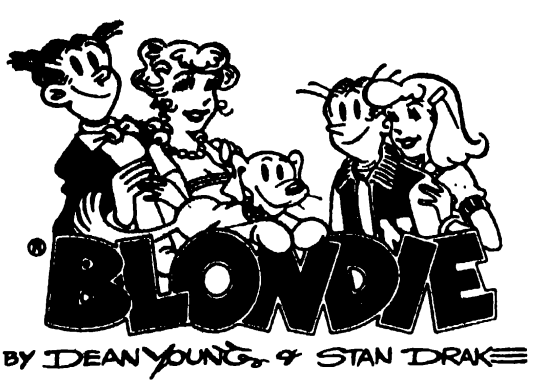
SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 22
A shift or transfer cannot be ruled out. Investments, designing, alterations, renovations and refurbishing are foretold. Money will come in from any investments that you have made. Romance will prove to be both exciting and invigorating. Do not burn the candle at both ends and learn to take things easy. You will be accident prone, so take care. Installation of gadgets likely.

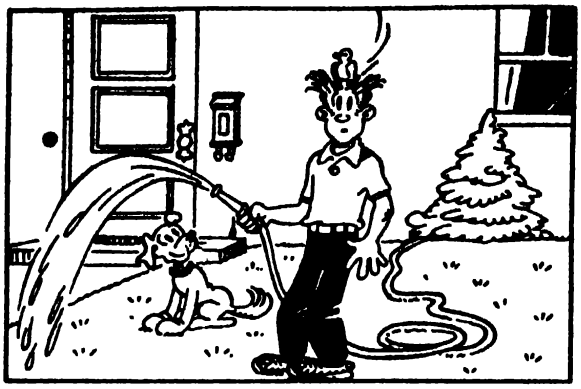
SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23—Dec 20
You will go in for impulsive purchases this week. There will be some confusion over matters relating to travel documents and bank affairs. Be clear in your mind about what you want from life. Romance will be exciting Do exercises in moderation but do not go in for weight lifting. Children and grandchildren, socials and picnics will keep you in fine fettle this week.

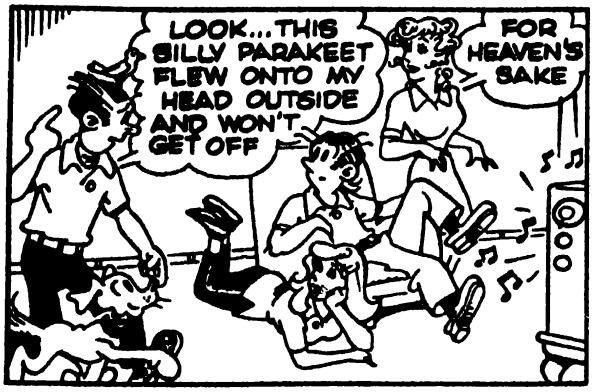
CAPRICORN
Dec 21– Jan 19
Home and property matters, elders and in-laws will demand attention. Your moods will fluctuate wildly so keep a tight reign over your reactions Follow any hunch that you have and you are sure to make money. The moon Jupiter conjunction ensures a happy romantic entanglement. Keep your travel kit ready. Health safeguards are called for. Give your home a facelift A good week for dancers.

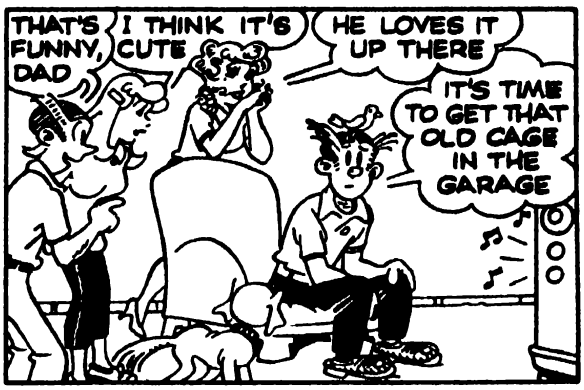
AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18
Matters pertaining to health, research, education and a new business are highlighted You will win over people with your charm. Negotiate a tricky business deal now. Sympathy may cloud your judgement, so beware of cheats Do not take risks on the road. Children may tax your patience

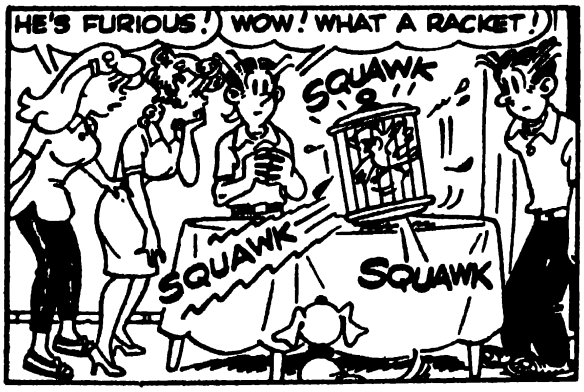
PISCES
Feb 19 -March 20
Buying, selling, trading, investing and renovation are foretold. You may be taking on a new assignment. A journey is in the offing. Before work pressures mount, take a break. Alterations and decorations on the home front are likely.

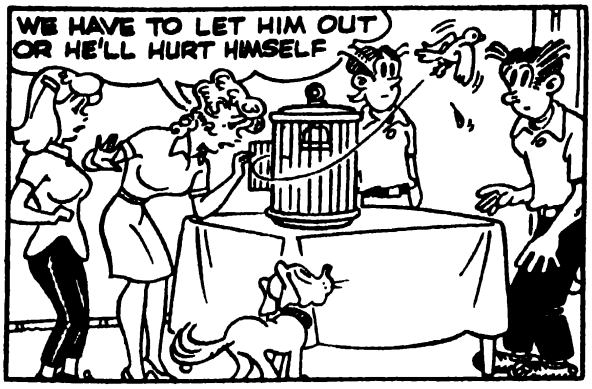






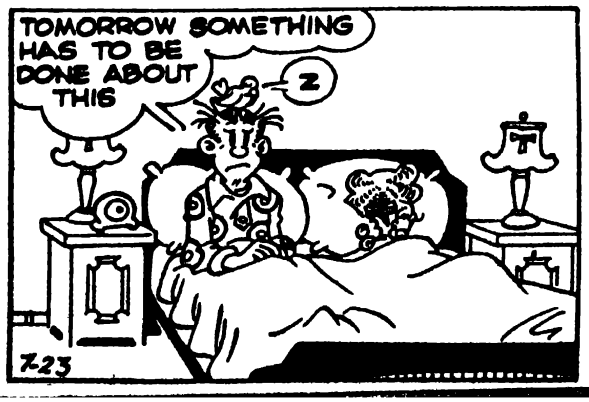




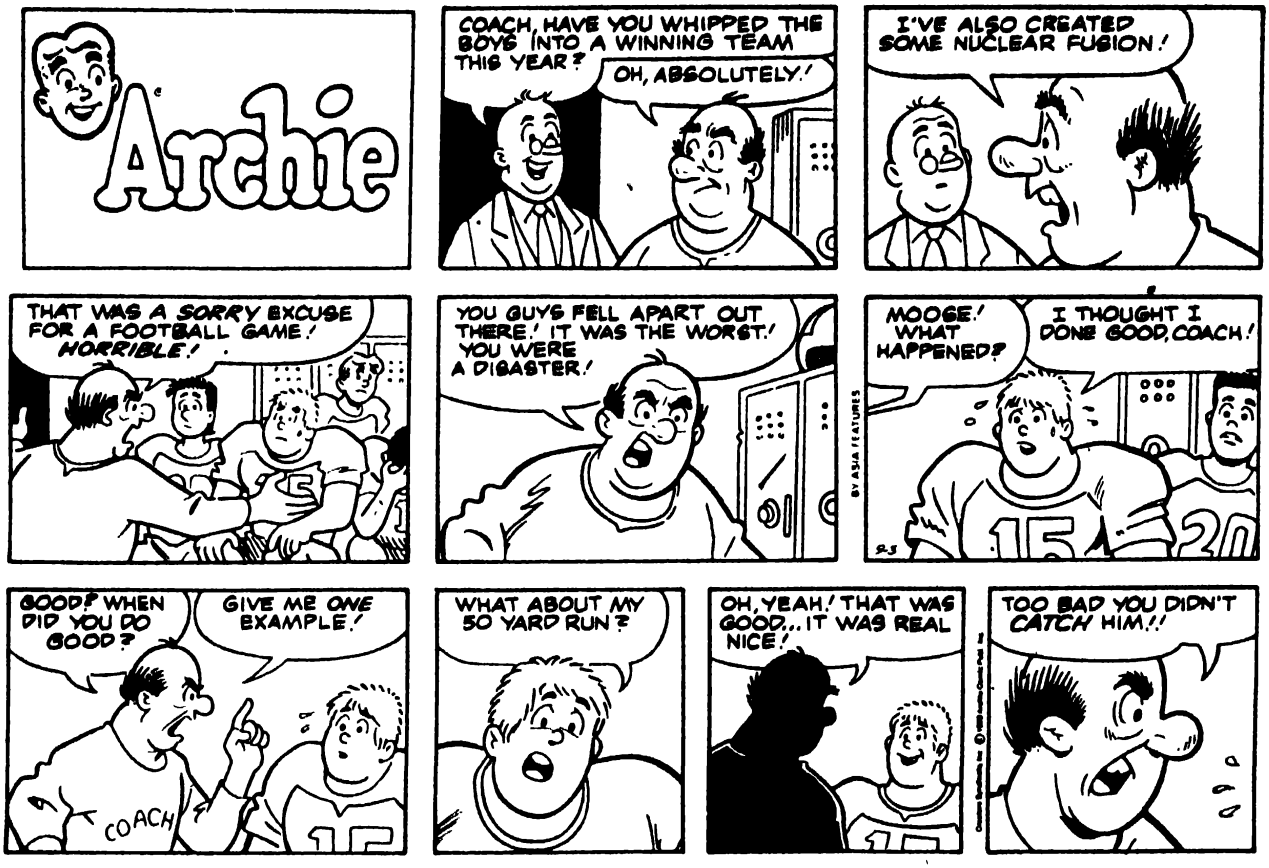




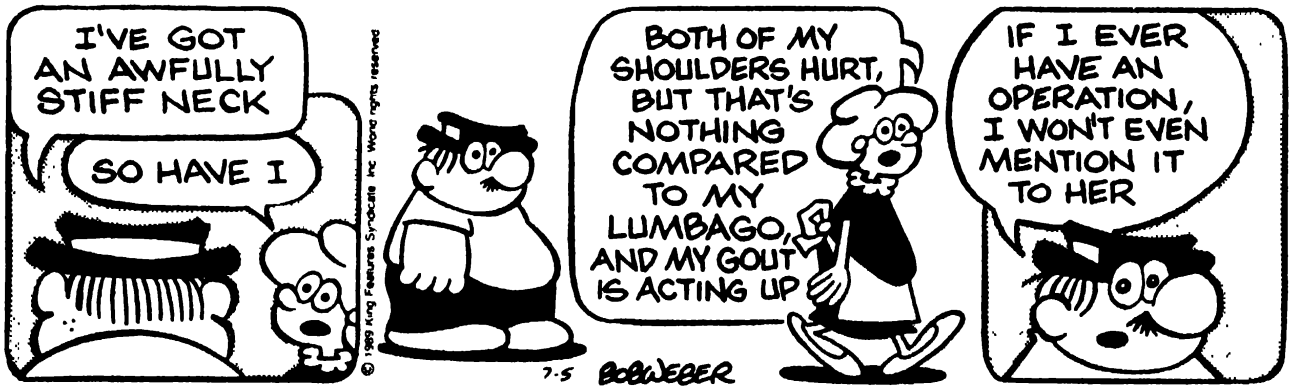
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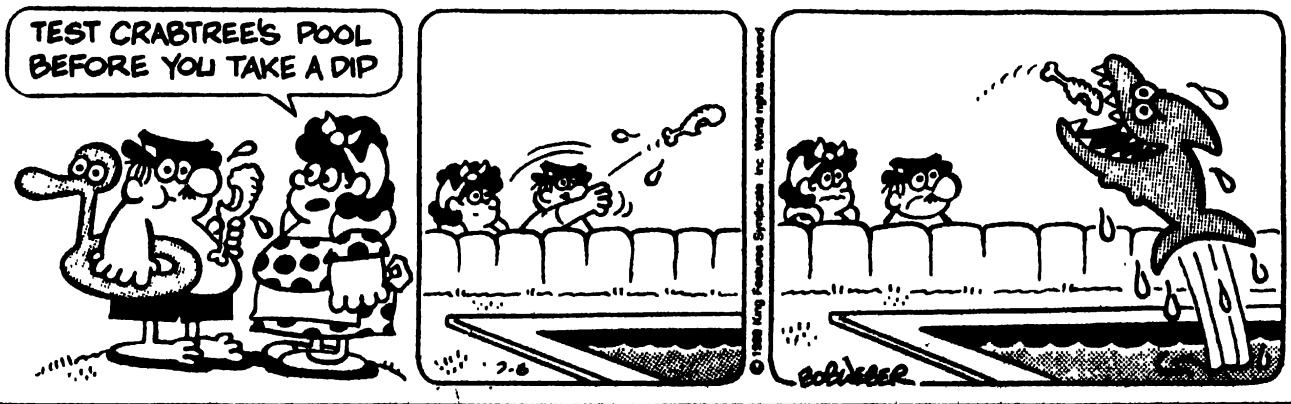


ARCHIE

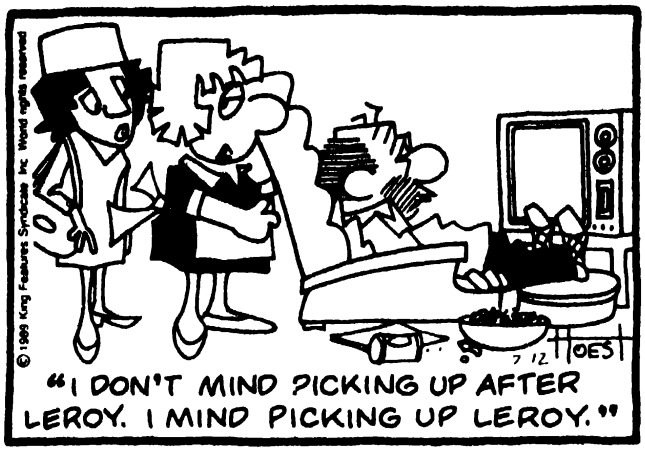


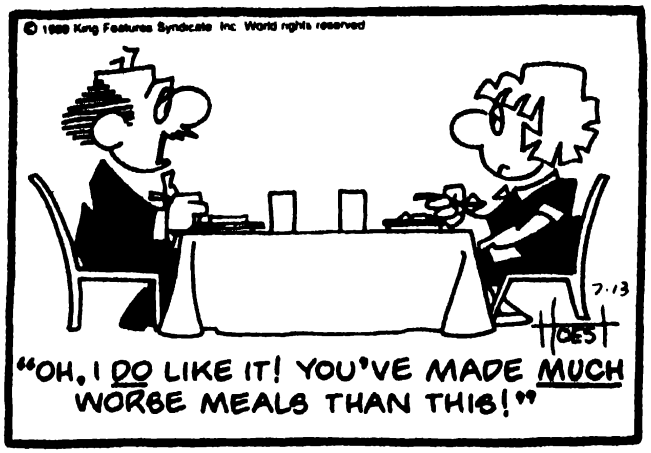
MOOSE MILLER

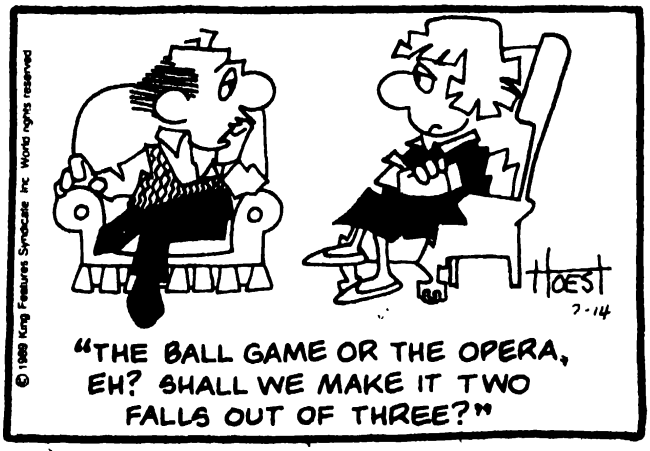




THE LOCKHORNS









MANDRAKE by Lee Falk









THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP



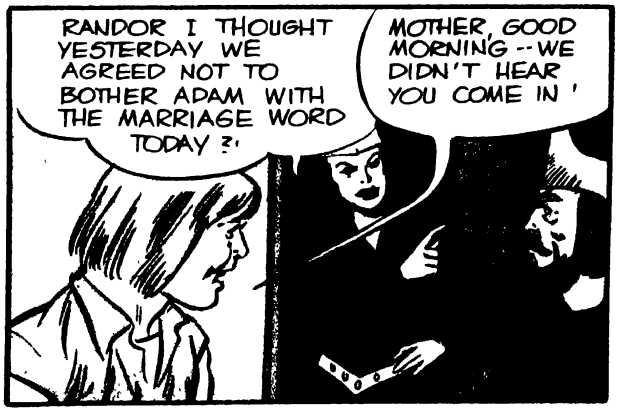
The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's edition of The Telegraph's Saturday Special

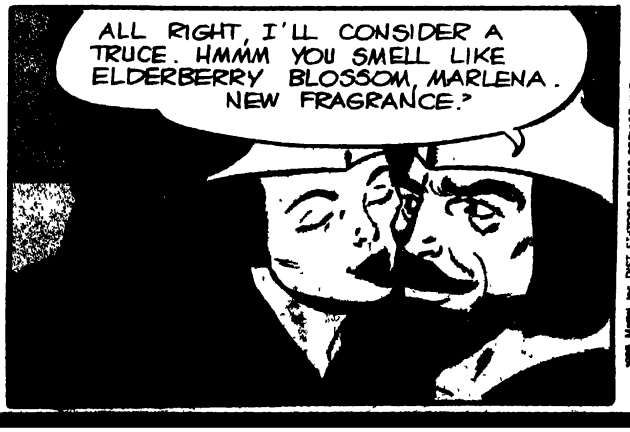








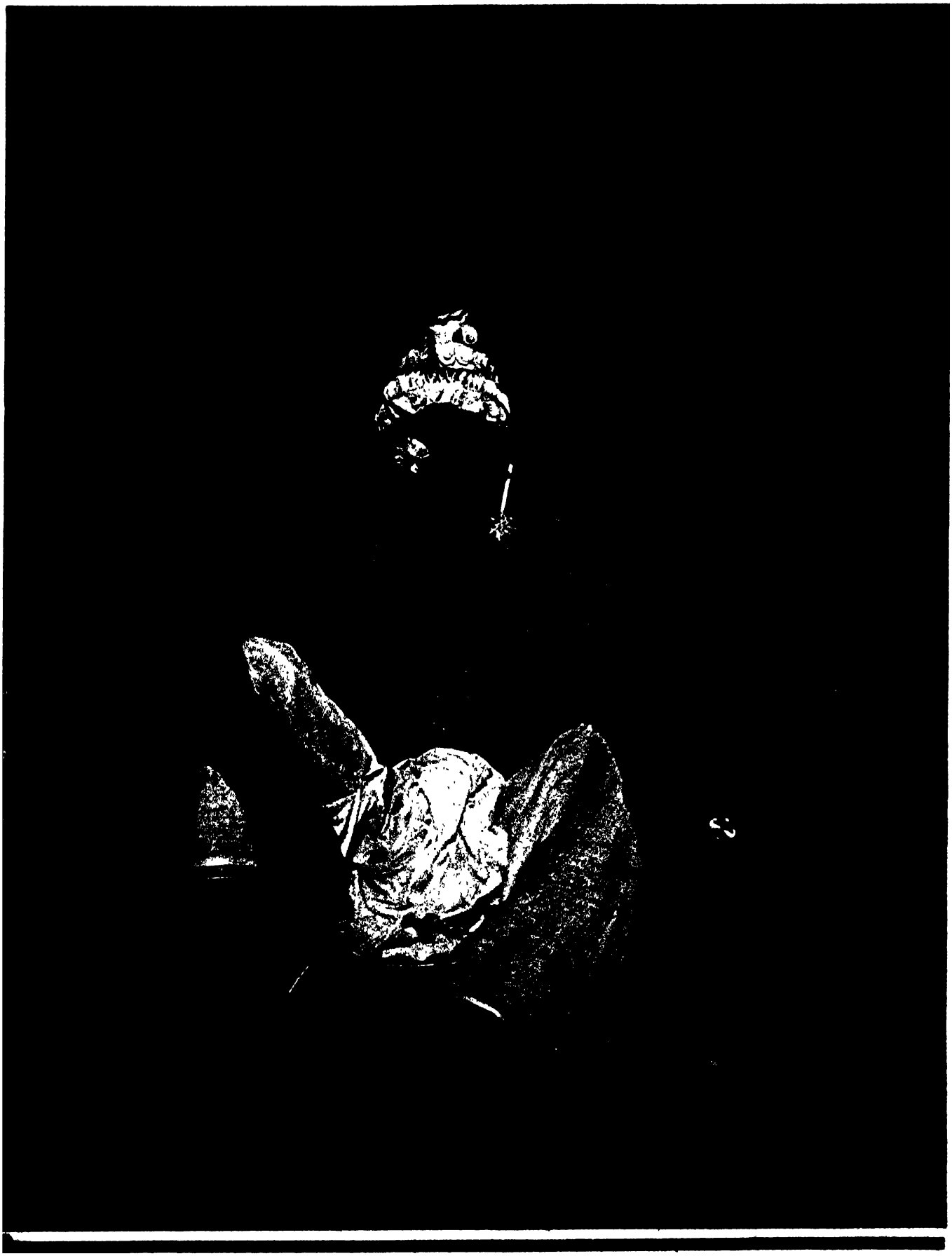






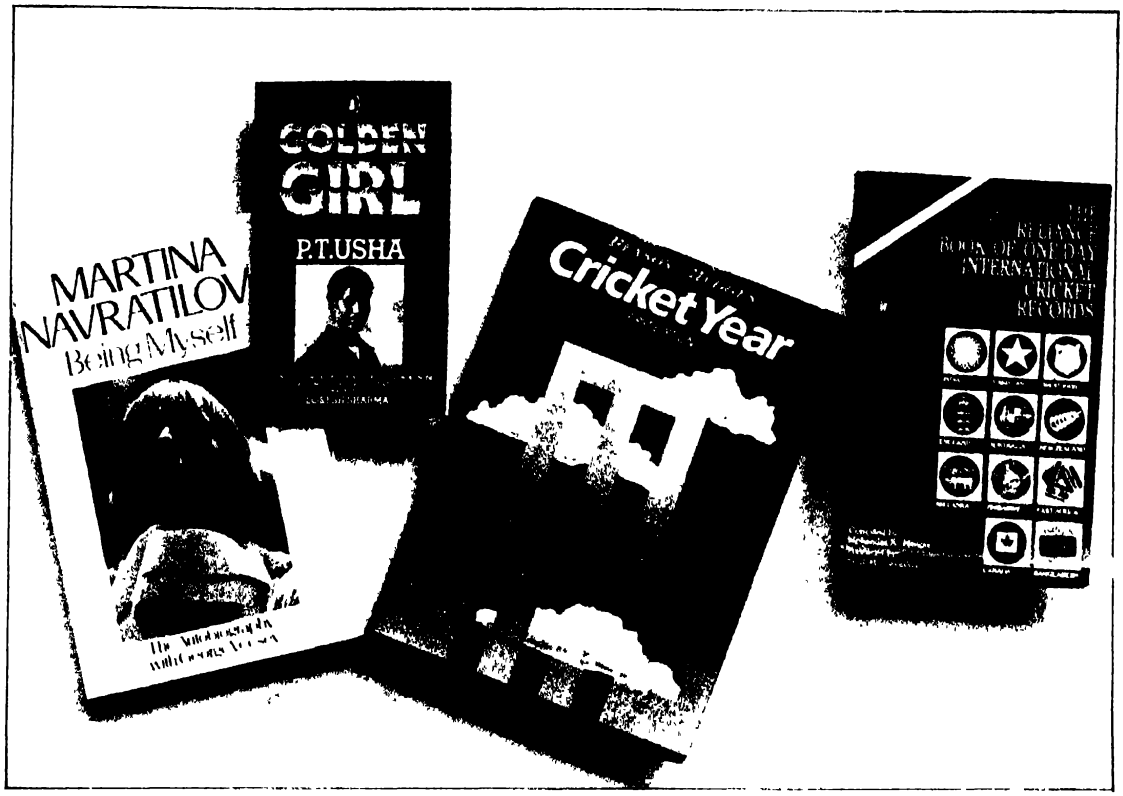
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No Comparison

Anyone with even half the talent of Amitabh Bachchan would outdo Raj Babbar and Shatrughan Sinha put together ('VP's Bachchans', December 24). With his mesmeric personality and innate flair for acting, Bachchan has already gone down the annals of Indian cinema as a name to contend with. Can Babbar or Sinha lay claim to any memorable film? Their contribution to cine history and politics are best left undiscussed.

Sudip Basu,
Chandannagore

■ The emergence of the late M.G. Ramachandran and then N.T. Rama Rao proved beyond doubt the undeniable link between politics and cinema. But their mindless and somewhat ludicrous activities did not deter Amitabh Bachchan, Sunil Dutt and later Vyjayanthimala Bali from joining the political bandwagon. And the recently concluded elections where Shatrughan Sinha and Raj Babbar jumped into the political fray, have proved beyond doubt the undying attraction that politics holds for filmstars. Even in a politically conscious state like West Bengal, these cine artistes have been given undue importance.

Aloke Basu,
Vill. Gocharan
(West Bengal)

■ The interview with Shatrughan Sinha revealed the hollowness of his claims. The film industry loudmouth says that he has been an active campaigner at every general election since 1977, except in 1983, but the truth is that he took up campaigning for the Opposition only when he was sure of its victory.

The Opposition won the recently concluded elections because of the strong anti-Rajiv wave and not because of Sinha's efforts. Had he any courage, he would have campaigned for the Opposition in 1980 and 1984 as well.

Rajendra Kumar Mundhra,
Howrah (West Bengal)

Starry-eyed

Thank you for the excellent story on the new faces in Indian politics ('Poll Stars', December 17). However, we would appreciate some coverage on the giant killers of West Bengal, Malini Bhattacharya and Susanta Chakraborty.

Debanjan Bandopadhyay,
Baruipur
(West Bengal)

■ The cover story, 'Poll Stars' made interesting reading but after reading M.J. Akbar's views, I cannot help feel that after quitting journalism and entering politics, he has started seeing everything with jaundiced eyes.

While on the one hand, Akbar criticises V.P. Singh for his campaign against the Bofors scandal, he does not have anything to say in favour of his leader, Rajiv Gandhi, in the face of the charges levelled against him by N. Ram of *The Hindu*.

Soma Sen,
Rabindranagar
(West Bengal)

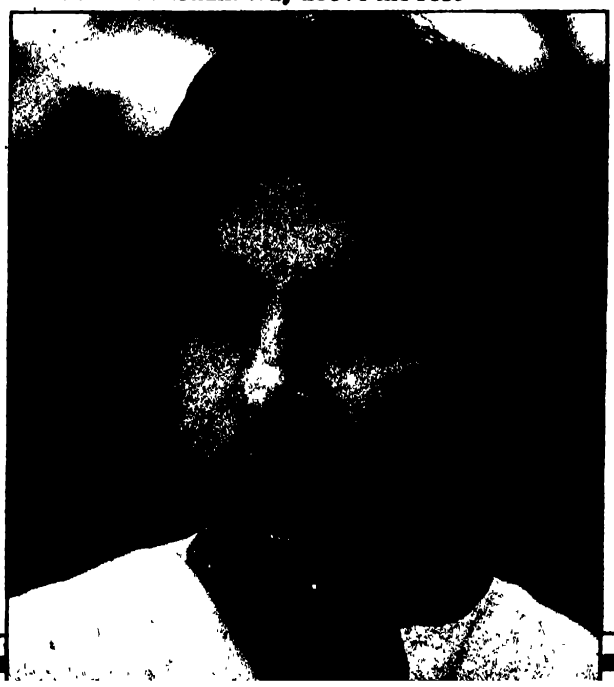
Clever Tactics

The cover story, 'King or Pawn' (December 10, 1989) reminded me of the year 1985 when V.P. Singh as finance minister, made headlines with his stringent measures against tax evaders.

It was from then onwards that a plot to replace Rajiv Gandhi as Prime Minister was hatched. When asked whether he was worried about what vengeful tax evaders might do to remove him from office, he had replied that he had entered politics because of his personal relationship with Gandhi. Left to himself, he would have taken to photography or painting, he had said. This unclouded vision and philosophy of life has been instrumental in helping him to reach the position of Prime Minister today.

Sunil Banerjee,
Calcutta

Amitabh Bachchan: Way above the rest



Umesh Vyas

The Telegraph

14 JANUARY 1990

10 The cricket control board is once again fishing in troubled waters. Its decision to appoint Bishan Singh Bedi as manager of the Indian team for the New Zealand tour is based on reasons other than cricketing.

4 St Helen's of Kurseong celebrates its centenary this year.



16 With NRIs taking over imports of foreign films some years ago, third-grade movies full of sex and violence flooded the market. And then they began getting away with interpolations of uncensored *masala*, too. Years and much criticism later, the trend continues.

SECTIONS

8 Quiz
15 Rainbow
19 Science
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

STAYING ON TOP

St Helen's of Kurseong celebrates its centenary this year

It is hard to imagine that the gleaming white, Tudor-style St Helen's Secondary School in Kurseong was little more than a 450-foot high barren, rocky hill side off Hill Cart Road only 100 years back. But, "If God wills something, it will be accomplished" (to quote its founders) and after beginnings at Constantie and then a rented house above the Clarendon Hotel, St Helen's guided by the indefatigable Mother Marie, opened its doors to 50 students in February, 1891.



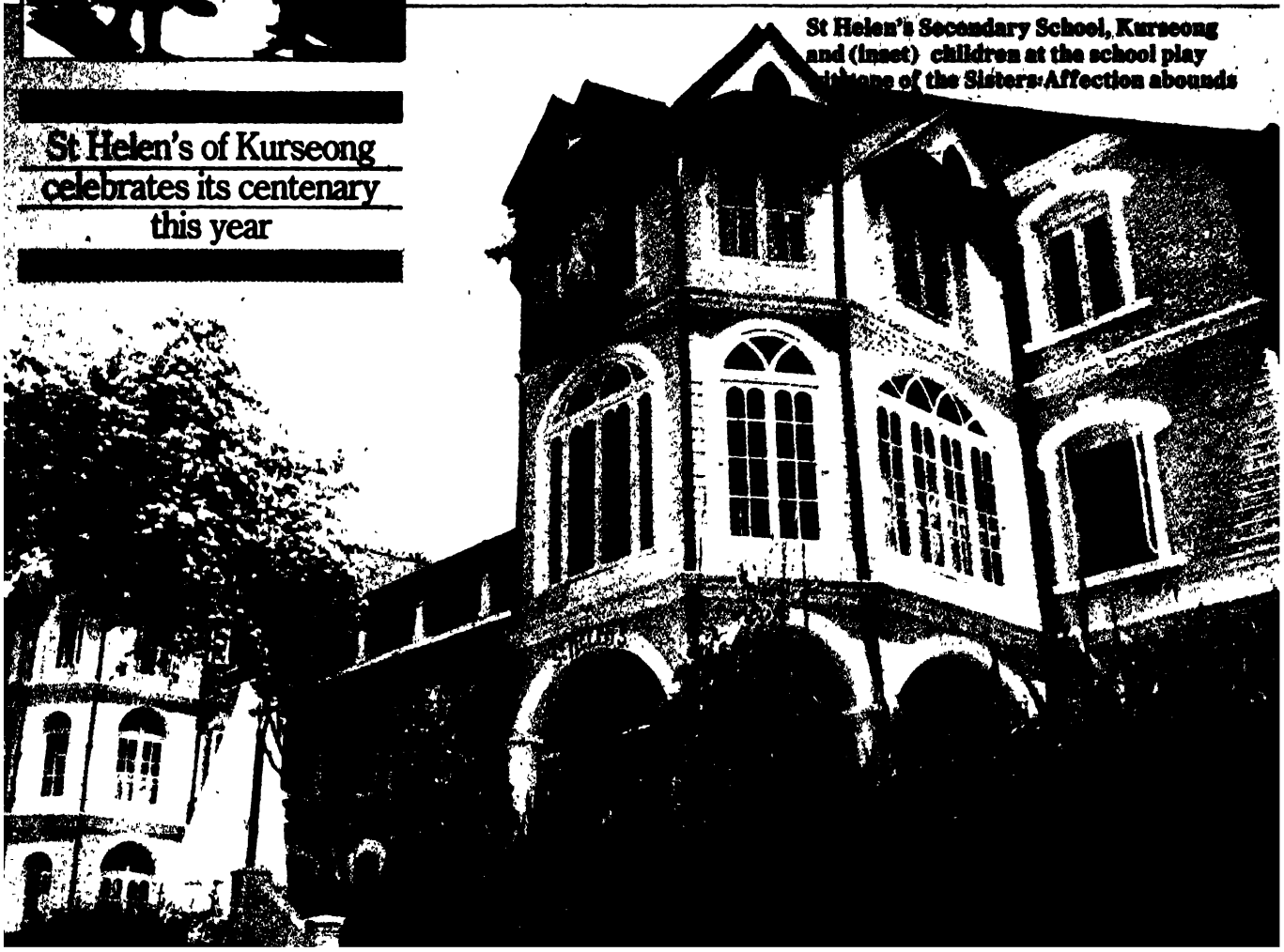
Kushal Roy

It was that same spirit of sharing, love—and above all determination—that marked the carnival organised by St Helenites, present and past, in Calcutta recently. A *joi de vivre* and desire "to feel the way we were," as Jayanti Sawhney put it, marked the festivities. "We want to show Calcuttans that we are accomplished—not only at academics but also at home. Not one thing at the carnival, from the jams, bread and pickles to the prizes, have been bought. We have made them all."

The Daughters of the Cross, to which St Helen's belongs, came to India in 1861 when St Joseph's School was established in Bandra, Bombay, according to Sister Marlene Jude, present headmistress and former student of St Helen's. "When St Helen's began, we had just 11 students from Calcutta but by 1911 the first batch went up for their Cambridge exams." Soon after, a technical department to teach dressmaking, cooking and first aid, and then a commercial course for shorthand and typing were started. "Today, we have 400 students on our rolls, half of whom are boarders," she adds.

The Daughters of the Cross have also opened an institution for orphans, St Margaret's Home, a local high school and a primary school in Kurseong.

Besides the fact that the carnival was organised to acquaint Calcuttans with St Helen's, the underlying objective was to raise funds. "Ten years ago when I took over, I was dismayed to see my girls while



St Helen's Secondary School, Kurseong and (inset) children at the school play [illegible] of the Sisters: Affection abounds

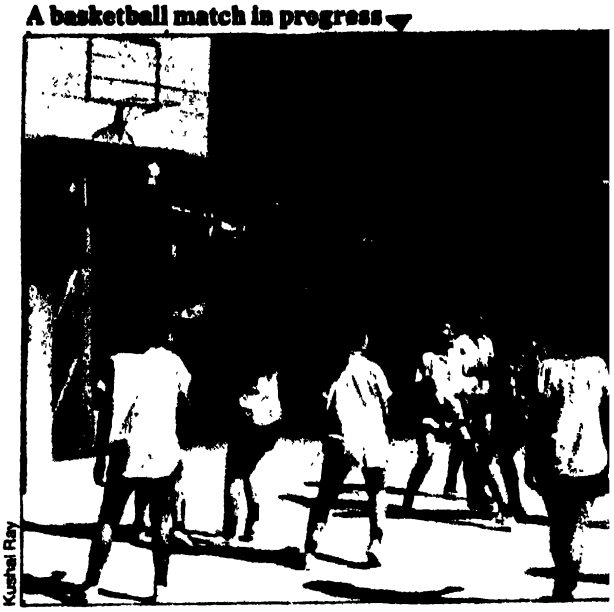
away their spare time chatting. I wanted them to play games and exercise, but where was the place? The corridors then served as grounds because the outdoors were ruled out. It rains at least four months every year in Kurseong. It was then that I thought of building a gymnasium for the students," says the rosy cheeked and unbelievably fresh looking Sister Marlene. "The estimate then was Rs 10 lakh, now it is Rs 15 lakh—but we have managed to scrimp and save. The carnival proceeds will help." The surplus will go towards providing scholarships to needy girls.



Kushal Ray

The headmistress, Sister Marlene Jude: An old association

A basketball match in progress



What is most amazing is that Sister Marlene rarely admits girls above five. But don't they end up having terribly homesick children on their hands? "You will be surprised," she replies. "They adjust remarkably well. Besides, the Sisters are very affectionate."

Others, too, feel the same way. Says pretty Tultul Dasgupta of the 1976 batch, "It was like a second home to me. My parents were in the Terai where there were no good schools. But the Sisters made up for the parents—I remember hugging them and having a super time." Manju Dang, of the 1968 batch, agrees. "I was brought up in a joint family where individual attention was impossible. The nuns were excellent. They instilled a sense of discipline and responsibility in us all. The only irksome feature was the water scarcity. I wish we were allowed to bathe everyday."

Radha Ghosh, of the 1934 batch and one of the oldest alumni to attend the carnival, shares Dang and Dasgupta's memories. "The Sisters were very nice to us. They were mainly Belgians and Germans then but they never made us feel like outcasts. I still remember the fun we had on St Helen's Day when even day scholars like me were treated to lunch and dinner." But then why didn't she send her own daughter to St Helen's? "My husband wouldn't hear of sending them away to boarding school," she says. Rita Das of the 1957 batch has however sent her daughter to her alma mater.

Yet, the understanding and affection notwithstanding, the overriding impression one gets is that unless absolutely unavoidable, most former St Helenites wouldn't opt for boarding school for their daughters.

The centenary celebrations, according to Sister Marlene Jude, will commence on May 5 with a High Mass followed by an exhibition of photographs. Celebrations will end with a play on May 7, aptly titled "The Helegant Affair."

Like any established educational institution, St Helen's too, justifiably, boasts a distinguished past with many former students making a mark for themselves in the competitive world outside, giving credence to the school motto, "In Hoc Signo Vinces,"(in this sign, you shall conquer). Politician Ila Pal Chowdhury; doctors Parvati Sen Gupta, Purnima Lama, Fee Cee Leong; actresses Daljit Kaur and Aparajita Khanna; lawyer Kasturi Ghose; journalists Rita Raj Gurung and Kezong Uden; executives Sukla Dutta, Koyna Bam and Ananya Banerjee; social worker Koely Raoy; and even royalty—the queens of Nepal and Bhutan—have passed out of St Helen's' hallowed portals. And there have been many like Sister Margaret Mary, Sister Clare Francis, Sister Marlene Jude and Sister Anne Clement who returned to become Daughters of the Cross. As one former student murmured, almost to herself, "Once at St Helenite, always a St Helenite."

Madhavi Irani

• **Study material:** I offer a complete set of Agarwal Classes '87 and Brilliant's Foundation Course '87 with solutions for anything of corresponding value. Contact V. Rajesh, 7/1 Lake Terrace, Flat no. 1, Narayani Building, Calcutta 29.

• **Flower vase:** I offer an original Romanian cutglass flower vase for anything of corresponding value. Write to Spencer Subrata Dutt, 53 Bakul Bagan Road, Calcutta 25.

• **Magazines:** I offer several issues of *Blitz* and a number of foreign sports and medical magazines for anything of corresponding value. Write to D. P. Ray, C/o Ray-Manzil, P.O. Khardaha, 24 - Parganas (north), Pin: 743155.

• **Sofa-cum-bed:** I would like to exchange two sofa-cum-beds in good condition for anything of equivalent value. Write to Sanjeev Adlakha, P-200 CIT Road, Scheme (VII) Kankurgachi, Calcutta 54.

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DISTANT THUNDER

He was the stormy-petrel of the Communist movement in the Seventies Even after the "Spring Thunder" failed to bring in the much-longed-for political storm, his name struck terror in the minds of many an oppressive landlord in rural Bengal Today, after years underground and in loathsome prison cells, he is almost an invalid, hardly recognisable as a firebrand But, talk to him for five minutes and you know the embers are as hot as ever His name is Azizul Haque

"I know my days are numbered You see, I do not want to be recalled as the God that failed My children should be proud of me " Azizul Haque talking of the God that failed! No wonder, all around,the socialist world which he wanted to rebuild lies shattered Communism the world over is changing its face But not for Haque

Mao is Mao For him it was Mao, mind you Chairman Mao, and his Cultural Revolution which pioneered the true socialist experiment to decentralise power "You see, the basic notion of all democratisation is withering away of the state, not the replacement of proletarian dictatorship by the bourgeois democracy Chairman Mao did the right thing He organised revolutionary committees comprising representatives of workers, peasants and soldiers while a non-party member was given the chairmanship of it Like the early Bolshevik Soviets these committees were the embryo of the new peoples's democracy "

Ironically, the man who was carried away by the Communist ideology was born in a Congress family in Rangmahal village, Uluberia, of Howrah district He came to Calcutta at the age of 12 After completing his schooling, he joined the Surendranath College in 1959 At that time Surendranath College was the citadel of the Left student movement That suited young Azizul Haque

The fall of the first democratically elected communist government in Kerala, the turmoil in Tibet and the violent food movement in Bengal had already left an impression on his mind Left-wing teachers in the college added the much needed ideological grist to his political thinking In no time young Azizul Haque was fit enough to play the political game on the communist chessboard And, of course, there were people like Nandagopal Bhattacharya, currently general secretary of the West Bengal CPI, and communist intellectuals like Subhas Sinchan Roy and Goutom Chatterjee to guide the young revolutionary on the right path. "We were highly impressed by the ideological clarity as well as the selfless life of the leaders,' recalls Azizul Haque with a twinkle in his eyes

Then in 1964 came the historic split of the Communist movement in the country Azizul Haque sided with the pro-Stalin and marginally pro-Chinese group led by the late Promode Dasgupta to fight against the "rightist" Dange and "centrist" Jyoti Basu

Azizul Haque is the last of the celebrity Naxalites to be released. BISWAJIT ROY met the man who today finds himself overtaken by events that took place while he was in jail

But soon the Dasgupta group proved to be the "fence sitters" and joined hands with the "centrists" to from the Communist Party of India (Marxist) According to Azizul Haque, leaders of both the Communist parties were more keen on capturing the party apparatus and the allegiance of a largely confused cadre rather than launching an inner party debate on the path of Indian revolution A disillusioned Azizul Haque soon distanced himself from both the groups He and his associates were branded as 'ultras" Soon they set up clandestine printing presses to bring out leaflets and periodicals criticising both the official party led by S A Dange and the "dissidents' headed by Jyoti Basu They pinpointed the party leadership's failure to identify the Indian Army as an aggressor during the Sino Indian conflict They also prescribed the Chinese path of revolution as the best medicine to cure the Indian social malady It was the "ultras" with other sympathisers who launched the Communist Party of India(Marxist-Leninist) after the peasant uprising in Nax-



albari in West Bengal. The Naxalites had arrived on the Indian political scene. The rest is history.

Revolution devours its own children. The Naxalite movement was no exception. Immediately after the death of their founder-leader Charu Mazumdar in police custody, the Naxalite movement split into innumerable factions led by innumerable leaders. Most of the splits revolved around ideology, the most important being the "annihilation" policy adopted by Charu Mazumdar. It was he who propunded annihilation of oppressive landlords as the right path to liberate the toiling exploited masses of rural India. Even after the "Spring Thunder" faded into oblivion on the Indian political horizon, it was Azizul Haque along with his comrade-in-arms Nishit Bhattacharya who avowedly followed the line chalked out by their political guru. When reminded of this, Azizul Haque retorted "How many people were killed by us? On polling day alone, at least 1500 people are murdered. Every other day the police-landlord nexus is used to butcher landless Harijans and other backward classes. Genocide of the minorities has hardened our nerves. Each and every political party harbours criminals and killers. How many have been killed in Congress-CPM clashes in West Bengal? Who shed blood for whom in Kultali, Hooghly, Asansol?" But does this mean he still endorses the politics of annihilation. "As long as there is oppression, such explosions will take place", is all that he would say.



Back home: With wife Manidipa, daughter Agnihotri and son Agni

Today, the revolutionary of yesteryear is trying to grapple with reality. Failing health, a broken house and above all new found freedom. The movement has taken its toll. Years in jail and constant torture have broken him. He can hardly walk without help. Almost bedridden he needs round-the-clock medication. But, to hell with "armchair politics," he says. That is not in his work ethics, or rather revolutionary ethics. "It is not that I will elevate myself to the status of a political observer and sermonise on what is to be done. I will take part in politics as much as my body permits," says a defiant Azizul Haque.

There are others too who have shared and nurtured his revolutionary fervor. His wife Manidipa and his two children, Babai and Tinni. Manidipa has no regrets. Only a sad story to tell: "We were denied a home, constantly harassed and persecuted by the police. No one was even ready to give us a flat fearing this would bring in the police. Along with Babai and little Tinni, I had to run from pillar to post for help. I have even had to stay on railway platforms along with the kids. After that I got shelter in the SOS village at Salt Lake. After much persuasion, the Left Front government allotted a one-room flat for us. For the last seven years, I had to be prepared for the worst. Transfer from one jail to another, fallout of hungerstrikes, his collapsing health. The government's apathy only hardened my zeal to survive. I had to organise my livelihood and the means to educate my children. At the same time, I had to be in touch with sympathisers and media people to expedite his release. It was a struggle against vengeance and apathy. So when he was released, I said it was my victory," says Manidipa.

Azizul Haque has the last word: "It was she who really fought the battle. What have I done? Just some years in prison which satisfies my ego." Definitely there is much more in revolution than mere ego satisfaction. ■

STILL THERE

On Christmas day, a frail, bespectacled man limped out of the Alipore Jail after nearly a decade in dingy, claustrophobic cells. Blinking in the unfamilar sunshine, his wife by his side, he clutched on to his children.

But Azizul Haque, released grudgingly on health grounds, was more fortunate than several of his comrades who languish in the various state jails. They are forgotten men, soldiers of yesterday's war whose indiscretions will never be forgiven.

The West Bengal government drew up a list of 22 Naxalite prisoners last year but both the Association for the Protection of Democratic Rights (ADPR) and the Bandi Mukti Committee, who have launched a sustained movement since the Seventies, demanding the release of all political prisoners, claim that at least 35 Naxalites are holed up in West Bengal's jails.

The state jails minister, Bishwanath Chowdhury, said his department was preparing a comprehensive list of political prisoners to be released soon. Asked if the government recognised the Naxalites as political prisoners, Chowdhury merely said: "I do not want to be dragged into the controversy."

But there has been a marked change in the Marxists' stand on political prisoners since the Left Front came to power in 1977. In 1974, a CPI(M)-sponsored citizen's convention, attended by party stalwarts like Jyoti Basu, Sadhan Gupta and the late Snehangsu Acharya, had demanded the release of all political prisoners. A leaflet issued at the convention said: "A large number of political prisoners are languishing in the different jails of West Bengal as undertrials... Workers of political parties and democratic parties are not being given the status of political prisoners. The status has been achieved by the movements launched by political prisoners and it has also been incorporated in the jail code. But the government is saying that these prisoners cannot be identified as political prisoners."

And today, the CPI(M)-led Left Front government is giving the same excuses that the Congress government in 1974 had. The Left Front refuses to recognise Naxalites as political prisoners and treats them like ordinary criminals.

Prannoy Bhaumik and Biswajit Roy



Ehtesham Anjum, Calcutta 16, writes about an interesting stamp.

"George V was King of Great Britain for 25 years (1910-1936). The people in many countries celebrated this silver jubilee. On the occasion a stamp was issued in Canada showing the king's grand-daughter, Princess Elizabeth (late Elizabeth II). When the stamp was being printed the printers made a small mistake. What was the mistake?

"Well,every 21st stamp on a sheet of 100 stamps showed a tiny coloured mark under the eye of the Princess. There were only about 8000 of these stamps printed. The stamp became known as the "Weeping Princess" because the mark looked exactly like a tiny tear."

Sk Kapur Ahmed, Calcutta 14, tells us about the aquathlon.

"'Aqua' is the Latin word for water and 'athlon' means wrestling. So aquathlon means underwater wrestling. This sport originated in the Soviet Union and is very popular there. In this sport there is water instead of a mat and the ring is marked by coloured ropes. At a signal from the referee, the competitors dive to the bottom of the pool, and an aquathlon match begins. The aim is to tear off the red band from the opponent's flippers in the shortest possible time. Aquathlon fans feel that this sport will become just as popular in many countries as underwater cycle racing or underwater hockey."

A report from Sujoy Das, I.B. Lal and R.K. Pramanic, Chandrapura:

"Chandrapura, a small town in Giridih district of Bihar, is known only for its thermal power station, its greenery and its scenic beauty. Recently, it witnessed its first ever quiz contest—an inter-school competition organised and sponsored by the State Bank of India, Chandrapura.

"The Chandrapura Club was brightly illuminated for the finals and even before the quiz started, the hall was packed to capacity. The race for top honours was between the teams of DeNobile and Kendriya Vidyalaya but the all-girls team from DeNobile School eventually forged ahead to maintain its lead till the end. They were represented by Sumia Mukherjee and Kadhabi Sarkar.

"This lively two-hour quiz was conducted by Mr Soumitra Majumdar.

"One hopes that the State Bank of India will make this quiz an annual event, further extending it to the inter-college level."

Mahesh Agarwal writes from Tinsukia:

"The fifth Indira Gandhi Memorial Tinsukia District Open Quiz Competition, organised by the Tinsukia Junior Chamber, was held at Durgabari Hall. Eighteen teams participated. The trophy was lifted by the well-known Goyal group, consisting of Anjani Goyal, Sashi Bhusan Goyal and Sonal Goyal, for the second consecutive time. Second place went to Mitu Bhattacharjee and group while Farooq Alam and group manged to get the third spot. The quiz was conducted by J.C. Sanjeev Goyal."

Leo Rajesh Bachhawat reports on "Quiz Blitz 89" held at Vidya Mandir.

"Eight teams participated in this inter-school quiz competition. St Xavier's was the convincing winner but it was a see-saw battle for second place. The girls of La Martiniere beat Calcutta Boys' School and South Point in the tie-breaker. The team and audience were entertained to a special 'live' round. The quiz was smoothly conducted by Derek O' Brien on the cordless mike."

CBS

11th Question: **What was unique about the men's singles semi-finalists at Wimbledon last year? (Radhakanta Hota, At-Hatapoda, P.O. Titilagarh, Dist. Bolangir 767033, Orissa).**

Ans: **Lendl was looking for a first, Edberg for a second, Becker for a third and McEnroe for a fourth title.**

QUESTIONS

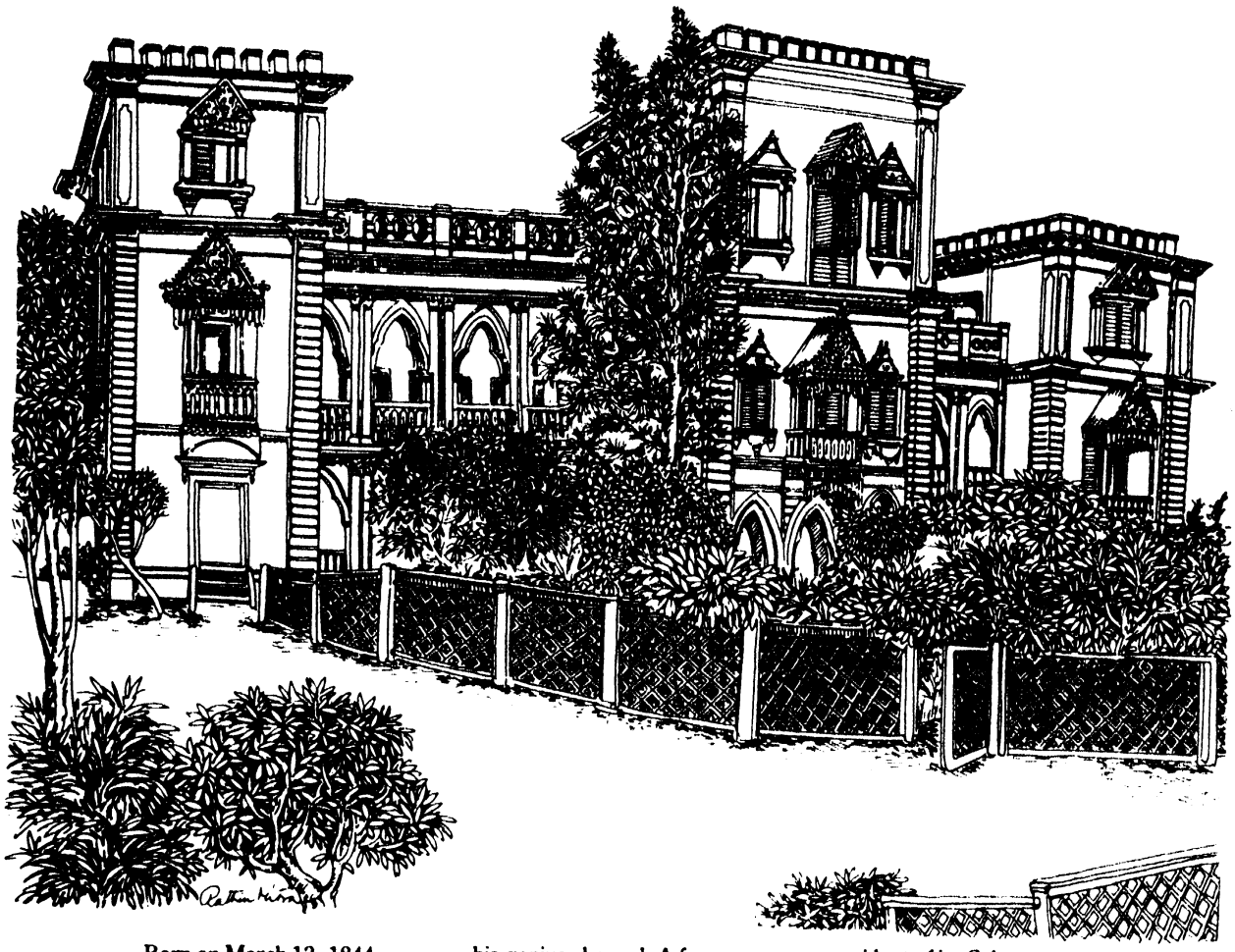
1. Television was introduced in India on September 15, 1959. Who was the information and broadcasting minister then? (P Surendra, Sindri)
2. Who was the first person to climb the world's three highest mountains, Mount Everest, K2 and Kanchenjunga? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3)
3. What is common to Quirinal, Viminal, Esquiline, Caelian, Capitoline, Palatine and Aventine? (Manoj Kr. Singh, Sindri)
4. Which sea had the ancient name "Erythraean Sea"? (Buddhadev Meher, Sambalpur)
5. Who founded the "Round Table" movement? (Ashok Kr Mohanty, Sambalpur 4)
6. Who is the first Russian to play in a foreign soccer league? (Sk. Abdur Rab, Burdwan)
7. In Czechoslovakia, what are 'Barrierless'? (Pankaj Jaipuriar, Ranchi)
8. What or who was Einstien describing when he said (it is) an oval mass of bent space being thrown off like electrons from swiftly rotating mithilowatts with all the speed of an idiot"? (Sanjam Raj Sekhar, Guwahati 7)
9. I was born in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, on February 1, 1895. In 1939 I made an unofficial intelligence expedition for the American Navy. On September 11, 1941, I was promoted to Commander U.S.N.R. and put in charge of the Field Photography Branch, Pearl Harbor. President Nixon presented me with the nation's highest civilian honor, the Medal of Freedom,on March 31, 1973. I also received the American Film Institute's first Life Achievement Award. Who am I? (Pulakesh Mukherjee, Calcutta 9)
10. What is narcolepsy? (Othello Mazoomdaar, Calcutta 61)

ANSWERS

1. Indira Gandhi.
2. Reinhold Messner.
3. These are the seven hills of Rome.
4. The Red Sea.
5. Louis Marchesi formed the first Round Table in Norwich, England.
6. Alexander Zavarov for Juventus of Italy.
7. Flats for the disabled in Prague. Under a government decree five out of every thousand flats must be built for severely handicapped citizens. These specially designed flats have adequate space for manipulation of wheelchairs, corridors with railings, suitably arranged bathrooms and toilets, easily accessible stoves, sinks, light switches etc. Hence, they are called 'barrierless'.
8. A gnt.
9. John Ford, film director.
10. An uncontrollable desire to sleep at any time of the day or night.



MANOMOHAN GHOSH (1844-96)



Born on March 13, 1844, noted lawyer and patriot, Manomohan Ghosh was a native of Bairaldi in Vikrampur, Dhaka (now in Bangladesh), but later came to stay at Krishnagar in West Bengal. His father, Ramlochan Ghosh, was a subordinate judge in Lord Auckland's time and also a friend of Raja Rammohun Roy.

After studying for some time at Presidency College, Manomohan accompanied Satyendranath Tagore to England to compete for the Civil Service.
He failed to pass the Civil Service and returned to India as a barrister. He had to struggle for sometime to establish himself. But soon, his genius showed. A famous case in which he defended the accused against the government and in which eminent Anglo-Indian barristers opposed him, helped him display his great legal knowledge and powers of reasoning. He soon rose to the top of the profession.

Manomohan inherited his father's reformed views and joined the band of social reformers in Bengal. Devoted to true patriotism, his heart was with the poor and the oppressed. He was also very sympathetic to students and always came to their aid whenever they needed him. An earnest and active member of the National Congress, he was the reception committee president of its Calcutta session (1890). Among his social activities were the editorship of the *Indian Mirror* when it was the Brahmo Samaj's organ, his cooperation in establishing and maintaining the Hindu Mahila Vidyalaya under Miss Ackroyd (later Mrs Beveridge) and his secretaryship of the Bethune College for several years. He advocated the separation of executive and judicial functions, for which he drew wide admiration. He was in the process of studying the criticisms against his scheme and was preparing an elaborate reply when he died of an attack of apoplexy on October 16, 1896.

The sketch above shows his Krishnagar residence.

MANAGER

Over the last few years the Board of Control for Cricket in India has evolved a highly simplistic (and often effective, one daresay) ruse to deal with player-related issues: unleash a cat among the pigeons. The latest evidence of this strategy is the choice of managers for the national cricket team's tour of New Zealand that opens later this week, the subsequent trip to Sharjah for the Australasia Cup and the tour of England. Mr A.W. Kanmadikar (the New Zealand-bound manager) and Mr Madhav Mantri (the England tour manager-designate) were both on the disciplinary committee that was set up to sit in judgment on the national team players who defied the BCCI and went to the US and Canada to play unauthorised exhibition matches.

No less significant is the BCCI's choice of Bishan Singh Bedi as the touring team's cricket manager. The post of cricket manager is something new to Indian cricket, though Australia, England and Pakistan have successfully experimented with it. Bobby Simpson is widely credited with bringing Australian cricket out of a mire, culminating in Allan Border's team winning the World Cup in India in 1987 and a historic Ashes series in England last year. Mickey Stewart has been less successful as England's cricket manager but he has retained his job because his team's shortcomings lie elsewhere (a lack of genuine talent, for one). Intikhab Alam and Imran Khan have struck an ideal cricket manager-captain combination for Pakistan in recent years. The appointment of a regular cricket manager for the Indian team has, therefore, not come a day too early.

Under normal circumstances the BCCI's preference for Bedi would scarcely have raised an eyebrow. After all Bedi's cricketing credentials are impeccable: a career that straddled 67 Tests between 1966 and 1979, 266 wickets from those Tests; over 400 wickets in the Ranji Trophy championship at a scant cost of 15 runs apiece; more than 430 wickets in County cricket in England at a mere 20-odd runs apiece; captain of the Indian team on tours to Australia (1977-78), New Zealand (1975-76), the West Indies (1975-76) and Pakistan (1978-79 season).

In his time, Bedi was by far the best left-arm spin bowler in the world. What more can anyone ask of a cricket manager? Why then should anyone cavil at his appointment? The reasons are non-cricketing.

Bishan Singh Bedi, once the stormy petrel of Indian cricket, is today an 'establishment' man. More pertinently, his strident criticism of some of his erstwhile colleagues for their involvement in the 'rebel' matches in North America has made him a rallying point for some of the more officious board officials. Through his syndicated fortnightly column Bedi lambasted Kapil Dev and Company for their defiance of the BCCI's order to return home immediately after the ill-starred tour of the West Indies last year. Never one to pull his punches, Bedi perhaps overreacted and often ended up calling a spade a bloody shovel. The niceties and nuances of the English language have not always



D P Sinha

The Board's armer

Is the BCCI using newly-appointed cricket manager Bishan Singh Bedi as a trojan horse? Ashok Kamath is sceptical about the Board's choice of officials to accompany the Indian team on the New Zealand and England tours



Gautam Roy

Bedi with Arun Lal, one of the first 'vocal ones' to be axed

Nikhil Bhattacharya



Kanmadikar: Whip-hand

been Bedi's strong point and the choice of words he used to air his opposition to the players' rebellion was below the belt and intemperate What irked the players most was that the great man was himself a member of many moonlighting expeditions by Indian teams after official tours abroad

In an interview to THE TELEGRAPH a day after he was appointed cricket manager, Bedi declared unambiguously that he would confine himself to solely cricketing matters "Any money problems of the players will have to be sorted out by them with the board My job is cricket nothing beyond,' he said Which is all very laudable though there can be no getting away from the fact that he will be cricket-managing some players whom he had not very long ago likened to prostitutes (ostensibly, for their bartering their BCCI-given modesty for a few dollars more in the US and Canada) Apart from the obvious bad taste of the simile, Kapil Dev was so riled by his former teammate's syndicated taunts that he singled Bedi out for a special tongue lashing at a post-West Indies tour press conference in New Delhi

How will the two hit it off on the New Zealand tour? Surely Bedi cannot straightaway hope to have the unreserved respect of senior members of the team like Kapil Not at least initially Not at least until Bedi works at it There will have to be a lot of 'give' and less of 'take' initially by Bedi because the players' apprehensions about him cannot easily be wished away

Bedi s appointment as cricket manager extends beyond the New Zealand tour and the Australasia Cup in Sharjah he keeps his job at least till the tour of England this summer This makes it all the more important that he quickly wins the confidence of the team members

We asked Test discard Arun Lal what he thought of Bedi being given the job of cricket supremo on the tour "You can appeal to Bishan's sense of patriotism," Lal said, 'you can appeal to him as a friend a colleague, a teammate but you cannot appeal to his sense of reason (once he has made up his mind) " Testimony to the great bowler's exasperatingly mulish stances were provided by at least two other of his former colleagues who wished to remain anonymous If all this sounds too gloomy, Bedi himself provides hope for optimism "It is a new challenge for me," he said shortly after his appointment, "and there is nothing that I love more than a challenge " How he intends to tackle the challenge should be known over the next few weeks

There can be no getting away from the fact that he will be cricket-managing some players whom he had not very long ago likened to prostitutes (ostensibly for their bartering their BCCI-given modesty for a few dollars more in the US and Canada)

What are the qualities that make for a good cricket manager, we asked Gavaskar "I suppose the definition of a good cricket manager varies from person to person but I think someone like Ashok Mankad would be an ideal choice He has a very shrewd cricketing brain, he has the ability to get along with a wide variety of people and is therefore widely acceptable He has been reasonably non-controversial and should therefore be acceptable to both the players and the board Yes, the more I think about it, the more I am convinced that Ashok Mankad is the right man for the job

"It is not that I think Bishan is going to be a failure, I only hope that his being made the cricket manager is on grounds of his undeniably great cricketing experience and not merely because he took a pro-BCCI and anti-player stand on the issue of exhibition matches in North America after the West Indies tour last year," Gavaskar said

Among the managers he toured with Gavaskar nominated Polly Umrigar and Chandu Borde as ideal choices. "Polly mixed the right amount of theory with his pep talk to the boys. And we all really looked up to him because when he came along he still was the one who had scored the most number of Test runs for India, scored the highest number of Test centuries and things like that With the result everyone really looked up to him Someone like Hanumant Singh had his limitations because though he was undoubtedly a very talented player in his day, he did not quite have the career figures to back up Also, he often tended to be too drawing board-ish This has its drawbacks Polly Umrigar, without hesitation, was the best manager who I toured with," Gavaskar said

In a sense the formal creation of the post of cricket manager is merely notional Indian cricket teams have invariably been managed by ex Test cricketers of considerable repute The odd exceptions like Raj Singh Dungarpur, P R Mansingh and Wing Commander S A K Durrani notwithstanding, the 'administrative' manager was always someone who was part of the touring party's think-tank and who had a major say in selection of playing XIs



Mantri: The lesser villain?

By bifurcating managerial functions formally it appears that the unqualified manager will perform the functions traditional 'second officials' on touring teams did The 'cricket manager' will do all the things the manager of old did without worrying about baggage tags, finances, hotel book-

BOARD RAJ



As national cricket selection committee chairmen go, there probably has never been one as articulate as Raj Singh Dungarpur. His pronouncements on matters cricketing when he was earlier manager of touring Indian teams were considered weighty. He was widely credited with possessing that somewhat undefineable thing called "a shrewd cricketing brain." This would not have been entirely surprising had he the weight of a reasonable degree of international cricket or even a good deal first class cricket behind him. Yet, it sufficed to put him on many a television and radio expert panel.

If his 'elevation' first as Central Zone's representative on the national selection panel and subsequent appointment as chairman of the group, did not surprise many it was because the press and public saw him as someone who knew his cricketing onions.

Today this scion of the former princely satrapy of Dungarpur is the one stopping all the bullets. And, one may add, deservedly so. Mr Dungarpur's exclusive position is the focal point of the collective whims ("collective wisdom", he calls it) of the committee.

The Five Wise Men of Indian cricket have to be put in the dock for their inconsistency. There can be no justification for dumping someone like Krishnamachari Srikkanth who just barely a 100 days earlier Mr Dungarpur had hailed as a tremendous motivator of men while making him the Indian captain. Poor Azhar has wily-nilly provided the shoulder from which the board is sniping at his colleagues.

The chopping and changing this selection panel has indulged in has been arbitrary. Mohinder Amarnath saves an Asia Cup match for India one day and another day he is told he is not good enough to play Test cricket. You drop Mohinder saying he is 40-plus and therefore too old to be playing international cricket and then call him back for two one-day cricket tournaments.

You take a young 'un like Venkataramana to the West Indies because the manager happens to be from the same state and trade (off spinning) and then dump him without assessing how and how much he bowled. Yet, the same Venkataramana is good enough to go to New Zealand when the manager this time is a left-arm spin bowler and not from the same state!

Dilip Vengsarkar opts out of a tour, stakes his claim for a return with runs by the truckload in domestic cricket and yet Mr Dungarpur and Co. have to be looking to the 1990s and therefore, beyond Vengsarkar? In the same vein it may not be a bad idea to have a new selection committee, infusing young blood with an eye on the 1990s.

We sure can do without a selection panel that is headed by someone who describes a man (Raman Lamba, in you are wondering who) he selected as someone who gives "Charlie Chaplin-like catches."

We can do without a chairman who thinks it is uproariously humorous to counter a question about Chetan Sharma's non-inclusion with a "Chetan who?"

Equally accountable for quixotic chops and changes are Akash Lal and the weak and silent ones, G.R. Vishwanath, Ramesh Saxena and Naren Tamhane.

Vishwanath is particularly culpable because, apart from possessing the highest credentials as a former international player, he himself was not very long ago the victim of a capricious swing of a selectorial axe.

The Little Master particularly had misgivings about Mr Kanmadikar, whose track record as a social embarrassment is very impressive. This former Indore-based judge is not particularly discreet once he has downed a peg or two at social gatherings and this is something any touring team can do without

ing, etc. The new arrangement ensures that the relatively less powerful BCCI-affiliates will have fewer opportunities to put their officials on touring teams as the 'second official'. The non-cricket manager will, after all, have to be a 'heavyweight' like Mr A.W. Kanmadikar hereafter.

The nucleus of the New Zealand-bound team comprises players who were damned by the disciplinary committee (and subsequently reinstated after the ban was challenged in the Supreme Court) last year. Mr Kanmadikar is an ex-secretary of the BCCI and Mr Mantri, apart from representing India in four Tests between 1951 and 1954, has held various administrative posts in the Bombay Cricket Association and the BCCI. On paper, therefore, their credentials are not easily quibbled with. What is, however, debatable is the BCCI's motives in appointing two men who the players could justifiably perceive as ringmasters.

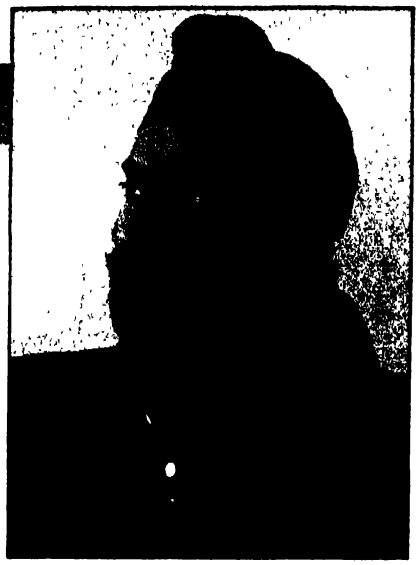
Both Mr Kanmadikar and Mr Mantri freely cracked the whip at the disciplinary committee meetings; it is only the ferocity with which they did so that varied. Of the two, Mr Mantri reportedly preferred a softer line but this will scarcely make him very much less of a 'villain' in the players' collective eyes. Surely, the BCCI could have displayed a lot more sensitivity by appointing a more acceptable duo for the team managership.

One of the swiftest critics of the appointments of Mr Kanmadikar and Mr Mantri has been Sunil Gavaskar. "The board has wasted an excellent opportunity to build bridges and clear suspicions in players' minds that it is not out to make life difficult for them," Gavaskar told this writer in Calcutta last fortnight. The Little Master (somehow, it is still difficult to refer to him as the ex-Little Master) particularly had misgivings about Mr Kanmadikar, whose track record as a social embarrassment is very impressive. This former Indore-based judge is not particularly discreet once he has downed a peg or two at social gatherings and this is something any touring team can do without. Add to this is his recent role in trying to wield the big stick and you realise player apprehensions about their new manager are anything but baseless.

It is a sad day for Indian cricket when team managers, cricketing and non-cricketing, serve as trojan horses.



Prabhakar: New-found aggression



The new faces that emerged during the Pakistan tour promise to form the backbone of the Indian cricket team in the coming years, says **Lokendra Pratap Sahi**



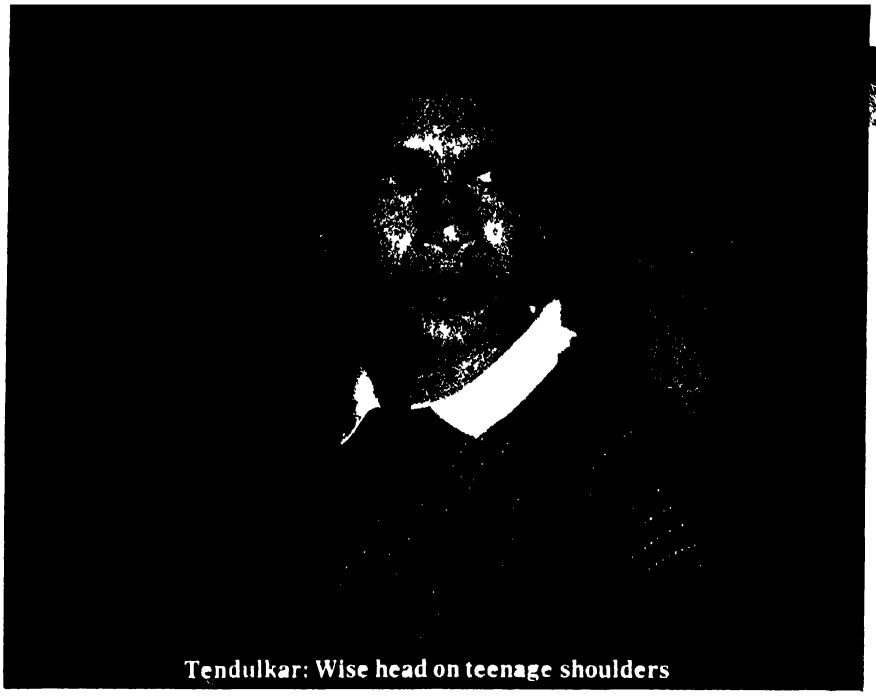
Photographs: Utpal Sarkar

India's recent tour to Pakistan will rank as one of the most significant. And not just because Srikkanth's men returned unscathed in the Tests. It will be remembered as the series which saw Sanjay Manjrekar blossom into a truly world class bat and Sachin Tendulkar explode on the international stage. The series also witnessed the rediscovery of Manoj Prabhakar and when, at the fag end of the tour, Vivek Razdan came up with a heart-warming performance, India's cup truly overflowed with joy.

What is notable is that all these players are young—precocious Tendulkar, in fact, isn't yet 17. And they've given a fresh, appealing dimension to Indian cricket. We could club Mohammed Azharuddin and Navjyot Sidhu, both of whom are 26 and also acquitted themselves well, in this category. The youthful edge should cut into any opposition.

True, Azhar announced his arrival majestically in 1984-85 and Narendra Hirwani's legspin mesmerised just about everyone in 1987-88, but they were solitary flag-bearers, holding out plenty of promise. It's different now with a clutch of youngsters forming the nucleus of the team.

India lost both the one-day tournaments which set this season rolling, but the gutsy, talented young brigade (with apologies to the evergreen and brilliant Kapil Dev) quickly changed the face of our cricket. There was disappointment again, in the one-day series, but it doesn't eat into the Test showings in Pakistan.



Tendulkar: Wise head on teenage shoulders

Manjrekar 24 had played just five Tests when he was picked for the tour Prabhakar boasted only two Test caps Neither Tendulkar nor Razdan had made their debuts Yet their achievements in recent weeks do the vastly more experienced proud

Let's just glance at their feats the unassuming Manjrekar emerged the highest rungetter on either side with 569 runs of high pedigree Tendulkar the youngest Indian (and the third youngest ever in history) averaged over 35 Prabhakar swung out 16 batsmen (only Wasim Akram got more wickets) and Razdan topped the bowling averages with six for 141 Razdan's 28 20 per wicket was better than Akram's 30 61 (Azhar and Sidhu totalled 312 and 269 runs respectively)

Till recently one looked to Gavaskar for solidity for propping up a largely inconsistent lineup Now one awaits the highly reassuring presence of Manjrekar Not overawed by the Manjrekar legacy the Bombay based youngster injects a heavy dose of character into the Indian essay And of course great class Clearly the bloodline comes through crystal clear in Manjrekar's technique and temperament

Few batsmen have had encomiums showered from the very beginning Manjrekar is one of them Be it Viv Richards Imran or his idol Gavaskar a river of praise has flowed from each In the Windies last spring and then in Pakistan

Tendulkar the youngest Indian to score a first class hundred (vs Gujarat on debut last season) is also a batsman extraordinary Though he was being hailed as a prodigy for a couple of years now—thanks to the records he smashed at the junior and sub junior levels—some felt that he would, perhaps, be out of depth in Tests But Tendulkar sent the doubting Thomases scurrying for cover by etching mature performances 'He's brilliant and has the brain of a 30 year old," gushed skipper Srikkanth Tendulkar's impish smile conceals a steely resolve

Like Manjrekar, Tendulkar has been universally lauded 'Can't imagine a 16 year old playing such extravagant shots remarked Miandad And Miandad is eminently qualified to comment Indeed Tendulkar has given the batting plenty of dash though one wishes he would eliminate the occasional impetuosity

Both Manjrekar and Tendulkar have imparted a classical touch to the cricketing canvas And it comes as no surprise that Tendulkar fan clubs are sprouting,a throw back to the seasons when Gavaskar and Vishwanath held centrestage

Prabhakar's performance and, to an extent Razdan's have also been immensely encouraging Kapil isn't getting any younger and has to be nursed as he moves closer to the 400 wickets mark (He is at the moment 41 shy) Prabhakar convincingly showed that he could take much of the burden off Kapil

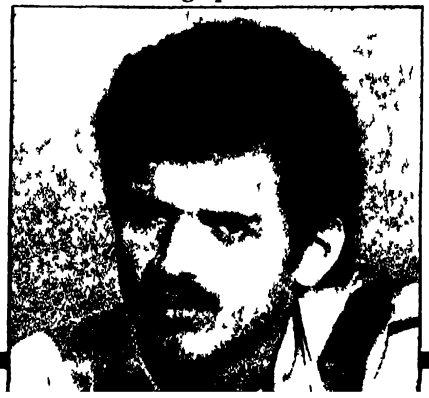
The soft spoken Prabhakar made his debut in 1984 85 against Gower's outfit, but was then repeatedly overlooked for the Test XI despite emphatic showings on the domestic circuit And on the 1986 tour to England, when the opportunity arose to field him, the tour selection committee summoned a surprised Madanlal, who was busy fulfilling league commitments It took Prabhakar quite some time to forget that humiliation

However, all that is distant history During the Pakistan tour, Prabhakar had giants like Miandad and Salim Malik groping umpteen times Not to speak of the Rameezs and Shoaibs

"Prabhakar's contribution has been no less significant than Manjrekar's," said Imran Srikkanth concurred, pointing out, 'They've been the Men of the Series (in Pakistan) for us '

Prabhakar has grown in confidence and his new found aggression makes him both a shock as well as stock bowler He'll relish conditions in New Zealand and England, where India's next two Test series are to be played

Razdan: Coming up fast



Kamal Jutka

On chief selector Raj Singh's own admission 20 year old Razdan made it to the squad solely on the strength of Dennis Lillee's recommendations It had to be just that, for Razdan's first class debut was in the trial game before the 16 were chosen When he earned his first Test cap in Faisalabad he had the experience of only two first class games And it showed, as he turned in a listless, erratic performance

Razdan was dumped for the next Test but a verdant top at Sialkot meant that India would, out of necessity, had to field three mediumpacers Kapil and Prabhakar were obvious choices Razdan pipped Salil Ankola The rest, as they say, is history Well, if not that dramatic at least what happened was memorable The MRF trainee fired out five batsmen and returned impressive figures of 5 for 79

In just a few overs, Razdan erased memories of a disappointing debut and gave well wishers plenty to cheer It's certain that he'll not run into a green top every time, but he's shown he's willing to learn and this should take him far

It comes as no surprise that Razdan's idol is Kapil The time has come for the *guru* to teach the many tricks of the trade that he has mastered to the *chela*

What is especially heartening is that in addition to the established youngsters, there are other young players who ooze talent and potential Among others, Calcutta's Snehasish Ganguly is a fine batting prospect, Delhi's Atul Wasson is a promising mediumpacer, Andhra's Venkatapathy Raju is a highly rated left-arm spinner and among the 'keepers, there's Mohan Chaturvedi, considered "a hundred per cent natural" by, yes, Wasim Bari

The mood can only be upbeat when the future promises so much The mauling in the Windies is a thing of the past Drawing inspiration from the Test series in Pakistan one looks ahead perkily ■



Earthy Designs

The denizens of Mahlan in Rajasthan specialise in creating intricate glazed pottery. A look at their painstaking work

Text and photographs: Samir Sinha

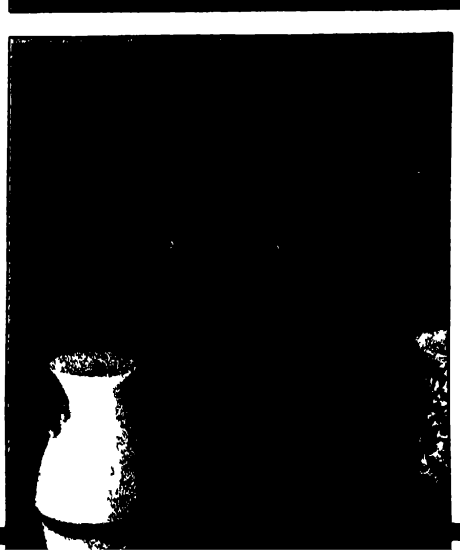
A visitor to Rajasthan would hardly rate the village of Mahlan high on his tour itinerary. Even the weathered signboard on the Jaipur-Ajmer highway announcing the village is totally nondescript. And yet, Mahlan is famous all over the world for its intricately patterned glazed pottery.

A few *havelis* in various stages of ruin dot the otherwise sleepy hamlet. These, however, belie the buzz of activity within. Master craftsmen, absorbed in creating, to painstaking perfection, exquisite glazed pottery are a common sight. Almost every member of the household is involved in some stage of production. There are certain definite steps involved. The main ingredients, plaster of paris, silicon powder and gum are mixed and a little water is added to form a dough. This dough is then transferred to the mould or the potters' wheel depending on what the ultimate product will be. Once the basic form is achieved, the *kutcha* pottery is put out in the sun to dry. "Our usual season is from September to the middle of June", says Rajni, an apprentice worker, "We get almost uninterrupted sunshine then," she explains.

Once the drying is complete, the next stage is grinding. This is done manually, employing various grades of sandpaper. The process calls for considerable skill, as the smoothness of the surface largely affects the quality of the glaze and final appearance.

The artist's creative instincts find total expression once they start outlining intricate patterns on the piece of pottery. The designs are then painted using home-made colours. The most popular motifs are floral patterns, although mythological and historic scenes frequently appear.

Once the designs are painted on, the pottery is finally ready for baking. The kiln is fired once a week or more often depending on the quantity produced. One batch takes about six to eight hours to be declared ready. Even after the baking, the pottery has to be tempered. It is taken out of the furnace and cooled for a day or two before being inspected for cracks and chipped edges. The perfect ones are then packed and sent to shops and emporia from where they find their way to elegant coffee tables the world over. ■





GETTING A MURDER

Once upon a time going to the movies was fun One slipped out for a secret rendezvous, current girl friend in tow, to gaze starry eyed at the timeless Richard Burton-Elizabeth Taylor magic Those were the days when Marlon Brando and Michael Caine and Anthony Quinn dominated the silver screen and Metro Lighthouse, Elite and Globe were the Mecca of cinema enthusiasts

But with 1984 everything changed The rigid trade licence system for foreign feature film imports was relaxed allowing non resident Indians to dabble in the trade

One of the first film distribution companies to take advantage of the change was the Calcutta based Goodwin Pictures Acting on a tip off it promptly bought a half whitewashed print of a C grade shark film which had been lying unclaimed with the Customs department and had been put up for auction The film *Intoxerra* which was later blown up from 16mm to 35mm ran at Metro to packed houses for almost four months Spurred on by its success more independent Hindi and Bengali film distributors entered this lucrative business

Contact was established with the film production companies abroad Organisations like Orion New World Golden Harvest Touchstone and Ladd found new openings in India In fact some distributors even visited film markets set up at various international film festivals to buy prints The initial crop was impressive We met John Rambo and Brooke Shields And then came the *Lost Empires* the *Shaolin Brothers* and other soft porn masquerading as art films

Karate films proved surefire hits as did comedies But the real winners were thrillers with liberal sprinklings of sex and art porn These films—*Despair, Sabina, Angi Vera, Texas Detour, and Scorchy*—were first imported by NFDC and received a tremendous boost

What followed was another pack of misfits—*Not Now Darling, The Seven Deadly Sins, Triple Cross, Hopscotch* and *No 1 of the Secret Service* A new set of moviegoers, fascinated by the sex and violence mix was born

Those who suffered most were the American film distributing houses R D Bansal, a prominent Bengali film distributor, bought *The Wild Beasts* (a jungle fantasy for adults that puts Kipling to shame) and released it at New Empire While Jamuna continued to be the main outlet for NFDC imports, other distributors negotiated with various cinema halls and soon Elite was playing *Supergirl,*

It all started with scenes of sex and violence being added on to mostly south Indian films after they had been cleared by the censors. But now, more and more of such footage is being interpolated with NRI films, which in any case are full of C-grade *masala*, says Subhash Chakraborty



WAY WITH AND SEX)

Nightmare on Elm Street and *Omar Muktar* in rapid succession Film enthusiasts remained content with the quality of imports until Elite screened *Rottweiler* The censors had hacked most of the violence, gore and sex from the film To make up lost ground the distributors added porn footage at opportune moments in the print It worked Nobody noticed the colour change and theme deviation Other distributors gained courage, and soon, adding clippings became a must in every other imported film

That this trend still continues is obvious from two films released recently in Calcutta In *Casanova '70* Marcello Mastroianni in one scene is seen playing the Peeping Tom A cut follows, and the audience is treated to an undressing scene featuring Ursula Andress The clipping was directly lifted from Sovexport's *Mexico in Flames!* In *Loving in the Rain*, footage from the torrid bed-scene in *An Officer and a Gentleman*, starring Richard Gere and Debra Winger, was added

The publicity officer of 20th Century Fox (distributors of *An Officer*) has little to say He explains that often footage gets stolen from the projection rooms or while being transported "At times we are informed but little can be done to salvage the situation because our bosses in Bombay hate getting into legal battles," he says

How do these films reach the projector rooms in cinema halls? Through the NRI Act dozens of films are imported every year and are picked up by distributors on the southern and western circuits Magazines like the *All India Film Trade Guide* carry advertisements of these films Then, an interested party contacts the person who has imported the print Prices range from Rs 2 lakhs to Rs 15 lakhs After negotiations photosets posters and slides have to be organised pushing back the release schedule interminably Complications multiply as the importer in his urge to make a quick buck divides the country into umpteen zones, appointing distributors in each zone and feeding them with several dupe prints

Raghu Films was supposed to release *Cold Sweat* a film featuring Charles Bronson, in the third week of December, at Tiger Around the middle of the month, one found posters of *Death Wish* on display at the hall Only the logo of the film was covered by a sticker on which someone had casually painted *Cold Sweat* At the time of going to press the film was still to be released



French Lovers* and (inset) a poster of *Frankenstein 90



***The Girl* and her man**

The extent to which corruption has spread in the foreign film trade is alarming Two recent releases speak volumes *A Tale of Love* has only one intimate sequence which has been filmed in graphic detail The distributors divided the scene into four segments and added it at opportune moments to the film *Moments* The same thing has been done in *On the Line* Cut portions were also added liberally to films like *Shanghai Surprise Big Zapper Delivery Boys The Girl* and *Garden of Eden* However such cut and add jobs do at times lead to piquant situations For instance *10 to Midnight* has a strange scene As the film rolls on to the climax the hero enters a hotel room with a hooker The lady does not undress before going to the toilet



Something for *The Officer with a Rose*

The lady does not undress before going to the toilet. Suddenly, the scene gets repeated with the lady stripping before the camera...



A still from *The Messenger*

Suddenly the scene gets repeated with the lady stripping while facing the camera

What can be done to stop this rampant cut and slip in job in features? The manager of a prestigious movie theatre in Calcutta who prefers anonymity claims that it is not possible to get exact details about the additional footage problem However he says that once an operator from the projection room had informed him about an addition in a film He instantly stopped all further screenings of the film

That is the most we can do But come to think of it don t you feel helpless when the distributors say We are paying you the rent so what is your problem?

And what do distributors have to say on their part? Robin Bhattacharjee of Jamna Movies, an independent distributor feels that businessmen out to devalue the artistic purpose of cinema have zoomed in on this profitable line Without any knowledge, they seek to further demoralise the meaning of entertainment, he laments They take the life out of those reels He suggests the setting up of an independent body to enforce disciplinary action against these 'cut and insert' artists

Bhattacharjee s resolution notwithstanding, there is no doubt that the age of good cinema and an appreciative audience is dead What have come to stay are the sex-and-violence hits—the lure of big, easy money obviously rules the roost ■

BEAM OF HOPE

An international conference on laser medical applications was recently held in Tashkent in the Soviet Union It was the first conference which merits being called "unifying" Earlier, such get togethers gathered only about five physicists and 95 physicians, in comparison with this conference's roughly equal representation

A total of 500 scientists, 70 of them foreign, attended it Many Western companies showed ultramodern un its Soviet lasers were also on display The Erbium laser, tested with success in two West German clinics, drew special attention, It was named among the best exhibits

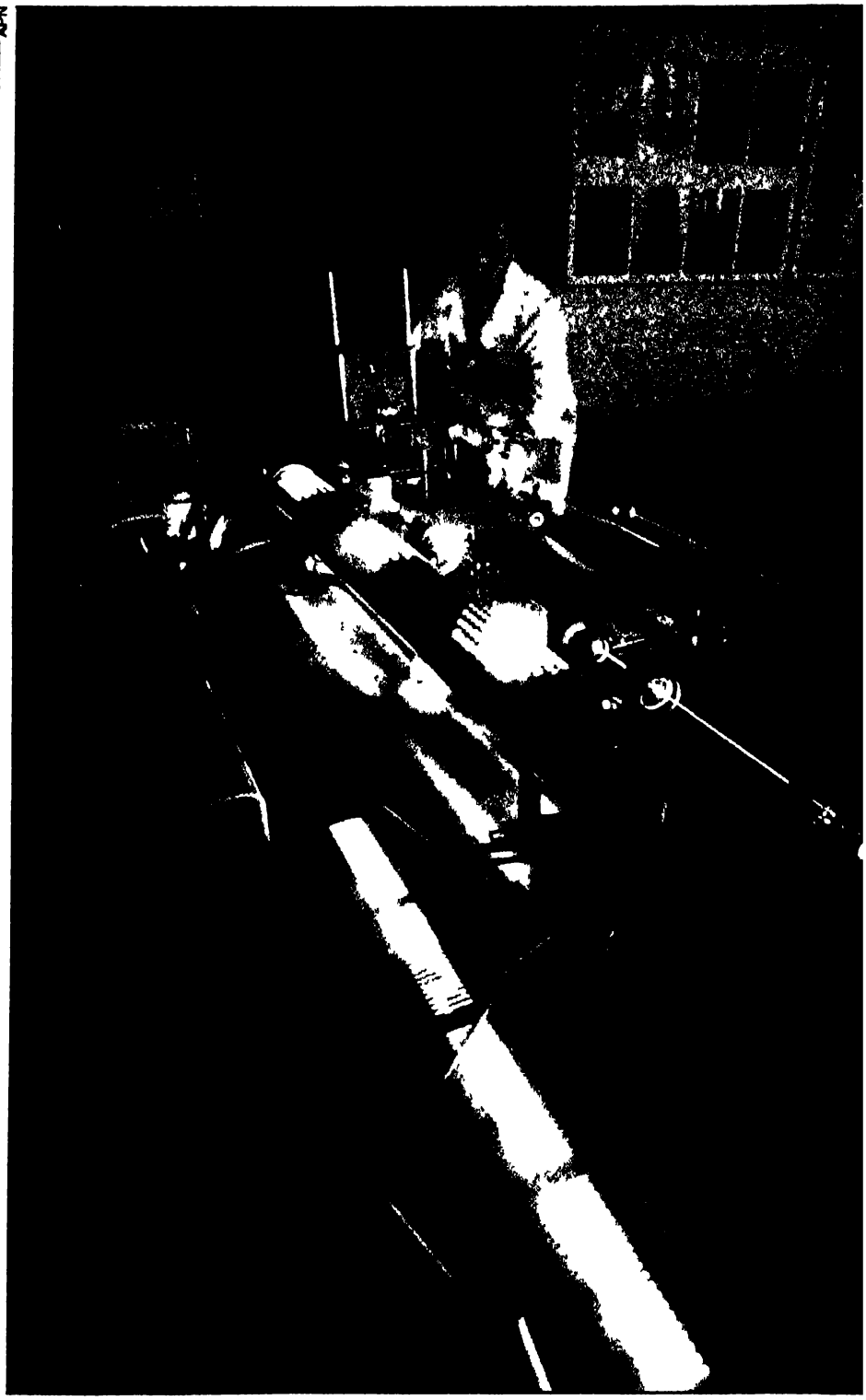
Lasers are homing in on medical problems in a big way

Scientists across the world are working with a new generation of lasers Two laser types exist—continuous and pulsed Until now doctors used mostly the former which affect the diseased organ with constant intensity throughout the session Their drawbacks are that they damage a large area and leave side effects Pulsed lasers with wave guides to take radiation portions to the diseased organ are finding their way into medicine

Earlier having mostly therapeutic applications, lasers are invading complex surgery—welding of blood vessels and removal of diseased tissues, tumors and biliary and renal calculi

Recently, a unique non-surgical method of treating asteriosclerosis has been developed the laser destroys blood clots in vessels It has cured 20 patients at the Vishnevski Institute The eye microsurgery institution has pioneered ideal laser keratomy for eyesight correction Surgeons with lasers can restore eyesight in nearly hopeless cases of short and far sightedness

Vitali Konov



APN

New solid-state lasers hold much promise for medicine. Their beam is well absorbed by tissues and makes an excellent scalpel

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aag Ka Gola:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)

Directed by David Dhawan and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the film stars Sunny Deol, Dimple Kapadia, Shakti Kapoor, Raza Murad and Prem Chopra

• **Bhrashtachar:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917)—4 shows

A film by Ramesh Sippy, starring Rekha and Mithun Chakraborty The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Chandni:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442) 11, 2 15, 5 30, 8 45

A film by Yash Chopra, starring Rishi Kapoor, Vinod Khanna and Sridevi The music by Shiv Hari

• **Ghar Ka Chiraag:** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani, 270147), Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141)—4 shows

Rajesh Khanna, Chunkey Pandey and Neelam are in the lead in this film, directed by Sikander Bharti The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Jurrat:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 272473), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 478808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani 390190) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554043)

Shatrughan Sinha, Kumar Gaurav and Amala play the lead The film is directed by David Dhawan and the music is by R D Burman

• **Jawani 16 Saal Ki (A):** Society (Corporation Place 241002)—4 shows

Directed by Jaya Dewan the film stars Uma Maheshwari, Jaya Lalitha and Raj Tilak

• **Main Azaad Hoon:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266)—4 shows

Amitabh Bachchan and Shabana Azmi are the lead pair in this film, directed by Tinnu Anand and music by Amar Utpal

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)—4 shows

Salman Khan and Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Raam Laxman

• **Souten Ki Beti:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 250437), Malancha (Regent Park)

Jeetendra, Rekha and Jaya Prada are the main attractions in this film, directed by Saawan Kumar The music is by Vedpaal



Shabana Azmi and Amitabh Bachchan in *Main Azaad Hoon*



Hisako Kato and Mithun Chakraborty in *Swarna Trisha*

Bengali Films

• **Kari Diye Kiniam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080) – 1 30, 4 30, 7 30, Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—2, 5, 8

Based on Bimal Mitra's novel and directed by Biresh Chatterjee, the film stars Moushumi Chatterjee, Arjun Chakraborty, Kali Banerjee, Madhabi Mukherjee, Utpal Dutt, Haradhan Banerjee, Supriya Devi, Tapas Paul and Aparna Sen The music is by Swapan Chakraborty

• **Pranomi Tomaye:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—3 shows

A film by Prabhat Roy, starring Prasenjit, Arjun Chakraborty and debutante Reshma Singh The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Swarna Trisha:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561),

Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

Directed by Mangal Chakraborty and with music by Salil Chowdhury, the film stars Mithun Chakraborty and Japanese actress Hisako Kato.

• **Qaidi:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows).

Directed by Tony Juneja and with music by Annu Malik, the film stars Biswajeet, Abhisek Chatterjee, Kiran Juneja, Utpal Dutt and Om Puri.

Special Events

14-17 January: 3 pm to 8 pm

The 54th all-India annual fine arts exhibition, organised by Academy of Fine Arts.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

14 January: 5 pm

Calcutta Malayalee Samajam's 38th anniversary celebration features a variety programme of folk dances, Mohini Attam and music.

At Sri Sikshayatan Hall (11 Lord Sinha Road).

14, 15 January: 6 pm

The penultimate and concluding evenings of *Thyagabrahma Utsavam* (a programme of Carnatic vocal and instrumental music by udding artistes), organised by Calcutta Tamil Sangham and Udayam.

At Sankara Hall (93, Southern Avenue).

14 January: 3.30 pm and 6.30 pm

Anamika Kala Sangam presents the Hindi play, *Andha Yug*, written and directed by Dharamvir Bharati and Satyadev Dubey, respectively. The cast includes Naseeruddin Shah, Amrish Puri, Mohan Bhandari, Sunila Pradhan and others.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

16, 17 and 20 January: 6 pm

To mark Swami Vivekananda's 127th birth anniversary, the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture and Devi Pratidhawani present a vocal recital by Jasraj with Swapan Chaudhuri on the tabla on 16th; a Kathak recital by Durgalal with Kishen Maharaj on the tabla on 17th; and a sarod recital by Ali Akbar Khan with Kishen Maharaj on the tabla on 20th.

At Vivekananda Hall (Gol Park).

18 January: 8 pm

Rotary Club of Budge Budge presents a Kathak dance recital by Amita Dutt.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Queens Park).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta. Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325; Dep. (2): JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (3): RA-214 at 1050, Dep. (5): RA-214 at 1650, Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740; Arr. (1): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (3): RA-213 at 0950, Arr. (5): RA-213 at 1550, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1640.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (4): IC-443 at 0830; Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110; Dep. (4): IC-444 at 1150.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730, Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1410, Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1610, Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1445; Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1705.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1200, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2210.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0900 and IC-273 at 1920; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0810 and IC-274 at 1830.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1715; Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (daily): IC-771 at 0705; Arr. (daily): IC-772 at 1240.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily): IC-205 at 1330; Arr. (daily): IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1630.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-542 at 0555; Arr. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-541 at 1225.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2045.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 1840.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-703 at 0605 and IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-704 at 0855 and IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-219 at 0605 and Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-220 at 1045 and Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1650.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1710.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0900.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1010.

Silchar-Imphal-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-259 at 0730; Arr. (daily): IC-260 at 0900.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 0825.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-741 at 0945 and IC-743 at 1300, Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-243 at 0610; Arr. (daily): IC-742 at 1205 and IC-744 at 1520, Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-244 at 1030.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

RE-SCHEDULING OF FLIGHTS

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. However, Indian Airlines was following a partial emergency schedule when we went to press. Passengers may contact 264433, 263135, 266869, 262602, 569433, 204433, 569611 (Ext. 314) for assistance.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

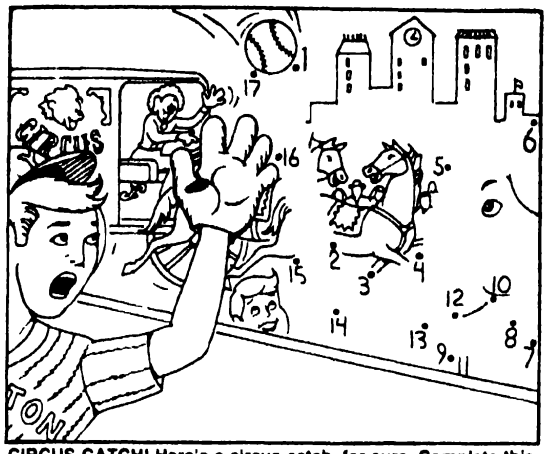
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri — Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed, Fri & Sun Arri — Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri — Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp.** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep - Wednesday Arri — Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep — Tues Thurs & Sat Arri — Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep — Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

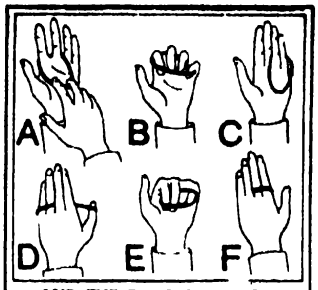
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromondal (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri — Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



CIRCUS CATCH! Here's a circus catch, for sure. Complete this dot picture by drawing lines dot to dot, 1 to 2, 3, etc

• WHAT HO! Twice EIGHT are ten of us / And TEN are only three ELEVEN are six of us Whatever can we be? Can you answer?



AND THE BAND PLAYS ON

A rubber band dangling from your first and second fingers (illus A, above) may be transferred magically to your third and fourth fingers (and back again), step by step, as shown

(A) Pull band down across palm with finger of other hand. (B) Close four fingers into the loop.

(C) Straighten fingers; band transfers.

(D) Extend rubber band with thumb.

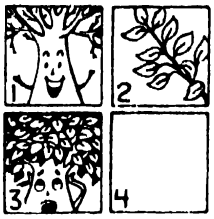
(E) Close fingers into loop. Release thumb.

(F) Straighten fingers; band returns to first two fingers.

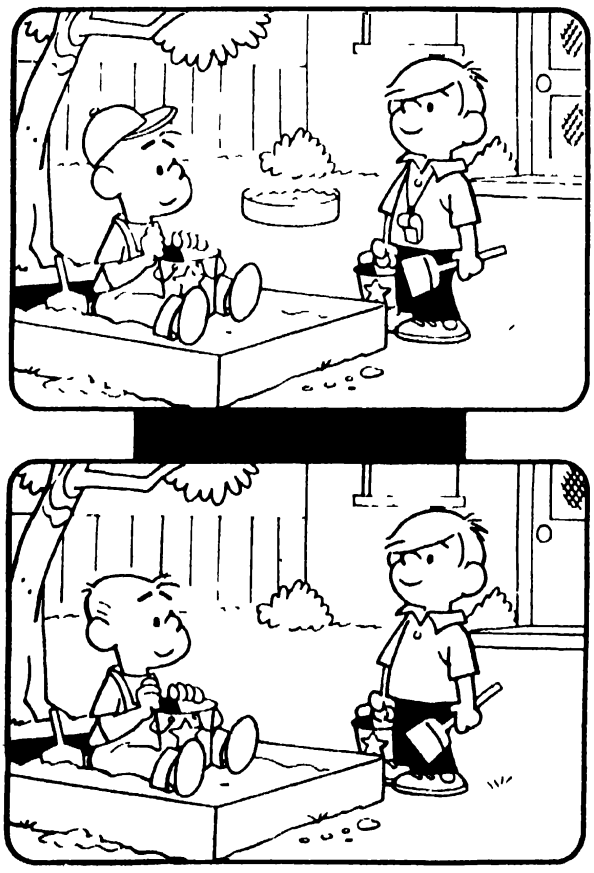
• **TIMBER LINE! This old poser always catches someone. Will it catch you? Give it a try, then spring it on a friend:**

A young Maple tree in New England has 17 branches, each having 11 leaves in May. If each branch doubles its leaves in a month, how many leaves will it have in December?

Probably none since by winter the leaves will have fallen!



HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Tree foliage is different 2 Cap is missing 3 Pool is missing 4 Whistle is missing 5 Shovel is moved 6 Door is different

FUNSPOT



HAY, HAY! Hay is for horses, nesting birds, etc Apply crayons or colored pencils neatly Code 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk green

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

PROLOGUE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible anagram Poor guys

ARIES

March 21—April 20

The focus will be on home and property matters Partnerships contracts and collaborations cannot be ruled out Romance will thrill the fancyfree and eligible Travel, with chances of immigration is in the offing Health will require care so do not take any chances this week Domestic matters are highlighted and children and hobbies will keep you busy There are chances that you will embark on a new business

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Matters pertaining to news, views messages and signing contracts will now be highlighted This is the time to have a fling if your heart desires Buying selling investments and collaborations cannot be ruled out Health will improve this week, so you can give in your best to the work at hand Home and children will demand attention A vocation could become a profession soon

GEMINI

May 21 June 20

Matters relating to family friends, loans funds, renovation decoration alteration buying and selling will gain prominence Romance and temporary flings will have you in their sway You will soon be opening a new branch or set up a parallel business You may be going on a short journey, so get ready to travel Health will cause concern but do not worry, everything will get sorted out within a week This is the time to step out in style

CANCER

June 21—July 20

The week will be memorable for publicity contacts, happy tidings and socialising Destiny will help you get what you want Expect a stroke of luck towards the weekend Property matters will gain prominence Wait for a week before embarking on a journey Do not overeat or be over-sentimental Children will now be the mainstay of your life

LEO

July 21—August 21

Heavy expenses are foretold The week highlights matters pertaining to household items, consumer goods, machines and work The week will end on a happy note You will have a windfall soon Health safeguards are called for as are regular checkups Im-



migration, house moving or even a change in job are possible Children, hobbies socialising, fashion and decoration will take on great significance

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Friends and relatives will stand by you Your efforts at work will not go unrecognised You will find true love but there will be opposition from several quarters Commission and agency work will bring money Health may cause concern This is the time to spend time and money on renovation, decoration and alteration It would be best if you defer important work till the weekend

LIBRA

Sept 22—Oct 22

Both home and office affairs will demand a great deal of your time However, despite pressures, you will find the time to fall in love Money matters will be highlighted A journey is in the offing You will be plagued by kidney or stomach ailments It will do you good to be smartly turned out Children will contribute to your happiness

BIRTHDAYS

January 14

Moon sextile Jupiter Marriage or an official engagement for the eligible is foretold Journeys and collaborations are likely Money, fame and popularity will definitely be yours

January 15

Moon trine Saturn This trine indicates solid gains, a promotion, journeys and a celebration. You will be in the limelight This is the year to step out in style and make your mark

January 16

Saturn sextile Pluto: This sextile implies opportunities for progress and advancement to come your way It is upto you to make the best of it Your popularity will soar.

January 17

Moon square Neptune: This square means you should be diplomatic and tactful Please remember that others, too, are human Clashes of personality are probable now

January 18

Moon square Saturn. You will be forthright and ambitious But do not push too hard because others will definitely rebel and hit back The health of parents, elders, in-laws and your boss will cause you anxiety

January 19

Sun conjunction Venus: This conjunction means investments, renovation, decoration, buying and selling, socials and functions. An important business deal or professional and personal link will now come through.

January 20

Moon sextile Neptune This particular sextile is highly favourable for lovers, bankers, artists, and those in research and architecture. It is certain that good fortune and happiness will come to you.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Journeys, ceremonies, publicity, sales and collaborations will take up much of your time Romance blooms for the fancyfree and eligible Expect deals, collaborations and contracts to be signed by the weekend Learn to keep a control on your moods Travel and communication will take on increased importance this week There are chances that you will have to go in for an operation

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

Loans and funds to go in for buying and selling will now be available Immigration and long-distance travel are foretold Romance will prove both exciting and unpredictable Loans, investments and profits will feature high on this week s agenda A major shift or transfer could come about this week or next Do your best to impress people with your talent and expertise It will pay off in the long run Children may be particularly trying on your nerves

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Power, position, legal affairs and business collaborations will keep you busy Romance, socialising and entertaining are foretold There are chances that a major deal will be struck within the next fortnight Take care of your health and do not let pressures get to you

AQUARIUS

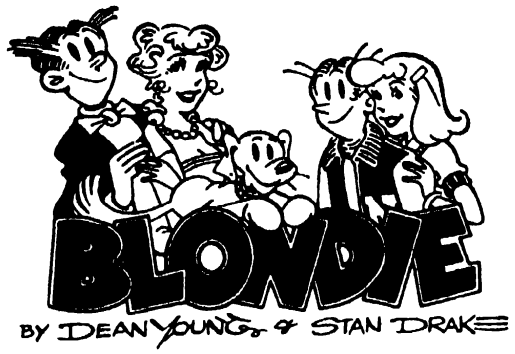
Jan 20—Feb 18

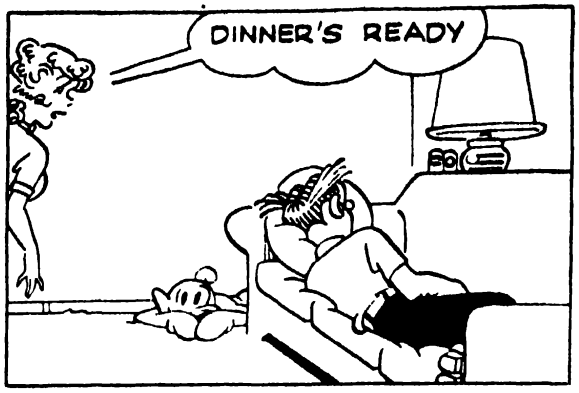
The emphasis will now be on health, work and travel Allow love to come your way and do not close your eyes to opportunities A promotion next month is likely A job switch cannot be ruled out Office and family matters will keep you busy Take care of your health Children, hobbies and creative pursuits will sap your energy

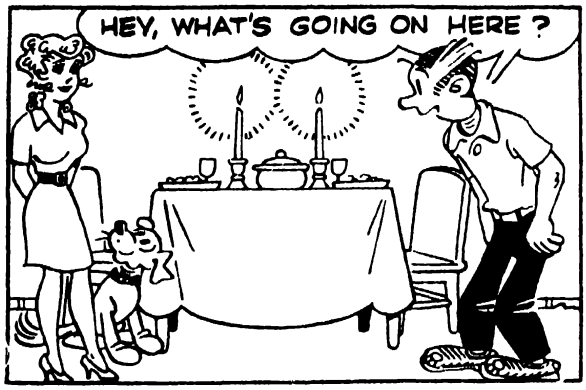
PISCES

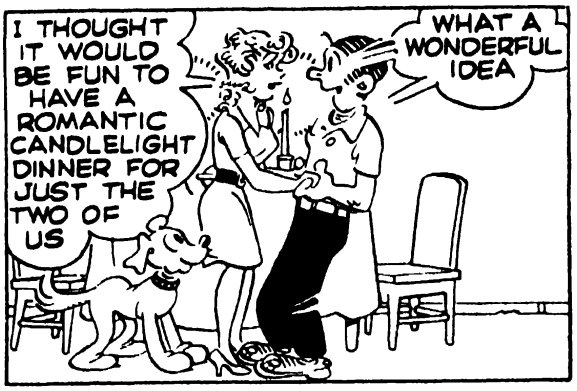
Feb 19—March 20

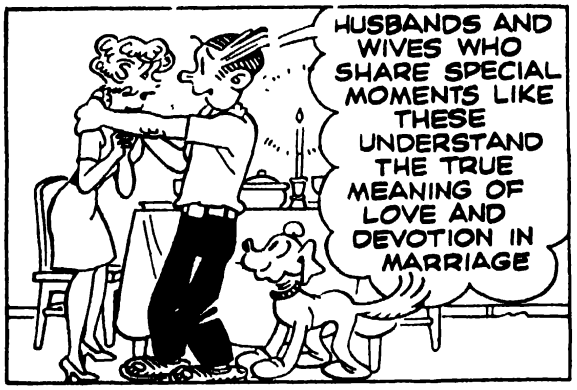
Romance together with hard work are on the cards Contracts and collaborations are foretold Travel, towards the middle of the week, is likely with a possible stopover Expect promotions with increased responsibilities and higher pay Try and keep regular hours and stick to a fixed diet Children will contribute to your happiness

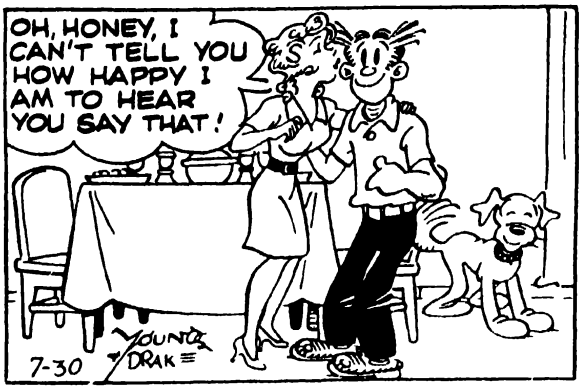






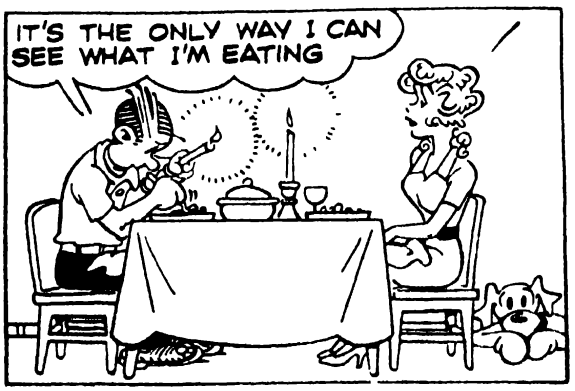


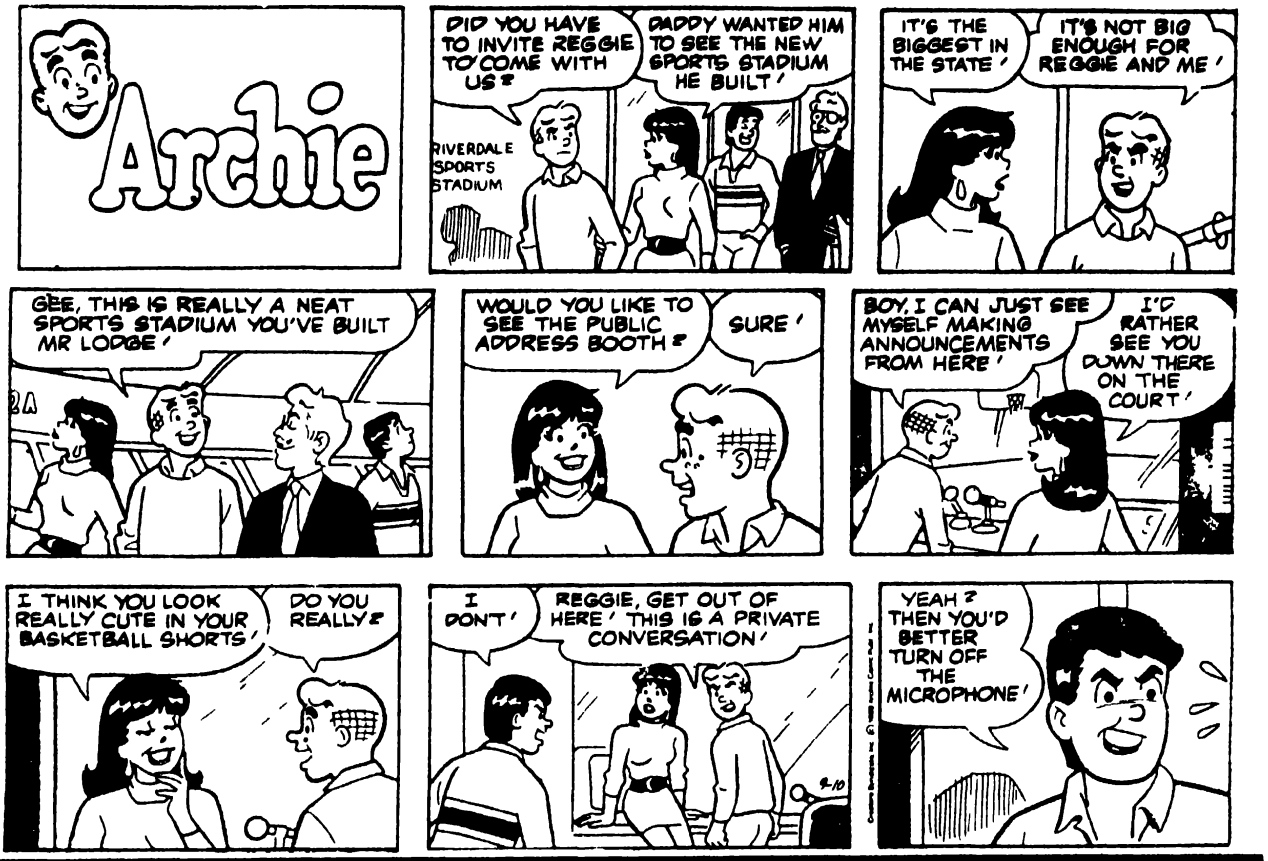




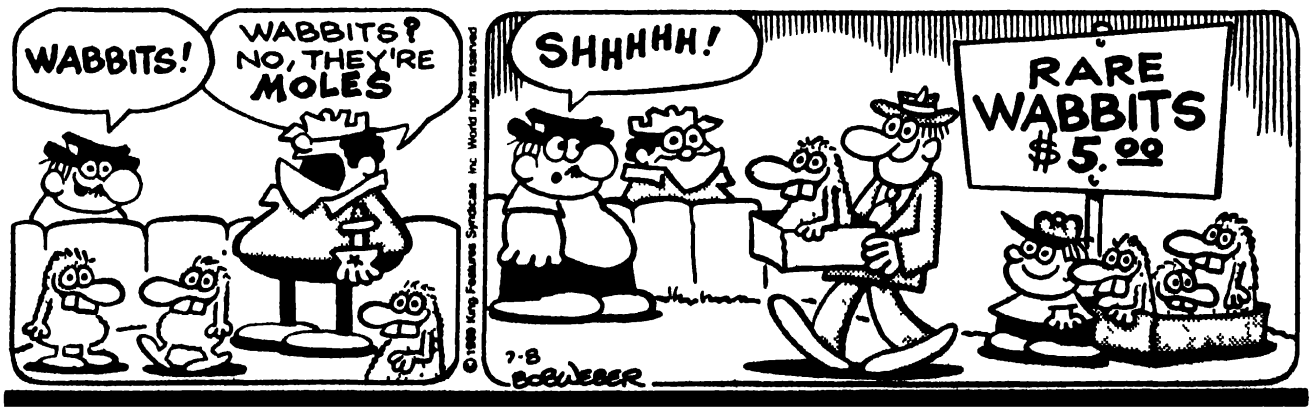


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Archie
DID YOU HAVE TO INVITE REGGIE TO COME WITH US?
DADDY WANTED HIM TO SEE THE NEW SPORTS STADIUM HE BUILT!
RIVERDALE SPORTS STADIUM
IT'S THE BIGGEST IN THE STATE!
IT'S NOT BIG ENOUGH FOR REGGIE AND ME!
GEE, THIS IS REALLY A NEAT SPORTS STADIUM YOU'VE BUILT MR LODGE!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE PUBLIC ADDRESS BOOTH?
SURE!
BOY, I CAN JUST SEE MYSELF MAKING ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM HERE!
I'D RATHER SEE YOU DOWN THERE ON THE COURT!
I THINK YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE IN YOUR BASKETBALL SHORTS!
DO YOU REALLY?
I DON'T!
REGGIE, GET OUT OF HERE! THIS IS A PRIVATE CONVERSATION!
YEAH? THEN YOU'D BETTER TURN OFF THE MICROPHONE!

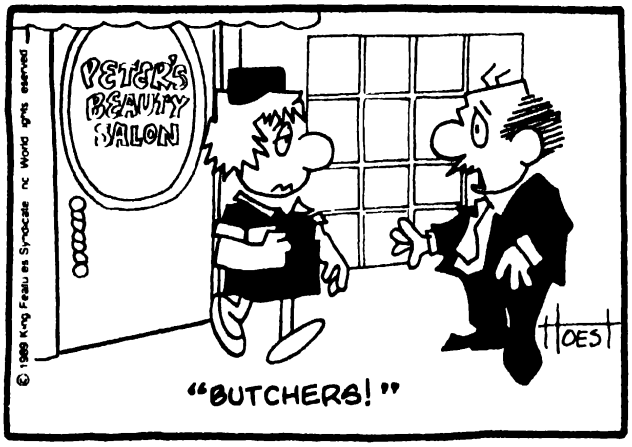

AMAZING! MOOSE IS ACTUALLY ANXIOUS TO GET TO WORK
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SLEEP BETTER ON A COZY MATTRESS
BOBWEBER

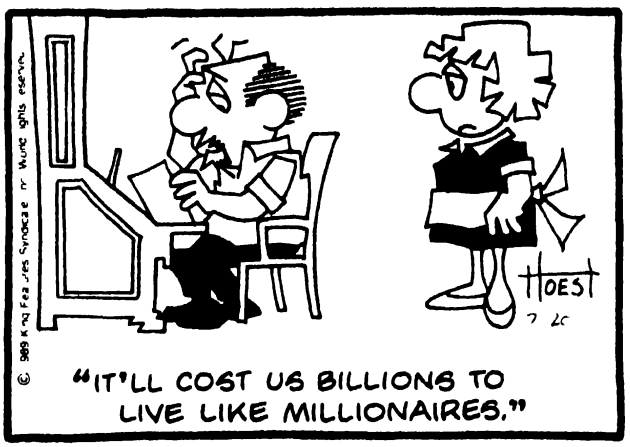

WABBITS!
WABBITS? NO, THEY'RE MOLES
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SHHHHH!
RARE WABBITS $5.00
BOBWEBER

THE LOCKHORNS

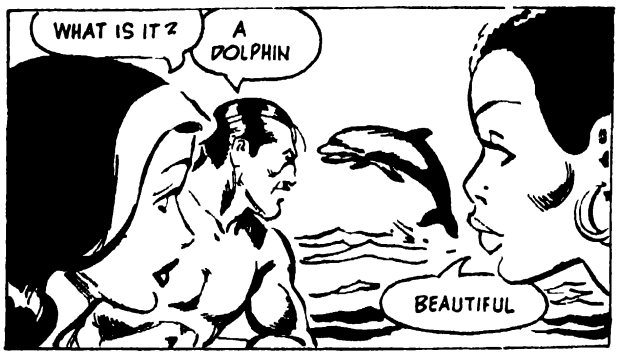


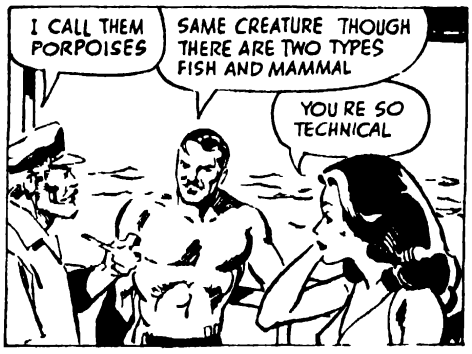


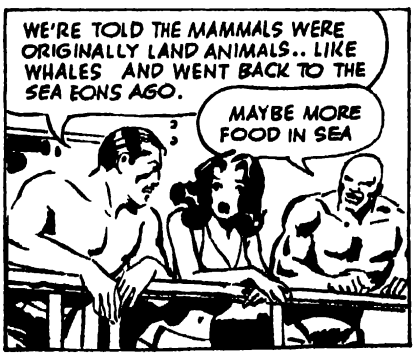


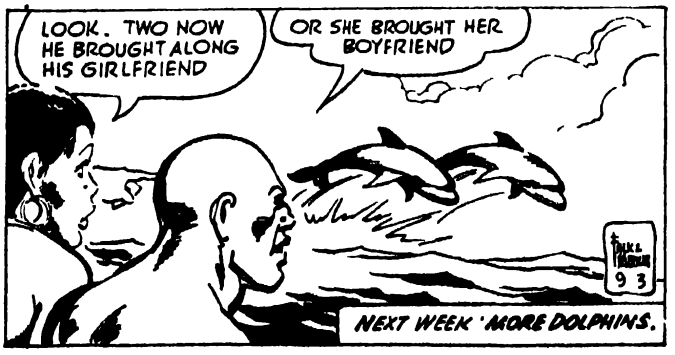


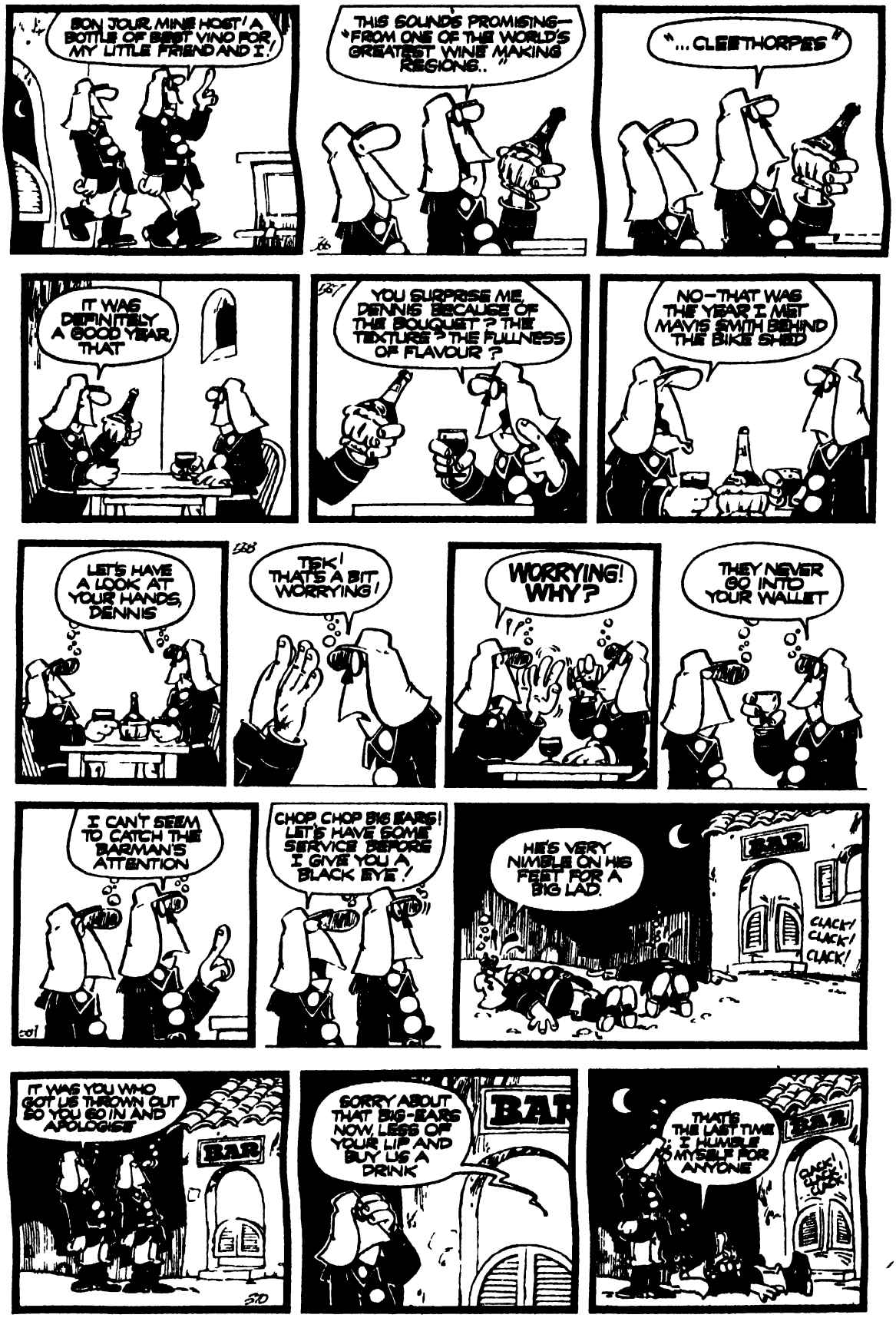
MANDRAKE By Lee Falk









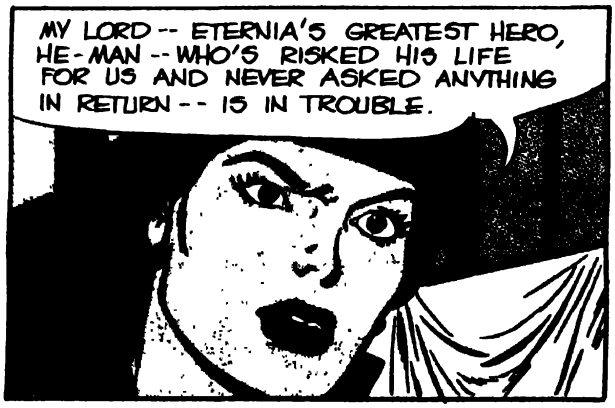

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"... CLEETHORPES"
IT WAS DEFINITELY A GOOD YEAR, THAT
YOU SURPRISE ME, DENNIS BECAUSE OF THE BOUQUET? THE TEXTURE? THE FULLNESS OF FLAVOUR?
NO—THAT WAS THE YEAR I MET MAVIS SMITH BEHIND THE BIKE SHED
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR HANDS, DENNIS
TSK! THAT'S A BIT WORRYING!
WORRYING! WHY?
THEY NEVER GO INTO YOUR WALLET
I CAN'T SEEM TO CATCH THE BARMAN'S ATTENTION
CHOP CHOP BIG EARS! LET'S HAVE SOME SERVICE BEFORE I GIVE YOU A BLACK EYE!
HE'S VERY NIMBLE ON HIS FEET FOR A BIG LAD.
BAR
CLACK! CLACK! CLACK!
IT WAS YOU WHO GOT US THROWN OUT SO YOU GO IN AND APOLOGISE
BAR
SORRY ABOUT THAT BIG-EARS NOW, LEGG OF YOUR LIP AND BUY US A DRINK
BAR
THAT'S THE LAST TIME I HUMBLE MYSELF FOR ANYONE
BAR
CLACK! CLACK! CLACK!

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's edition of The Telegraph's Saturday Special







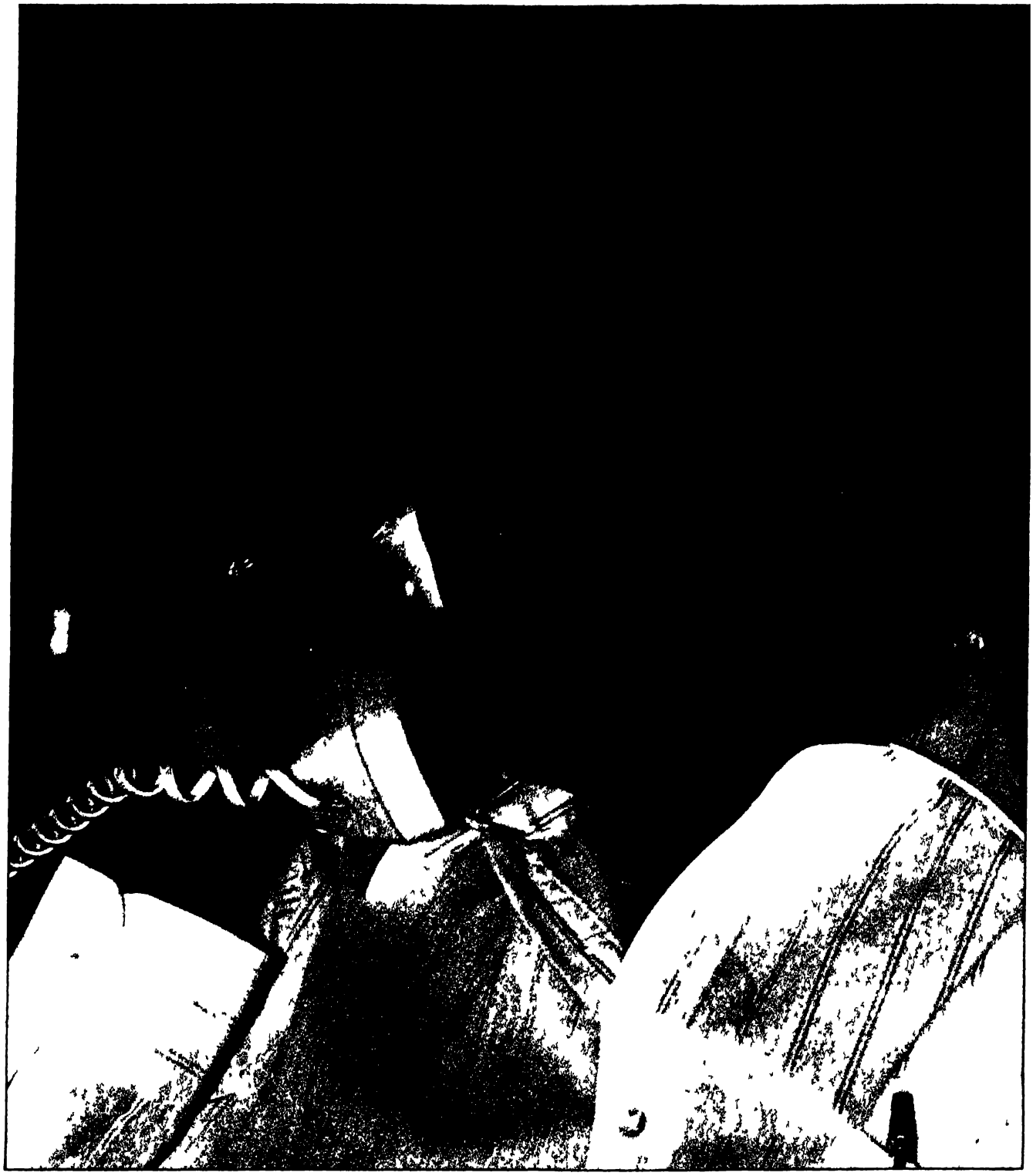








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When the new order came in at the Centre, the telecom secretary **Pitroda** told his new minister, much as Uncle Sam would have, "Hi, there, haven't we met before?" But, for once, he'd got the wrong number; it wasn't Rajiv Raj anymore. Photograph by RAJESH KUMAR



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Gentleman Advani

Congratulations to THE TELEGRAPH Colour Magazine for having selected L.K. Advani as the 'Man of the Year' (December 31). He is indeed the gentleman of Indian politics and few presentday politicians can equal his towering personality.

In the cesspool of Indian politics, his party, the BJP, is a refreshing change. The day is not far off when the BJP will form the government at the Centre and positive secularism will be ushered in.

Suprabho Banerji,
Agartala

■ I suggest that the BJP now build 'Girmasandirs' in towns and villages of India, where people of all religions can assemble under one roof to pray. ('Girmasandir' is my combination of *girjas, masjids* and *mandirs.*)

P.C. Dasgupta,
Calcutta

■ The cover feature on 'The New Avatar' as 'Man of the Year' was full of absurd thinking. The word, 'man', has a much greater meaning.

The choice of the word should have been made on the basis of his work and contribution to mankind. An *avatar* in a particular community can never be considered a 'man' in that sense.

Debashis Chakraborty,
Malda (W.B.)

Booked?

The article on the plight of Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and the National Library (December 24) had some incorrect information. It is reported that "no book acquired (by the National Library) after 1982 has reached the stacks and a whole pile of them is gathering dust in a ground floor room of the library's annexe". This is not correct.



Raju Sutaria

L.K. Advani: Bharatiya of the Year

Due to shortage of space in the main stack, the books have been kept in a pile in the processing division. They have been duly processed and can be made available to readers on request.

The article also claims that the readers have no access to newspapers published since the early 1980s. These newspapers have not been bound yet, but they are being made available to readers on the sixth floor of the first annexe building, on a regular basis. There is a separate reading space there.

The report mentions that Ms Sheila Kaul laid the foundation stone of the building which was proposed to be the Preservation Building at that point of time. But after that, the entire programme changed. The building, which will eventually become the administrative block, was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, as the Prashashan Bhavan in April 1989.

Kalpana Dasgupta,
Librarian, National Library, Calcutta

Srinjoy Chowdhury replies:

Ms Dasgupta has attempted to point out three inaccuracies. She denies that new books are lying in a heap in the library's annexe, while other employees admit that this is the case. She also admits that the newspapers published in the early eighties are yet to be bound, but states that they are available to the readers. How any librarian can find an issue a reader is looking for from thousands of unbound newspapers within a decent period of time remains a mystery. Her third charge is strange. She is merely restating what I have written in the article!

I understand that senior library officials ordered special security measures after I asked permission to visit the stack. Is a lone reporter's visit to the stacks a security risk? What are they trying to hide, except maybe shelves of books, badly mutilated by insects?

Sachin, Too

We appreciated the article on Sanjay Manjrekar (December 10). But, along with him, you should have also focused on Sachin Tendulkar.

Debaranjan Banerjee,
Baruipur (W.B.)

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The Telegraph
28 JANUARY 1990

6 Hopes of an improvement at Indian Airlines are fast receding as more and more flights get delayed or cancelled every day and schedules become a farce. An in-depth report on the shameful state of affairs

13 The International Film Festival of India in the city has triggered off a debate on the relevance of such an event. A look at these and other related questions.



Dilip Banerjee

16 Since time immemorial, the circus has enthralled children and adults alike. But behind the glitter lies another world, no less interesting

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FRAMING THE PSYCHE OF A CITY

Christopher Sykes is the latest filmmaker attempting to understand the complexities of Calcutta

For Rudyard Kipling, Calcutta was the city of dreadful night chance directed chance erected' and a packed and pestilential town For Dominique Lapierre the storyteller of the slums Calcutta swamped by poverty is the City of Joy But Christopher Sykes is a different kind of chronicler a filmmaker intrigued and inspired by Calcutta I was afraid of what Calcutta might be like there are so many myths about the city, that is it is the worst place on earth and that Mother Teresa is the only person who is doing something about it

Sykes moving 90 minute tapestry of images should shatter the myths about "the monster city Calcutta is infinitely complex, it has the most tremendous cosmopolitan vitality and an overwhelming intellectual life It is a city as exciting as Paris London or New York

Most intriguing are the people of Calcutta, says Sykes I don't understand what the origins of Bengali warmth enthusiasm and humour are And despite the incredible compression of people the pollution and problems of day to day living like dead telephones and overwhelming traffic the people retain their enthusiasm and can even be funny about it

The film tentatively titled *Our Calcutta* is not an outsider's insight of the city but quite appropriately the city through the eyes of the people Sykes finds extraordinarily vivacious I was particularly determined not to make it a Britisher or European's account of Calcutta'

For a documentary film about a city that is a functioning anarchy a script can be too confining says Sykes his long fingers weaving images in the air I don't have a script I have shot two films in Beirut that way I used to have a script but now I don't

His multi layered Bengali tapestry will be largely achieved in the editing room with cuts juxtapositions and sound overlays Woven into the film will be the stories of a motley crew of Calcuttans from the sculptors of Kumartuli and the *pandas* of Kalighat to the high priests of politics and stars of a musical evening It will be a story of why they choose to live in Calcutta says Sykes

Geoffery Middleton's camera has captured the city's predominant vivid images the hustle of Kumartuli before Saraswati Puja the crumbling mansions of north Calcutta the quiet splendour of a Bengali wedding the efficiency of the Metro railway system In London and New York City, the walls of the subway are splattered with graffiti, yet at the Rabindra Sadan stop, the walls are full of illustrations by a great poet"

Our Calcutta's earliest sequences, shot in the soft light of early dawn, is the city in slumber the empty streets, before the unimaginable activity of a few hours later, and the toiling artisans in the dilapidated sheds of Kumartuli at work before Saraswati Puja Sykes hopes to end the film with the immersion, with the images bobbing in the waters amid the floating marigold garlands as dusk turns to twilight 'I had wanted to film the Durga Puja, but the project got delayed," regrets Sykes Between the two poignant moments will be intertwined 10 or 15 celluloid threads I want the feel of the span of a day in the film I will portray a Calcutta that is politically conscious a city of huge wealth and abject poverty, and a city of diverse religions" Sykes also hopes to use archival material and stills to provide more texture to his film

Creating an ordered film-structure out of the chaos of semi arbitrarily shot raw footage will be his major worry, believes Sykes It will be a dangerous but risky business.But more exciting than telling the story of one representative Calcuttan. 'While shooting I won't impose a thesis of my own I will just shoot what interests me'

Why Calcutta? "The tercentenary seemed like a pretty good reason to make a film I didn't even realise that the city was only 300 years old to begin with," confesses Sykes as he leans forward to light a cigarette He, like "most other English people,is intrigued by India I think if you are English and interested in anything in the world, there comes a time when you have to go to India It is an important part of English history"

Again and again, Sykes has been drawn to India His first documentary was on "alternative technology work" being done by the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore "They were looking at technology in an unusual way they were not just assuming anything, but doing a careful study of what villagers really needed" Sykes' camera caught a team of doctors training health workers in Jamkhad, in rural Maharashtra, 300 miles east of Bombay "I saw that with the coming of a basic health system in this backwater, came the first stirrings of women's lib and the loosening of the caste structure His third effort is a biography of Srinivas Ramanujam, the mathematician, for BBC TV

Sykes: Framing Calcutta



Ashoke Chakrabarty

While the Union government has not cleared Roland Joffe's script for *The City of Joy*, Sykes, after submitting a "pretty detailed outline" has already begun shooting. "I think I understand how the system works," says Sykes, who has made a number of science-based documentaries for BBC television. "I sent the outline to the Indian High Commission in London. Then, the Indian government had a look and passed it on to the West Bengal government. After everybody was happy, they gave me permission...the whole thing usually takes three or four months."

"I imagine Roland Joffe would have a made a pretty good film," says Sykes who sympathises with the Union information and broadcasting minister, P. Upendra's decision. "I haven't read the script or spoken to Joffe so I am in no position to comment. But there is a view that India has a lot of problems and is working extremely hard to solve them. And yet, people come here and take photographs of people living in rubbish dumps. People are saying: 'Look here, we have quite a few things we are quite proud of and no one is saying anything about it.' That is where national sentiment comes in," believes Sykes. "There was a time Louis Malle came here and made a film. That was before permission was needed to be obtained, when everyone was free to come."

Sykes himself has never had problems. "My film is a documentary while Joffe's film would have been a dramatisation. Besides, my films have portrayed a more positive India. But Joffe is not another person planning to make a fast buck out of poverty. As for Domnique Lapierre's book, I haven't read it. I don't want the book to colour my vision. I will probably read it after I have completed the film."



Looking for a positive angle

Used to London's traffic snarls, Sykes is impressed by the way vehicles of all kinds negotiate the pandemonium on the city streets. "There is a feeling of we-are-all-in-it-together. You would think that all the people are going to collide with each other; that there will be terrible arguments. But everything seems to fit in the end." In the same way, Sykes wants the various strands in his film to resolve themselves at the very end.

"Despite regular predictions of doom, Calcutta seems to be working," says Sykes. "Moorhouse at the end of his book has visions of an apocalyptic Calcutta-armageddon. The former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had also spoken of Calcutta as a dying city. "It is hardly a dying city, more a living and vibrant one really." *Our Calcutta*, to be completed this year, is added evidence of the city's indomitable instinct for survival and zest for life.

Srinjoy Chowdhury

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FLY NOW, FLY

Does the passenger mean anything at all to Indian Airlines? With flight schedules becoming a farce and service in general taking the backseat, domestic air travel is turning into a nightmare

The children, crying uncontrollably, tugged at Cleo Van Osten's skirt. They were tired, bedraggled, irritable and bored—anyone would be after a 10-hour wait at an airport. Said Van Osten, who runs an adoption agency in Amsterdam and comes here regularly to take back children, "I've made 17 trips to India so far and each time Indian Airlines (IA) comes up with something new. Delays, cancellations, 'okayed' tickets being cancelled—anything is possible. I've accepted it, but what about these children? They'll start thinking of the airport as their new home!"

• Last fortnight, J. Narayan, deputy chairman of ITC Ltd, booked himself on the 7 am flight from Calcutta to Delhi. "There was an important meeting at 2.30 that afternoon," he recalls. After the usual round of delays and false alarms, the flight finally left at 1.15 pm. He missed his meeting—and lunch. "No refreshments were served. Now I travel a day earlier. In fact, had there been a couple of fast trains like the Rajdhani, I'd give up flying."

• Recalls a senior bureaucrat who tried cancelling a ticket at Calcutta's Dum Dum airport: "After a three-hour wait—half of it in the dark, thanks to loadshedding—I managed to reach the counter. When I asked for a receipt, the lady manning the desk blurted, 'I don't know anything, contact the duty manager.'" An Australian standing in the queue looked totally lost. Eventually, he picked up enough courage to ask, 'Will someone please tell me what is happening,?' Immediately, someone in the line shot back, 'This is Indian Airlines.'"

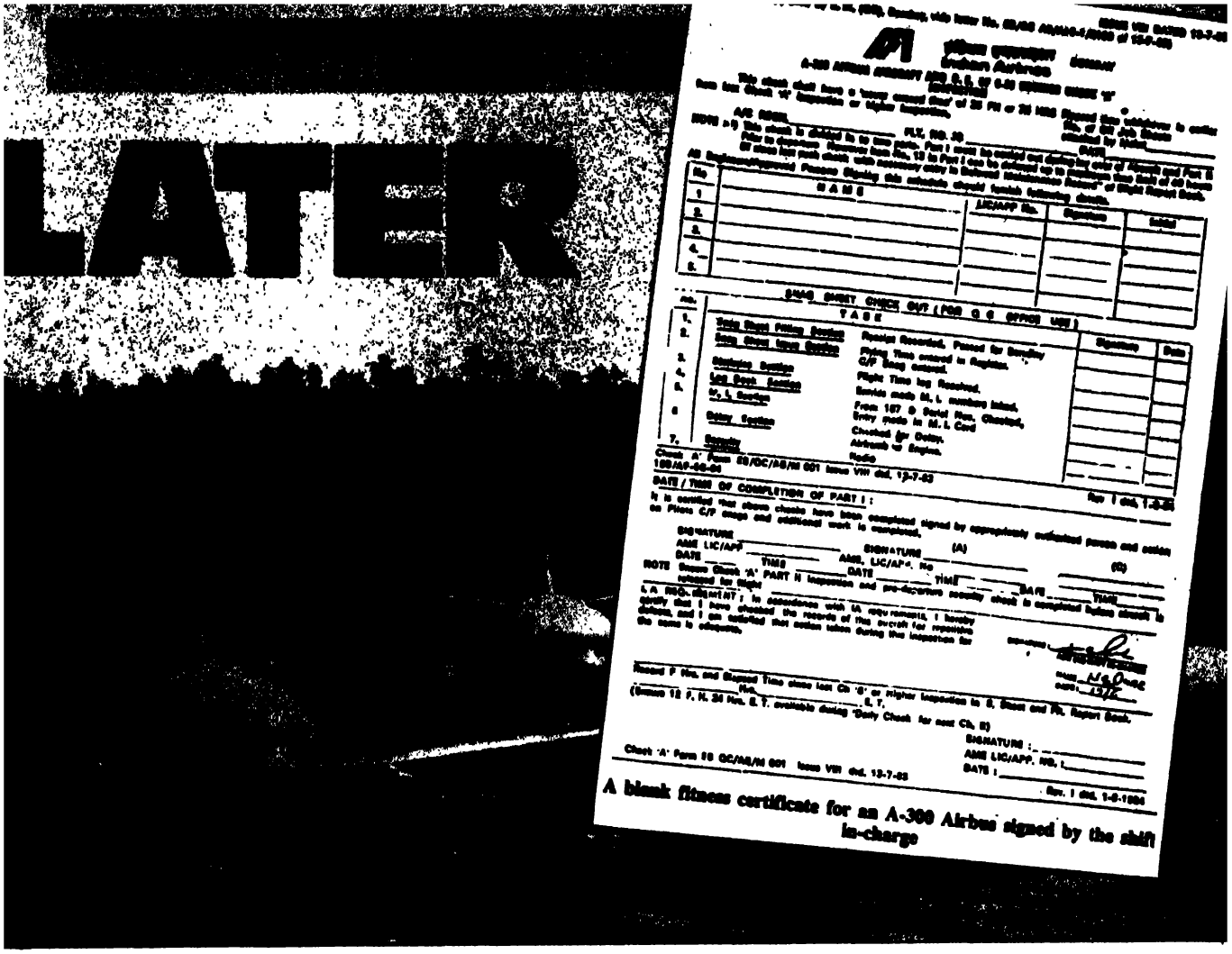
• B.R. Somani, commercial manager of a leading Delhi-based television manufacturing company reached the airport to catch the 10 am flight to Lucknow. The flight left at three pm. All his appointments in Lucknow were affected and he had to stay there overnight. Next day, when he telephoned Lucknow airport to check about the return flight, he was told it was on time. But it finally left at midnight. There were no basic facilities available at the airport and he returned to Delhi with aches and pains and unfinished work. After several such bad experiences with the airlines, Somani has decided to switch to a slower but comparatively surer form of transport—the railways. The Shatabdi Express leaves Delhi on the dot at 6.15 am and reaches Lucknow by noon.

For tourists and air travellers, it is turning out to be a season of travail. Ominous clouds are fast gathering over Indian Airlines House in the heart of the country's capital as years of apathy and anarchy, compounded by a series of natural and manmade calamities threaten to ground domestic air travel itself.

Anyone who has been by Indian Airlines, has harrowing tales of delays, cancellations and diversions to recount. And they are increasing every day. The last two months have been particularly bad. The rush season for the airlines coincides with the tourist season beginning in win-

Waiting for an improvement





A blank fitness certificate for an A-300 Airbus signed by the shift in-charge

ter, and this has been one of the worst seasons for them. It all began with over 7,700 maintenance engineers going on a month-long strike from November 7, after a prolonged go-slow agitation. It was election time and candidates rushing to their constituencies to file nominations found themselves stranded at airports across the country as flight frequencies were drastically reduced and passenger capacity was slashed by over 50 per cent. Senior airlines officials accused the engineers of trying to embarrass the management by striking at a very crucial period.



Kishore Roychowdhury

The engineers withdrew the strike following an appeal by the new minister for civil aviation, Arif Mohammad Khan, although they continued to work to rule, causing widespread delays. All along, the management, kept insisting that conciliatory talks were on and better days were around the corner. On January 16, the airlines actually issued a press note saying they were happy to inform that all IA flights had left Delhi on time. But just when the flight schedules were beginning to return to 'normal', the engineers struck again.They declared their intention to go on strike from February 1, and have since been roundly criticised by the management for resorting to pressure tactics just before the Assembly polls.

If the engineers do go ahead with their plan, whatever little semblance of order that remains today is certain to collapse. As we go to press, the management has announced its action plan of cutting operations by as much as 60 per cent and managing the rest with the help of its 150 executive engineers (who are not members of the All India Aircraft Engineers' Association) and 3000 technicians.

In recent months, Indian Airlines has shown an almost unbelievable propensity for stumbling from one crisis to another. And as the mess gets messier, all that the management and the pilots, engineers, technicians and assorted staff do is hurl allegations and counter-allegations at each other. Caught in the crossfire, the victim, needless to say, is the passenger. He pays through his nose, and in return, gets kicked around.

For the official records though, the IA management tries to paint as rosy a picture as it possibly can. The organisation has a fleet of 54 planes—30 Boeings, 13 A-320s and 11 widebodied Airbus 300s. It operates nearly 248 flights a day and on an average a total of 94 flights leave and arrive in Delhi, which forms the main base for the Boeings. According to official figures, 88. 2 per cent of the flights left on time in November and 88.5 per cent in December as against an average of 93.9 per cent for the whole of April to December. Although this represents a five per cent increase in delays, given the engineers' stir, such a performance would still have been considered creditable.

But these figures seek to hide more than they reveal. What the airlines normal-

Cover: Kishore Roychowdhury

STORM AHEAD?

ly takes into account are primary delays at the first point of departure. Consequential or secondary delays are conveniently forgotten about. Still worse, rescheduling and clubbing of flights are not regarded as delays and cancellations. Significantly, besides the usual daily cancellations, IA rescheduled flights every fourth day in November and December, and resorted to clubbing on a number of occasions. Efficiency rates are also very deceptive since they are calculated in terms of the capacity utilised, and this is higher when there are fewer flights. No wonder then that the overall load factor rose to an all-time high of 80.6 per cent in 1988-89. The airlines' capacity dropped from about 1153 million in 1987-88 to 1095 million available tonne km (ATKm) in 1988-89. Passenger traffic actually declined from 10.44 million to 10.10 million over the corresponding period due to capacity constraints.

Financially too, IA is in a tight position. The acquisition of the A-320s has cost the airlines about Rs 1,000 crores. Its fleet expansion programme: is obviously going to increase its interest burden by a sizeable amount. Add to that an (unofficial) estimated revenue loss of about Rs 60 crores—Rs 30 crores of this on passenger tariff along—due to the recent engineers' strike. By the end of this fiscal year, the corporation will be staring at a loss of about Rs 85 crores. Over the past few years, profits have in any case been steadily shrinking; between 1987-88 and 1988-89 alone, they fell from Rs 30.10 crores to Rs 14.10 crores.

With more than half of IA's flights delayed or cancelled in the past four months and the prospect of still further disruption looming large on the horizon, the question is: who is to blame for this shameful state of affairs? The answer: just about everyone who has anything to do with the running of the airlines.

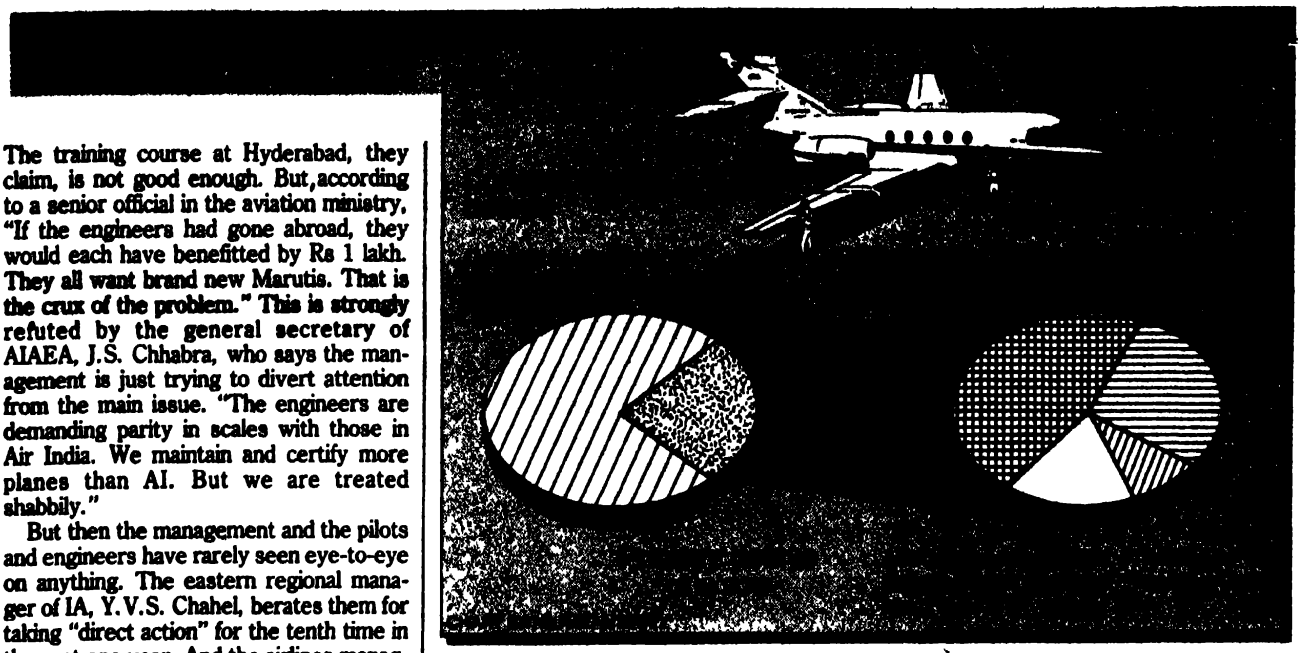
The pilots, engineers and other staff have time and again shown they are in a constant state of readiness when it comes to launching agitations and crippling airline operations. The current unrest is in fact just one more round in a never-ending chain of ever-increasing demands.

On the face of it, the pilots' demand (the last time they went on an agitation) for night landing and navigation facilities at all the airport's was fully justified, if it had not been for the fact that it appeared suspiciously like another arm-twisting device to extract more money—about Rs 1,500 per month. Once their pay was increased, they returned to normal work without really insisting on night landing facilities although Captain Naresh Pathak, general secretary of the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association, says, "If it had been an increase in wages that was really behind our decision to overfly unsafe fields, why did we call off the agitation once an assurance was given that partially equipped fields would be updated?"

The engineers, on the other hand, want parity with their counterparts in Air India, even if it means going back on the memorandum of understanding they signed with the management only last February. Their other demand is that they be sent to Tolouse in France for training on the recently-inducted state-of-the-art A-320s.

Who's in charge?





The training course at Hyderabad, they claim, is not good enough. But, according to a senior official in the aviation ministry, "If the engineers had gone abroad, they would each have benefitted by Rs 1 lakh. They all want brand new Marutis. That is the crux of the problem." This is strongly refuted by the general secretary of AIAEA, J.S. Chhabra, who says the management is just trying to divert attention from the main issue. "The engineers are demanding parity in scales with those in Air India. We maintain and certify more planes than AI. But we are treated shabbily."

But then the management and the pilots and engineers have rarely seen eye-to-eye on anything. The eastern regional manager of IA, Y.V.S. Chahel, berates them for taking "direct action" for the tenth time in the past one year. And the airlines managing director, R. Prasad has so far remained unmoved by the engineers' demands: "As far as we are concerned, there are no demands."

But much as it would like to pass the buck, the fact is that the management is as much a culprit as anyone else. Even as senior officials like the regional director (eastern region), Capt. R.K. Kakkar admit "there have been delays in the past few months," most of them blame factors beyond their control, such as fog and poor visibility. Capt. R.L. Kapoor, director of operations in Delhi, justifies the delays and blames passengers for "putting undue pressure on us despite met office observations." But even he concedes, "There is no doubt that IA is to blame. For nearly 16 years there has been talk of equipping Delhi and other major airports with the latest IIIC Instrument Landing System (ILS) but nothing has been done so far. Today, only 30 per cent of the 57 air stations in the country have navigational aids and night landing facilities."

A senior IA official in Bombay explains, "In Europe and the Scandinavian countries, flights land even in zero visibility because of first class equipment. Here even category two and three instruments are not available. Our facilities are at least 50 years behind time. In fact, in Parliament, the aviation minister admitted that it didn't have adequate facilities."



Namita Waikar/Reuters

All about delays

And now, IA is paying for its lack of foresight. On January 2 this year, Palam airport was closed for 12 hours followed by an unprecedented 15 hour closure on January 4 due to heavy fog. Recalls Capt. Kapoor, "We haven't seen this kind of phenomenon in the past 15 years."

Whatever the reasons for delay, passengers are understandably miffed. "Why can't the IA staff apprise passengers correctly and frankly about delays?" asks J. Narayan. Adds Rajiv Gujral, area general manager of Taj Bengal, "Being a monopoly organisation, IA is steeped in complacency. Passengers get a raw deal."

Another long standing grouse of passengers has been the poor maintenance of IA craft. The planes fly between 2,800 and 3,000 hours per year against a much lower international average. But IA claims that it scrupulously adheres to rigorous maintenance standards prescribed by the International Civil Aviation Organisation. Maintenance, say officials, ranges from "online checks at the end of a flight, checks at the completion of 100 flying hours, and 'block', 'continuous' and 'equalised' maintenance programmes." Asserts Prasad, "All aircraft are maintained properly within safety limits. I don't think there is an appreciable increase in the number of incidents concerning passenger safety."

Yet, the AIAEA has charged the director general of civil aviation (DGCA) of overlooking inadequacies endangering air safety. Chhabra, who has been leading the engineers' agitation from the union office at Palam, cites a case where a Boeing 747 was refused certification by a workman engineer on September 14, 1987, because he found a crack in the duct which he thought could be a flying hazard. The rejection letter was, however, torn and an executive engineer certified the plane for flying. The plane was grounded later and the whole engine changed. Chhabra says that a piece of metal was found obstructing the duct and anything could have happened. The DCGA has still not replied to the union on this matter.

Moreover, incidents such as the collapse of the nosewheel of an Airbus at Delhi soon after landing and of a Boeing 737's door opening twice during a routine flight, give lie to Prasad's claim. What is shocking is the discovery of several signed blank air fitness certificates (see picture).

While efficiency and maintenance have taken a nosedive, the air fares show no signs of stabilising. In fact, the corporation is expected to yet again yank up its fares following the losses suffered in the 30-day engineers' agitation and the additional cost of acquiring the A-320s. In the last 10 years, fares have gone up 11 times. The reasons: increased cost of turbine fuel, increased landing and navigation charges and in general, mounting operational costs. IA, on its part, claims 65 per cent of its 152 routes are economically unviable. But the question to ask is: will air fares be hiked each time finances sag or a new technology is introduced? And still more important: has the Airlines' efficiency gone up correspondingly?

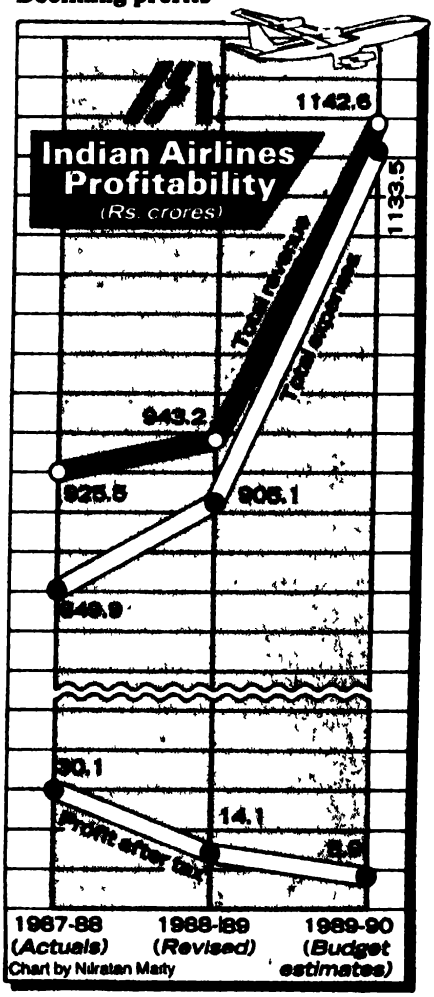
Apart from the delays, which many have come to accept with stoic resignation, inefficiency, discourtesy and a complete lack of professionalism have all become hallmarks of IA. As Rajiv Gujral put it, "At Delhi airport, when one of my five 'okayed' tickets was untraceable, I was struck by the indifference of the man at the counter. He was just not bothered and that is what hurts." Adds Partha Ghosh, well-known scientist and academic programme coordinator at the S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Calcutta, "There should be more competition in the aviation sector. Until then, IA will continue to take us for

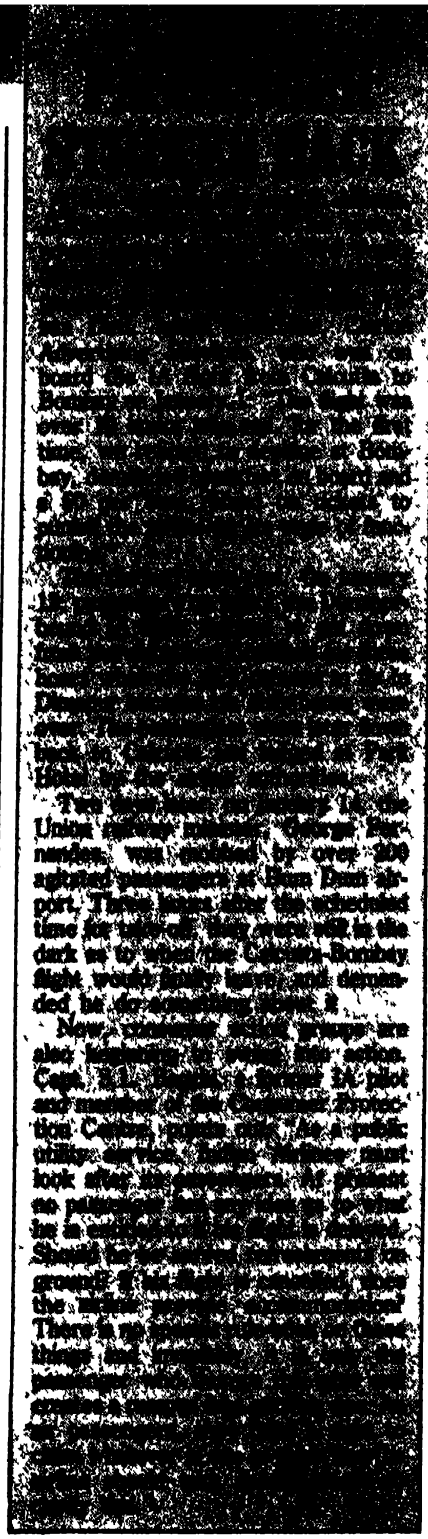
granted. Whichever way you look at it, IA needs a revamp, and the sooner the better." Says Narayan of ITC, "May be if there is another domestic airline there will be more competition and services will improve."

G.M. Kapoor, chief of the urban study centre of the Times Research Foundation, is even harsher: "IA has failed to realise the importance of the customer. As a public service, it has outdone the telephone department in its inefficiency."

Even in recruitment of personnel, the IA management has made a hash of things. Says Capt. Sushil Mehrotra, former IA pilot, "The management should have planned well in advance. With the recent boom in air travel, it was evident that it would need more pilots and engineering personnel. From 1983, 13 pilots have been retiring on an average every year, depriving the airline of trained hands. And knowing fully well that a manpower crunch was around the corner, a ban was imposed on recruitment from 1986 to August 1989 on undertakings

Declining profits





under the civil aviation ministry. For three years, IA could not fill vacancies without the government's permission."

In an unprecedented exodus, in the last 15 months 27 pilots have resigned and joined international carriers. Admits Prasad, "We are just about maintaining normal services. If more leave, we will be badly hit." But the airline has already been hit. Despite an IA circular on March 28 last year banning IA employees from sending applications directly for employment outside IA, the exodus continues. Says Capt, S.L. Bagchi, "The most obvious reason is money. Here one gets about Rs 15,000 per month. But one can get at least six times that amount in the Gulf countries." Boeing 737 pilots have been targets of foreign carriers like Malaysian Airlines and Gulf Airways, which reportedly offer upto $4,000 (Rs 66,400) per month.

The irony today is that IA has acquired a fleet of new A-320s to increase its capacity, but is faced with a severe shortage of personnel. Besides the exodus of pilots, it has lost around 150 experienced maintenance engineers over the past five years, mostly through retirement.

The government has also done its share of harm to the airline. In addition to the usual bureaucratic interference—ranging from playing favourites to six years of indecision over the acquisition of new aircraft to addition of economically unviable routes for political reasons—frequent changes in the ministry itself have helped add to the uncertainty.

At IA, pilot and engineer-run unions rule the roost. Last year, they extracted a 33 per cent hike in wages without assuring the management anything in return by way of increased productivity.

After Captain Chadha took charge as managing director in 1982, he along with his two deputies, Capt. B.K. Bhasin and Capt. V.K. Mehta, maintained a tight hold over the unions and regional departments for five years. Trouble started in 1985 after Jagdish Tytler took over as minister for civil aviation. R. Prasad, the present MD, started lobbying to succeed Chadha with Motilala Vora's support while Tytler backed Gerry Pais, an accounts man. Pais was finally appointed MD in 1987 and Tytler then appointed P.N. Kumar and Capt. N. Ramachandran deputy managing directors.

Not one to be left out, Prasad approached the civil aviation secretary, S.S. Sidhu, and got himself appointed deputy director, finance. Tytler's departure in 1987 made things easier for him, especially with Motilal Vora taking over in aviation. Finally, in April last year, with Satish Sharma and Shivraj Patil's backing, Prasad was appointed MD. Such power struggles and political lobbying have not helped IA.

Is there any way out of the mess? Suresh Kalmadi, MP, says, "The only answer is privatisation. The way things are going is disgusting."

Competition and an alternative domestic carrier could be the answer. But it will be a long haul before Indian Airlines can rid itself of epithets such as 'Intolerably Apathetic' and 'Incredibly Awful'.

S. Srinivasan, Debashis Aikat, Madhavi Irani and Lekha Dhar

VOICE

Portrait of an Artiste

Her smile has been compared to Mona Lisa's, her eyes to a doe's and her acting to that of Liv Ullman's. Yet even after 30 years in the film industry, Madhabi Chakrabarty remains a publicity-shy, humane and unassuming individual who has had the rare privilege of working with Satyajit Ray, Mrinal Sen, Ritwik Ghatak, Tapan Sinha and Tarun Mazumdar, with lead roles in films that will provide inspiration for posterity—*Charulata, Mahanagar, Kapurush-o-Mahapurush, Subarnarekha, Baishey Sravan*—all masterpieces of the Bengali cineworld.

Starting as a child artiste for stage performances, Madhabi Chakrabarty first acted in Tapan Sinha's *Tonsil*, before Mrinal Sen assigned her for *Baishey Sravan*. Her original name, Madhuri, was then changed for the purposes of the film by the director's wife, Mrs Gita Sen.



Madhabi Chakraborty

While she has worked under almost all renowned directors of the industry, Madhabi's most sensitive portrayals have invariably been in the films of Satyajit Ray. For herself, the actress has always been painstaking about her roles and admits to going over her roles umpteen times. She also has a preference for Betty Davis. Recently, to felicitate her on the completion of 30 years in the film industry, Samantaral hosted a function in her honour at Kala Mandir. Age seems to have diminished Madhabi's "presence" before a camera but slightly. To her fans, she will always remain an amalgam of Charu, Sita, or the essence of the other roles that tossed her up to stardom. We wish her well.

Onward Female Soldiers!

Panama recently witnessed an invasion by the United States' troops and the subsequent fall of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. But what the Panamanians are likely to remember more than the surprise attack is the sight of young women behind M-60 machine guns, whom they stopped to gawk at and were promptly captured.

American women are prohibited by Federal law from serving in combat, but in Panama last month, these women fired machine guns, took enemy prisoners and even led troops into battle, according to a *Washington Times* report this week. They fought snipers in crowded neighbourhoods, guarded prisoners-of-war and were generally in evidence in front-line infantry outfits.

The report quoted a Pentagon spokesman as having said that the women were trained to defend themselves on a "gender-neutral" basis. However, he also added that under Federal law, women were restricted to non-combat units. In fact, the women soldiers themselves admitted that they were surprised at being treated like any other soldier. Whether intended as a "trick" of their trade or otherwise, this does prove that equality of the sexes is out of the US battleground at least!

Vernal Fiesta

A chilly fortnight is hardly one propitious for activity of any kind, let alone the sort that calls for nimble movement of the limbs. Yet, the scene that meets the eye at 1/1/2A Gariahat Road South, which houses the Nari Seva Sangha, seems challenging enough if we take into consideration an unprecedented 10 degrees Celsius on the scale. The hustle-bustle marks the advent of the annual Spring Fete of this organisation, which, as its name implies, dedicates its services to the welfare of women.

Scores of women at the premises, near the Jodhpur Park post office, are now busy weaving, embroidering, stitching, knitting or making exquisite batik or block printed textiles that will go on display during the three-day fair from February 2. Besides handicrafts created at the Nari Seva Sangha, "outsiders" will be permitted to set up stalls, with exhibits ranging from clay models of Bankura and Bishnupur to bonsai and others, to help women fend for themselves. The proceeds of the fair will go towards the home for destitute girls that is run by the organisation.

Dating back to the post World War II era, the Nari Seva Sangha has made immense progress since its humble origin in 1943 as something of a "khitchri kitchen" for the exodus of hungry millions after the Bengal famine. Since then, the organisation, served by luminaries like Sarojini Naidu, Lady Pratima Mitter and Lady Abala Bose, led an itinerant existence till the state government helped set up its present premises. It now houses a working girls' hostel, a balwadi for children of slum-dwellers, a home for destitute girls and a kind of training school for a myriad activities including secretarial courses, handicrafts, cooking, weaving, tailoring and others.

The excitement that is already evident at the Nari Seva Sangha is indicative of the aspirations andexmuberance that centre round the annual fete. As Mrs Mira Dutta, the warm-hearted superintendent of the hostel put it, the Spring Fete "brings with it the festive spirit one would associate with the most happy occasions." Everyone looks forward to it, including the head cook of the Nari Seva Sangha canteen, who is already preparing a list of goodies for the connoisseurs.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee



Seven-and-a-half years. That's how long one has been writing this quiz column for THE TELEGRAPH. I must admit it has been, and still is, a great learning experience for me—replying to letters, answering queries, framing questions, gaining knowledge, sharing information.

Frankly, when I conducted the first open quiz in 1967, I never did imagine that in a little over 20 years, quizzing would reach the popularity it has today. Calcutta is where it all began, and over the years, this city has truly established itself as the nerve centre of quizzing.

For a long time friends and quizzards have kept asking me one question: "You've been quizzing for so long. When are you going to write a book?" It's one question to which I've never had an answer. At least not till a few months ago, when my son Derek (himself a quiz master) brought up the topic over a quiet family dinner: "We've been into quizzing for years, so how about a quiz book from us?" We debated. Should our first book be a general one? Or on sport...? until the clincher! A quiz book in 1990 on Calcutta!

It's been a few months since that quiet family dinner. First, a name for the book? *Quizi-Cal*, we thought, would be apt. And then, the hard work and fun. Researching. Checking information. Travelling around the city. Talking to people. All this done, the result is a book divided into 24 chapters. A chapter on Calcutta sports (called *Physi-Cal*), another on films (*Cinemati-Cal*), quotations on the city (*Vo-Cal*), questions on food (*Gastronami-Cal*). Then there's *Comi-Cal, Theatri-Cal, Histori-Cal*—making for over 500 questions on "the many facets of Calcutta...its history, its life, its pleasures."

The serious: Who said: "What is Bengal without Calcutta?"

The light: Which is the most noise-polluted area in the city?

CBS

11th Question: **When asked, "What is the most joyful place that you have ever visited?" what was Mother Teresa's reply? (R. M. Sen, 7A, Cornfield Road, Calcutta 700019).**
Ans. **Kalighat.**

The intriguing: Job Charnock died on January 10, 1693. Why then does his tombstone read 1692?

Questions apart, the 175 pages of *Quizi-Cal* also include 24 "off-beat" photographs of the city. My own favourite is a shot from the top of a double-decker bus



which took me a little time to figure out "which way up?"

North Star, who have done so much to promote quizzing, have sponsored the book which Mr Hashim Abdul Halim, the Speaker of the West Bengal Assembly, will formally release to coincide with the Calcutta Book Fair. We've enjoyed writing *Quizi-Cal—The Calcutta Quiz Book*. We hope you in turn will enjoy reading it.

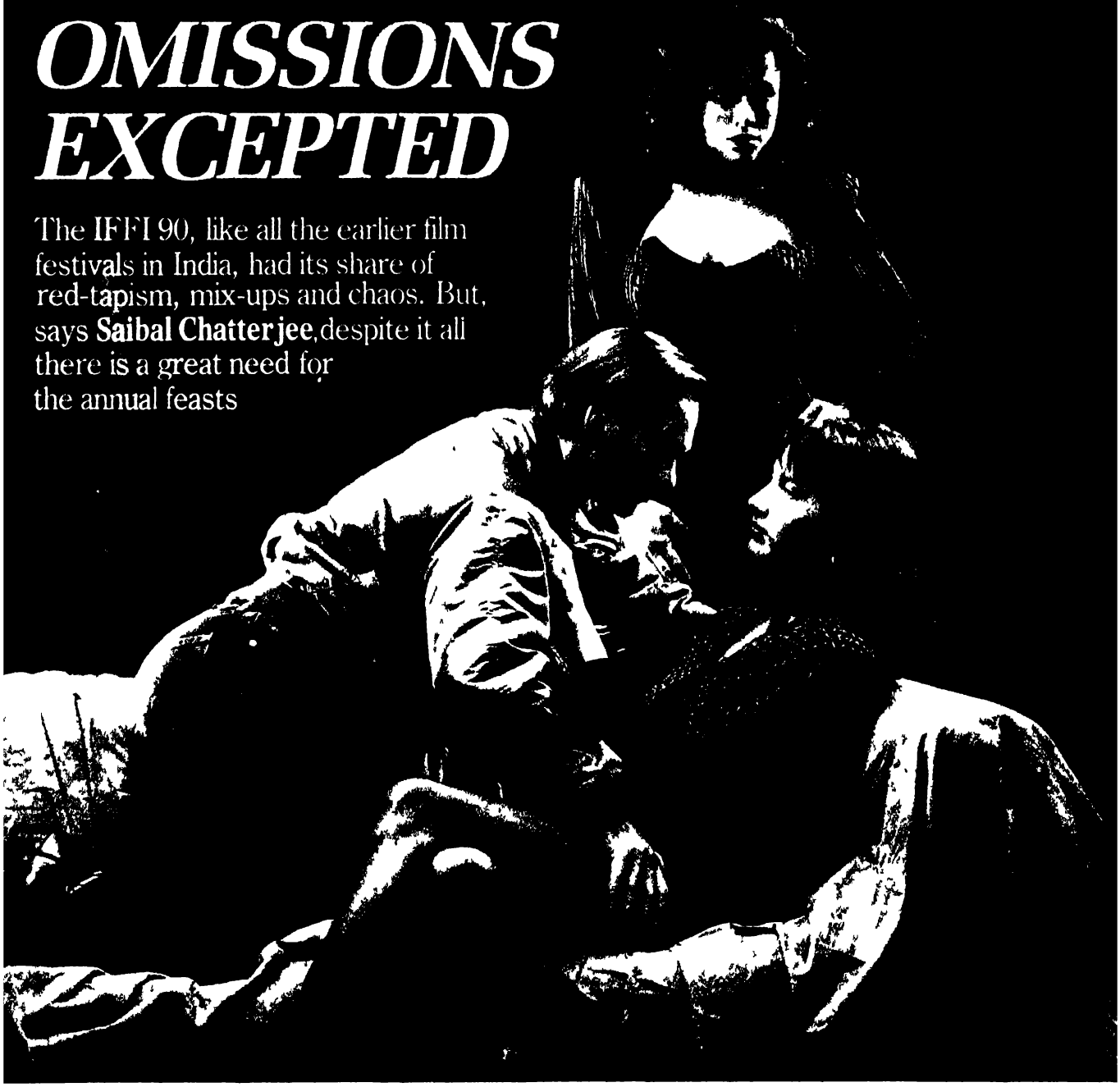
"Who discovered the lost cities of the Mayan civilization?" asks Santosh Majumdar, Calcutta 9.

In 1839 John Lloyd Stephens, traveller and archaeologist, and his companion, illustrator Frederick Catherwood, rediscovered the lost cities of the Mayas. Having heard reports of ancient ruins in the jungles of Central America, Stephens had himself appointed charge d'affaires to Central America by US President Martin Van Buren. Stephens and Catherwood had narrow escapes as they encountered a native rebellion, stifling heat, swamps, and swarms of mosquitos.

Deep in the jungle they found strangely ornamented stone pillars; further on, they discovered stairways, walls, terraces, and pyramids overgrown with vines and a thick blanket of thorny shrubbery. Stephens bought the site from its native owner for $50. Catherwood made detailed sketches of this lost world to accompany a book that Stephens wrote, *Incidents of Travel in Central America, Chiapas and Yucatan*, which created an enormous interest in Mayan culture. Yet Stephens and Catherwood did not discover the Mayas, who are mentioned in early accounts of the Spanish explorers. A book by Jean Frederic Waldeck, covering the same material as Stephens' book, had appeared a year before Stephens' trip, but it aroused little interest, possibly because it was not detailed or well-illustrated.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS EXCEPTED

The IFFI 90, like all the earlier film festivals in India, had its share of red-tapism, mix-ups and chaos. But, says **Saibal Chatterjee**, despite it all there is a great need for the annual feasts



***Venus Trap* by Robert van Ackeren (FRG)**

The success that the first-ever international film festival of India, held in Calcutta in 1952, achieved in terms of the popular excitement it generated and the far-reaching influence it exercised on the creative faculties of aspiring directors at home has remained unsurpassed to this day. The sellout event, in the course of which over 50 feature films—mostly Italian and Japanese—were screened, left an indelible mark on the future course of Indian cinema. Within four years of the festival, Satyajit Ray created *Pather Panchali*. In 1958, Ritwik Ghatak made *Ajantrik*. Filmmaking in India was never the same again.

Twenty more international festivals have been held in the country since 1952, but the ready tempo infused by the works of Ray and Ghatak in the fifties and sixties has not quite transformed itself into an overall improvement in the tastes of the audience and in the quality of mainstream cinema. An alarmingly large percentage of the 800-odd films churned out annually by the world's largest film-producing nation flirts outrageously with bad taste and wallows unabashedly in unmitigated mediocrity.

The 1982 film festival in Calcutta, like

the first one, was a roaring commercial success if only to a large extent for the wrong reasons—but the practitioners of the cinematic craft in Tollygunge learnt absolutely nothing They saw the films, ruminated awhile over the emerging trends in world cinema, went into raptures and, quite characteristically chose to forget everything once the hurly burly was over There is no reason, therefore, to believe that the just concluded International Film Festival of India '90 will rejuvenate the spirit of experimentation and non conformism that Satyajit Ray introduced in the mid fifties

However, that is not to say that festivals no longer serve any constructive purpose Ask any genuine filmlover or a filmmaker committed to his craft and chances are that in each one of them you will find a staunch defender of the festival culture To them, a film festival is much more than a mere event It is an exciting window to the world, an opportunity to sample some of the best films made around the globe 'The experience of meeting filmmakers from various parts of the world in a free, relaxed atmosphere of being exposed to the cinema of a country like India and of assimilating the atmosphere is, to say the least exhilarating" said Ms Muriel Peters an American producer who was in Calcutta during the festival with a delegation of US women directors Ms Peters, incidentally, is a member of the Indo US sub commission on culture and education

"A film festival holds special meaning for me I do not agree with the view that it encourages unhealthy competition among Indian filmmakers for a place in the Panorama," said Buddhadeb Dasgupta whose film, *Bagh Bahadur*, was the highlight of the prestigious section this year "A festival gives me an appreciative audience for my own work, besides allowing me to see films made around the world and inspiring an urge for self assessment," he added

That is precisely what makes the IFFI so essential for the growth of good cinema If there are people who still believe that a festival is a waste of time and money it can only be more a result of one's ignorance than of the actual shortcomings that show up ever so often during the conduct of a festival Admittedly, as far as mismanagement and slip ups are concerned, the recent Calcutta festival was a disgraceful abomination Daily passes were distributed at the main venue, Nandan, with complete disregard for the





A poster of and a still from *Absences* by George Katakouzinos (Greece)



Alokе Mitra

Chaos at the inauguration

available capacity, as a result of which there were near stampedes at the gates at the beginning of several shows The projection was often as bad as some of the prints Show timings were changed and films were cancelled or rescheduled on many occasions without so much as a warning The list is virtually endless

Be that as it may, the above average fare available to the filmlover made the festival as exciting as ever By no argument can it be said that the festival was an exercise in futility No event where you get to see the latest films of directors like Krzysztof Zanussi, Miklos Jansco, Vera Chytilova, Paul Cox and Peter Greenaway, among many others, besides rewarding retrospectives can ever be dismissed as having been a washout

The Indian Panorama has always been the showpiece of the IFFI It is this section, which presents the best of Indian cinema, that makes the Indian festival worth a visit for influential western critics and directors of many of the major international film festivals Said Guglielmo Biraghi, director of the Venice festival, "I have come here exclusively for the Indian Panorama It is my guide to what is happening in Indian cinema today It enables me to select films for the Venice festival"

Mrinal Sen, whose ready wit and easy conviviality makes him one of the most popular figures on the festival circuit not just in India but also abroad felt that without the incentive of the possibility of selection for the competition section of a major film festival abroad, survival would have been impossible for uncompromising directors like him. He admitted with disarming candour, "My films are now meant only for the festivals abroad" Considering the lack of interest on the part of the Indian distributors and the financial and critical gains attendant on participation in a foreign festival, no one should have any quarrel with Mr Sen's attitude

Of late, there has been a disconcerting

tendency towards a devaluation of the Indian Panorama The lackadaisical attitude of the directorate of film festivals is evidenced by the careless scheduling of the Indian films and the unimaginative choice of auditoria "Indian Panorama films are nowadays often clubbed with either the Cinema of the World entries or with the retrospective films, which results in confusion for the foreign delegates," lamented filmmaker Saikat Bhattacharya "There was a time not long ago when all Panorama films used to be screened after 3 pm in a separate auditorium, lending them the prestige they deserved Today, you'd be lucky not to miss most of the Panorama entries unless you keep close track of the schedule," he argued

At an Open Forum discussion held during the festival, many of the foreign festival directors expressed surprise that the Indian festival is organised by a government department which has to attend to many duties other than its principal one Said the irrepressible Fee Valliant, director of the Mannheim film festival, The event in Mannheim is completely autonomous I am absolutely free to select my films There is never any pressure on me to opt for this film or reject that "

Mrinal Sen confessed that the Indian festival is still far short of the high organisational and artistic standards set by Venice, Berlin or Cannes The chief reason for that is the inadequacy of the promotional aspect of the festival A screening in India rarely helps increase the marketability of a foreign film quite in the manner that it does in Venice or Cannes,' he pointed out It was with a view to surmounting this problem that the decision to do away with the competition section was taken Though there is a feeling in certain quarters, perhaps justifiably, that the scrapping of the competition section has dealt a severe blow to the prestige of the Indian film festival, the decision has certainly led to better films being screened The wisdom of the decision to invite films that have won awards at major film festivals cannot, therefore, be questioned

The stumbling block lies elsewhere No cultural event that is totally in the hands of bureaucrats can steer clear of red-tapism and controversies "The festival belongs to the committed filmmaker and it should be handed over to his ilk," said a young documentary maker, who was eagerly looking forward to the Bombay international festival for documentary and short films, but could not hide his reservations about the efficacy of the festival if it was organised by the Films Division, a government organisation

The chaos and the controversies that have become part of the Indian film festivals have led to a growing demand for the need to give each major film producing city in India a festival of its own If such a festival is granted full autonomy and is organised by the industry in the city concerned, it would be able to develop a character exclusively its own The Calcutta event would then be different from the one in Bombay, and that would add to the excitement

Among the many other benefits that would accrue from such separate festivals would be a considerable decrease in organisational hitches that are brought about by the unwieldy magnitude of the existing festival

According to Derek Malcolm film critic of *The Guardian*, it would be a good idea to introduce an exclusive section of Asian films He feels that such a move would provide a showcase for Asian cinema and enhance the prestige of the festival But can one expect a directorate that is a prisoner of bureacratic tangles to take risks? The director of festivals, Mrs Urmila Gupta, pleads inability to turn the fortunes of the festival around overnight 'I am a lowly government official who has to follow rules and regulations I really cannot do anything of my own accord," she said

A source in the directorate said that the organisers were never left with enough time to mount a blemishless festival because they spent almost the entire year supervising the screenings of foreign and Indian film packages in different cities of the country "This year, it was not until the first week of November that we got down to work in right earnest," he said Contrast this with the system that prevails at the major festivals and you will know why the Indian festival is gasping for breath Said Ms Vallhant, director of the Mannheim festival, "As soon as our festival ends, the entire staff goes on leave for a week And the moment they return, preparations begin for the next festival " That, perhaps, tells the whole story ■



Large doses of sex scenes are part of festival attraction

When the roar of the lions and tigers reveberate through the night, you know the circus has come to town Their call still conjures up some of the magic remembered from childhood



Behind the glitter and magic of the circus lies another world which we rarely get to see Routine in the circus means bathing the elephants training the lions and tigers It means practising the tight rope for the acrobats and for the clowns constant invention of new pranks gags and exciting items to amuse or titillate the crowds which grow more and more demanding as other forms of entertainment such as the television spread their tentacles Danger and tension become constant companions

Some like the life some don t Renuka a tightrope walker from Assam married to ringmaster Ravi says Sometimes we feel this is like hell We have to play with fire literally all the time Ravi shows his arms and legs full of bruises and says 'These are the nailmarks of my tigers If you force them to perform when they don't want to you have to face the music

Baby is in charge of the unmarried girls and children She shoulders five girls in the ring as they perform and more outside it She says, "The circus is my life I would like to die a performer It is not only entertainment it is a form of worship, the worship of excellence '

M V Velayudhan, a clown, can beat any of the performers at their own game even at age 60 He excels in all the items performed on stage He took part in *Mera Naam Joker* and still possesses the letter that Raj Kapoor gave him to mail to his family if any accident occured while shooting the tightrope sequences 'To make people laugh is our business', he says We have to come up with pranks to bring smiles to the gravest of faces ' Many of the jokers are dwarves They are allowed no place in society It is a cruel fact that these midgets are able to make people laugh by virtue of their size or their lack of it But at the same time, at least in the circus, they have somewhere they can earn their livelihood and command a place in society

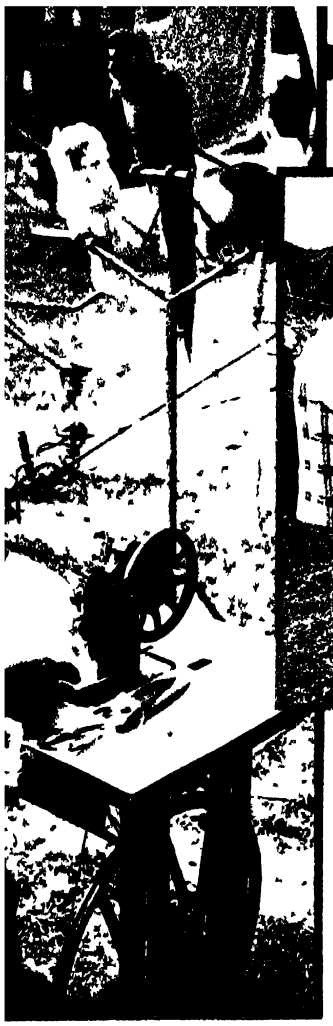
Cyclist Priya is concerned about her child s welfare and looks forward to the day when she will be able to send her child to a residential school so that she will not have to risk her life to earn her daily bread

Rabindra Rajita Parvati Nani Chheru Anandan and Balakrishnan are very young children They have to perform at the arena everyday Their parents left them with the manager of the circus pocketed the money and went home There are no facilities for schooling the children They



JOKES APA





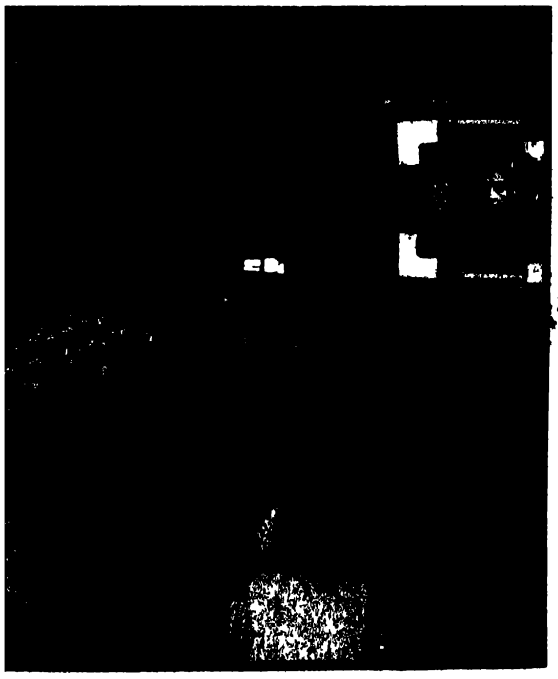


are trapped because the circus is all they have and the tricks they are taught are all they know When they grow up most of them have little choice but to remain in the business

Holiday is an unfamiliar word to most circus people They are few and far between afforded only when travelling from one place to the other There is little free time for recreation From morning till night there is something that must be done The troupe has to make the circus viable and the only way to make it viable is to work constantly The circus should be recognised as a proper industry and banks loans should be granted to us says the owner of a circus troupe ■

A circus has unfailing entertainment value. But rarely do we get to see life beyond the roaring laughter and the greasepaint. Lensman **Dilip Banerjee** provides a glimpse

RT





WAITING FOR SHIVA

Salman Rashid visits the mysterious temple of Malot for our series on Hindu places of worship in Pakistan



The temple of Malot framed by the roofless gateway. Lonely and forsaken

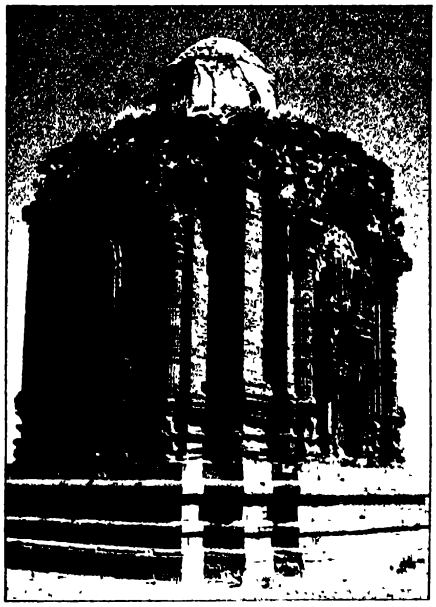
Twenty three km from Choa Saidan Shah on the highroad to Kallar Kahar, a black top road takes off to the south at the village of Chak Khushi. On this branch road, turning left at the fork just over three km from the village, I motorcycled through lovely rolling hills where the millet had still not been harvested and the usually barren slopes wore the post-monsoon veneer of green. Another 10 km and 15 minutes later I was outside the hilltop village of Malot.

It is believed that the village was founded about 600 years back by a Junjua Rajput, Raja Mal, who built a fort and named it after himself. Of the fort of Raja Mal all that remains is a solitary semi-circular turret, a single gateway and a portion of the crenellated wall. But long before Raja Mal's time, the Hindu Shahiya rulers of the Salt Range built a temple consecrated to Lord Shiva in this village. The temple is, without a doubt, among the finest structures that were ever built in Punjab, an excellent amalgam of the Kashmirian and Greco Roman styles of temple architecture.

Constructed as blocks of porous red sandstone the only two buildings that remain today can be seen beyond the village, at the southern edge of the spur where it falls precipitously to rocky, barren ground which in turn gives way, far in the misty distance, to the canal slaked farmlands of central Punjab. The main temple of square plan is built on a high plinth of gray sandstone with a trefoil arched entrance facing east towards a detatched roofless building that Alexander Cunningham, the archeologist, identified as a gateway



The southern facade of the temple





The temple as seen from the south west and south east : One of the finest structures in Punjab

The entrance is flanked by semi-circular fluted pillars springing from stylised bases and ending in Doric capitals above which must have risen a trefoil arch ending in the semi circular drum of the porch which has caved in years back. The square interior is absolutely plain with no indication of any sculpture or image, but Cunningham writes of having been told that a *lingam* was once enshrined in the centre of the room. This he believes to be true for "this form of temple in Kashmir would seem to have been peculiar to the Brahmanical worship of Mahadeva."

The three outside walls of the temple are its most exquisite aspect for they are profusely covered with elaborate carvings, of which the pillars are the most striking. They can best be described in the words of Cunningham: "The shafts of the large pilasters have 12 flutes in the semi-circle. The capitals are of true Kashmirian style of Doric, with the usual ornamented torus; but the spread of the cavetto or hollow moulding above it, is greater than any of the Kashmirian temples, which are more like the apophyges of the Greeks." Above these columns rise twin trefoiled arches.

Within the space enclosed by the large pilasters is an arrangement of smaller pilasters supporting an ornate cornice. The capitals of these smaller pillars are surmounted by figures that are clearly Brahmanical, though badly mutilated-more an act of nature than vandalism. Below the cornice is a trefoiled arch, while above is an arrangement of three miniature temples with ornate Shivite spires. Of these the one in the centre reaches almost to the top of the arch.

The pyramidal spire or *sakhara* of the temple itself fell so long back that even its debris have disappeared. On the roof can now be seen an ugly brick and mortar protruberance that was added by the Sikhs to serve as a lookout sometime after 1810 when the adherents of Guru Nanak overran the Salt Range. The four outside corners of the building are recessed with massive square columns in the recesses, and the overall aspect of the building is so impressive that Cunningham found its general effect "strikingly bold and picturesque".

About 17 metres to the east is the roofless hulk that Cunningham called the "gateway". It has massive walls and a plain exterior but both the north and south walls of the interior are richly decorated with square and round pillars, trefoiled arches and minature temples above ornate cornices.

The villagers, all Muslims, rarely, if ever, visit the temple of Malot and standing lonely and forsaken on the wind blown crest of the spur it has acquired an aura of inviolate mystery. Local legend connects it to the Kauravas and Pandavas of the Mahabharata, but in fact it was built much later; sometime early in the ninth century AD when the Salt Range was ruled by the Hindu Shahiya rulers from their capital at Waihind.

Apart from this surmise based on architectural style, nothing is known of the mysterious temple of Malot or of the kings and priests who ordered its construction to appease Shiva the Destroyer.■

7 DAYS



Vishma, Subhendu, Mamata, Soumitra and Ruma in Ray's *Ganashatru*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aag Ka Gola** Opera (Lenin Sarani 281849) 4 shows

Directed by David Dhawan and with music by Bappi Lahiri the film stars Sunny Deol Dimple Kapadia Shakti Kapoor Raza Murad and Prem Chopra

• **Chandni** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442) 12 3.15 6.30

A film by Yash Chopra starring Sridevi Rishi Kapoor and Vinod Khanna The music is by Shiv Hari

• **Maha Sangram** Orient (Bentinck Street 28191) Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) Krishna (J C Dutta Street 250433) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 550433) Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 865108) Rajani (Beliaghata Main Road 863264)

Directed by Mukul S Anand and with music by Anand Milind the chief attractions are Vinod Khanna Govinda Madhuri Dixit Aditya Pancholi and Shakti Kapoor

• **Maine Pyar Kiya** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 211383) 10.45 2.15 5.30 8.45

Salman Khan and Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Ram Laxman

• **Pyar Ke Naam Qurban** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani 241132) 4 shows

Mithun Chakraborty and Dimple Kapadia are the lead pair in this B Subhash film The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Rihaee (A)** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue 272473)—4 shows Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 478808) Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515)—all noon show

A film by Aruna Raahe starring Vinod Khanna Hema Malini and Naseeruddin Shah The music is by Sharing Dev

• **Souten Ki Beti** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138) 4 shows

Jeetendra Rekha and Jaya Prada are the main attractions The film is directed by Sawan Kumar and the music is by Vedpaal

Bengali Films

• **Anuraag** Radha (Bidhan Sarani 553045) Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417) Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road 355059) Mini Jaya (Lake Town 573936) 3 shows

Tapas Paul Satabdi Roy Nayana Das Subhendu Chatterjee Anup Kumar and Ruma Guhathakurta comprise the cast of this film directed by Jahar Biswas and music by Usha Khanna

• **Ganashatru** Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 551133) Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 271282) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 478808) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 391090)—3 shows

A film by Satyajit Ray whose cast includes Soumitra Chatterjee Deepankar De Dhritiman Chatterjee Subhendu Chatterjee Vishma Guha Thakurta Mamata Shankar and Ruma Guhathakurta

• **Manasi** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani 558080) Purna (S P Mukherjee Road 474567) 3 shows

Directed by Anjan Mukherjee and with music by Asit Ganguly the cast includes Tapas Paul Sanchita Madhabi Soumitra Rupa Ganguly and Arjun Chakraborty

• **Qaidi** Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road 350680) Ujjala (Russa Road 478666) 3 shows

Directed by Tony Juneja and with music by Annu Malik the lead stars are Biswajeet Abhisek Chatterjee Kiran Juneja Utpal Dutt and Om Puri

• **Swarna Trisha** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani 553413) Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road 359561) Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road 474686) 1 4 7

Directed by Mangal Chakraborty and with music by Salil Chowdhury the film stars Mithun Chakraborty and Japanese actress Hisako Kato Also in the cast are Abhi Bhattacharya Pradeep Kumar Prem Chopra Jayashree T and Yogeeta Bali

Satabdi Roy and Tapas Paul in *Anuraag*



NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Awaargi (A):** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666).

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Anil Kapoor, Govinda and Meenakshi Seshadri. The music is by Annu Malik.

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437).

Special Events

28 January: 6 pm

The concluding evening of Prayas Kala Kunj's *Natyotsav 90* features the Hindi play, *Chor Ke Ghar Mor* (direction. Mohan Tiwari).

At Kala Mandir (B) (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

28 January onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Parag Adhikari and others in the West Gallery.

• Pradosh Paul will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

• Solar Artists Circle will hold its week-long exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

• An exhibition of Dagwar Dasgupta's paintings, organised by Max Mueller Bhavan till February 5, in the Central Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

28 January onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm (except Mondays)

An exhibition of water colour by Biren De till February 24.

At Galarie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

28 January: 2.30 pm & 6.30 pm: 29 & 31 January: 6.30 pm.

ICCR and Gitee Apsara present the Great Chinese Show of acrobatic feats.

At Netaji Indoor Stadium.

30 January: 7 pm; 31 January: 11 am

ICCR and British Deputy High Commission British Council Division present Pan Project, London's *Shakti* (the power of women), chorsographed and performed by Mallika Sarabhai. Direction: John Martin.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Queen Park).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325; Dep. (2): JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (3): RA-214 at 1050, Dep. (5): RA-214 at 1650, Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740; Arr. (1): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (3): RA-213 at 0950, Arr. (5): RA-213 at 1550, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1640.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (4): IC-443 at 0830; Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110; Dep. (4): IC-444 at 1150.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730, Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1410, Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1610, Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1445; Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1705.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1200, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2210.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0900 and IC-273 at 1920; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0810 and IC-274 at 1830.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1715; Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (daily): IC-771 at 0705; Arr. (daily): IC-772 at 1240.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily): IC-205 at 1330; Arr. (daily): IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1630.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-542 at 0555; Arr. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-541 at 1225.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2045.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 1840.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-703 at 0805 and IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-704 at 0855 and IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-219 at 0805 and Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-220 at 1045 and Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1650.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1710.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0900.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1010.

Silchar-Imphal-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-259 at 0730; Arr. (daily): IC-260 at 0900.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 0825.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-741 at 0945 and IC-743 at 1300, Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-243 at 0610; Arr. (daily): IC-742 at 1205 and IC-744 at 1520, Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-244 at 1030.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0630.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

RE-SCHEDULING OF FLIGHTS

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. However, Indian Airlines was following a partial emergency schedule when we went to press. Passengers may contact 264433, 263135, 269909, 263902, 569433, 204433, 569611 (Ext. 314) for assistance.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

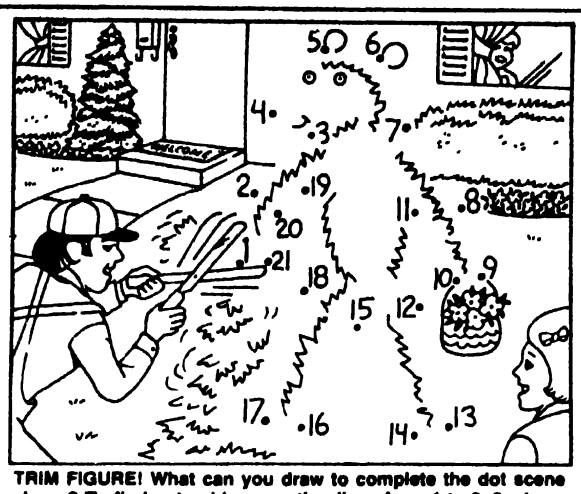
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri —Mon, Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp. Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	Madras Mail	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	Ahmedabad Express	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	Coromondal (Madras) Express	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	Ispat Express	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	Sambalpur Express	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14 45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



TRIM FIGURE! What can you draw to complete the dot scene above? To find out, add connecting lines from 1 to 2, 3, etc.

• AGE GAP! In three years, Adam will be three times as old as he was three years ago. How old is he now? You're supposed to reply in a minute.

He is six years old at present.

1. T
2. X X
3. X X X
4. X X X X
5. X X X X X
6. X X X X X X
7. X X X X X X X

ADD-A-LETTER STEPWORDS! Add one letter in each step, rearranging letters as necessary, to form a pyramid of words with the letter T on top, according to the following definitions:

1. 1. To a—(letter T, already in place).
2. Short foot (abbr.)
3. Diet concern.
4. Ultimate end.
5. Subsequent to.
6. White water navigator.
7. More distant.

Remember, each word in the pyramid is one letter longer than its predecessor.

1 T 2 Ft 3 Fat 4 Fate 5 After 6 Rafter 7 Farther

• **SUM LUCK! So you would like a lucky charm to fend off evil spirits, eh? Some of the oldest of such devices involve the numbers 1-9, below.**

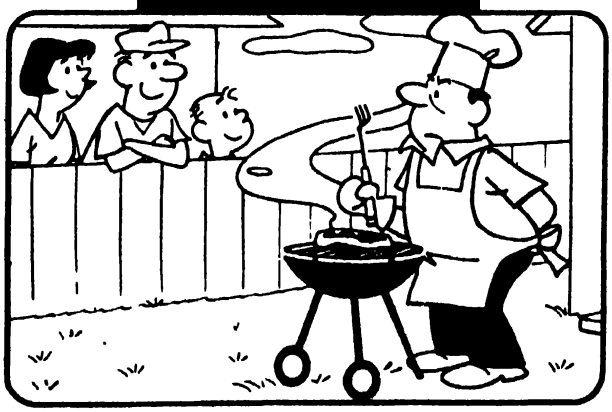
Simply arrange these digits to form a magic square totalling 15 in all directions—across, down and diagonally. One possibility is given below.

Top row 492, middle row 357 bottom row 168, via do it.

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

HOCUS-FOCUS

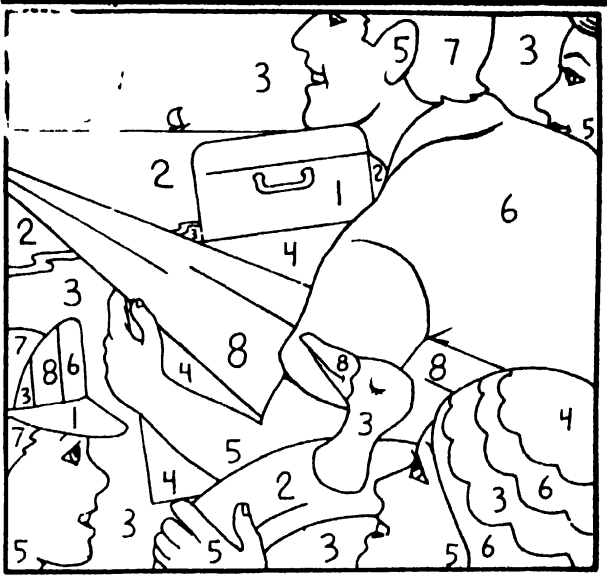




CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences 1 Fence top is different 2 Charcoal is missing 3 Cloud is different 4 Sleak is smaller 5 Fork is smaller & Apron is different

FUNSPOT



SEA GOING! We're here — find a spot, raise the umbrella, on with the fun! Colors. 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. purple. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Orange.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

ARGUMENT

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Turn game

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Friends wellwishers, lovers, sweethearts, superiors and colleagues will all pitch in for you. Expect a terrific bout of love and laughter. Romance and socialising will whittle away your bank balance, but it will be worth it. Health will not be a problem if you keep regular dietary habits. Travel is fated specially the first four days.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

You will be working with a will and purpose. Expect happy results by March latest. You will find the time to give gifts and receive smiles. Your hard work and patience will be rewarded. As long as you do not overeat or drink too much all will be well.Travel for work and pleasure is strongly indicated. You will find the time for giving your house a facelift and talking to your children

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Journeys, happiness, legacies, loans and some extra cash will come in. Think twice before you give your heart as he or she may not be loyal. Financially, all will be well. Investments will be made Yeu health will take a turn for the better. But elders and relatives need your help. A transfer or shift or a journey is probable.

CANCER

June 21—July 20

You must safeguard your health. But wealth and happiness will be yours. Your sweet heart or mate will act difficult. But you will finally get what you want. Investments, buying, selling, loans and funds are highlighted. Travel for work or personal reasons is an important feature of February and March. The home needs touching up, installation of gadgetry, or a fresh coat of paint.

LEO

July 21—August 21

Health, job and partnerships are the trio which could cause you some anxiety. Romance and passion are also paradoxically destined for you Financial pressures are indicated as promises might not be kept by others. In matters of health, a medical check-up is advisable. Travel is a strong feature in February. Home conditions may be topsy-turvy. Health of parents will cause concern.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

You will put in a tremendous effort and reap rich rewards but your health needs care You will work and play hard Your efforts will be appreciated though colleagues and subordinates will be jealous A little extra care or health will help you. You will be shifting, commuting or thinking of long distance connections. Your creativity will be truly remarkable. Children will give delight.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Romance, children and property will give tremendous joy But the health of elders causes anxiety. Romance is in the offing. You will have the money to buy, sell or invest. Slight emotional or physical upsets should be taken in your stride It will be travel time in February and April Children will be the joy of your life. Property matters are highlighted.

BIRTHDAYS

February 1

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

A home away from home, renovation and decoration, buying and selling and an important journey await you in February. In romance expect highs and lows. Important financial transactions are indicated in February. You will have a lot of tension this week, therefore, relaxation and rest are absolutely necessary. The home front will be highlighted. Children will give satisfaction.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

News, views, messages, correspondence, travel and communication will be highlighted. You will love and be adored Expect a good amount of money before the end of March. This trend starts now. Health improves and therefore you will be able to work better.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

You will wine and dine, go for business deals and expansion. Romance will hum in your heart. Buying, selling, investments, renovations and decoration are the highlights of the month On the health front you will not have any major problem Unless absolutely essential for business reasons, there is no need to travel. Home conditions will demand attention.

AQUARIUS

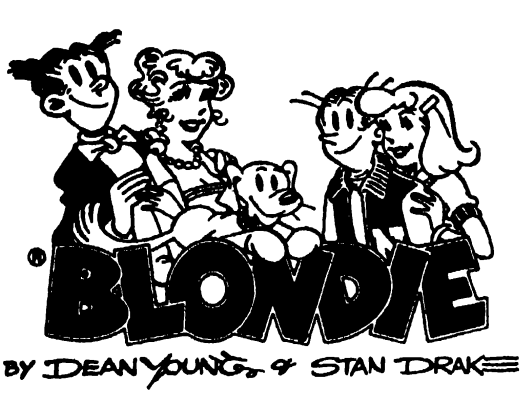
Jan 20—Feb 18

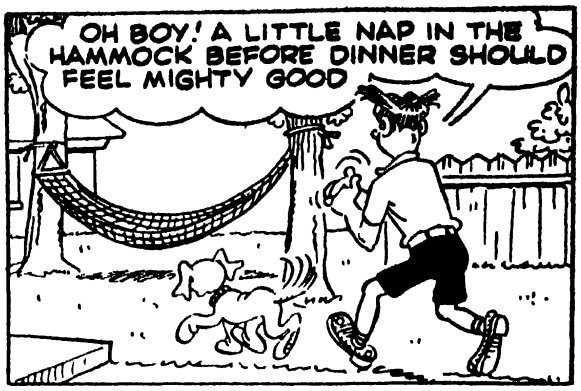
The new moon in your sign will make you dynamic,active and extremely determined. This in turn will help you to succeed. The conditions and the setting are ideal for romance Once again expenses will skyrocket. But you will earn a good deal now. Minor health problems are possible. You dear ones could be hospitalised You will have to travel midweek.

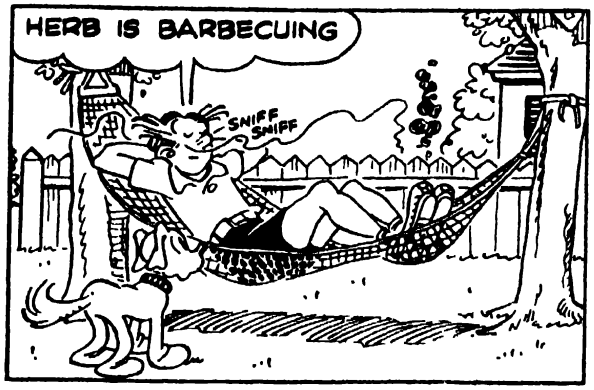
PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

You will be quite introspective. Travel will become one of the main trends now. Health could pose to be a bit of a problem. Secret affairs as well as open ties are the hallmark of this week. You will earn mbney from more than one source and thus meet your financial commitments. You will pull through splendidly health wise, provided you don't overeat. February and March will highlight travel. Children, home and travel will keep you busy..



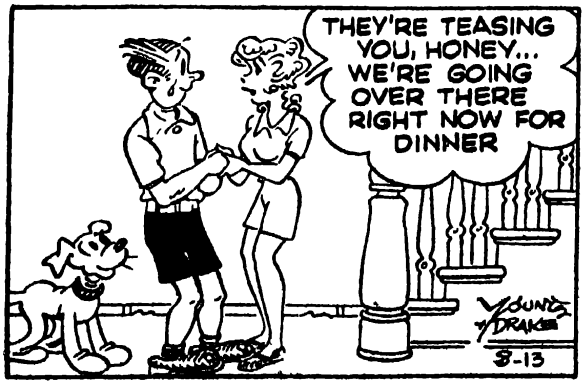






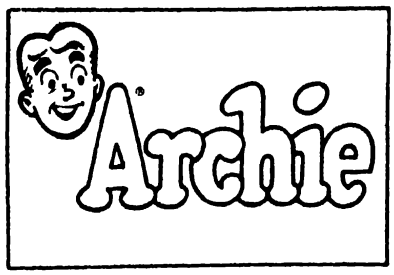






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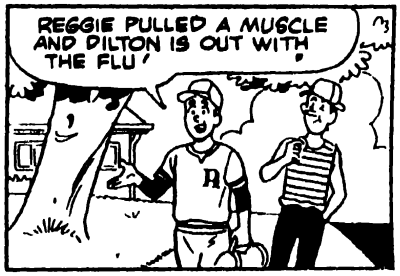

Archie

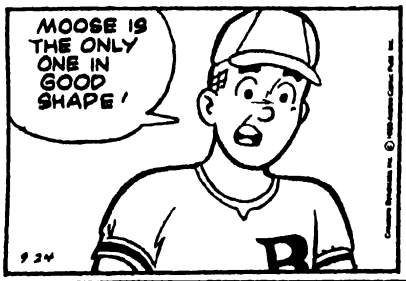

NOTHING I LIKE BETTER THAN A GOOD GAME OF SOFTBALL!
ME, TOO!


SO LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
DALE


OUR SOFTBALL TEAM IS A MESS!
HOT D

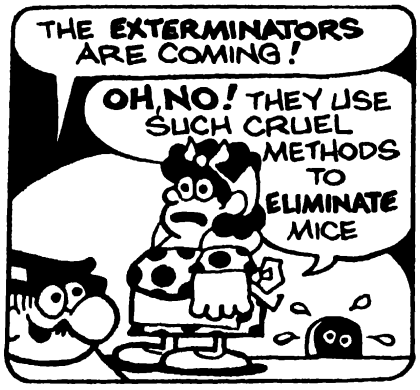

YOU HURT YOUR WRIST, CHUCK SPRAINED HIS ANKLE!

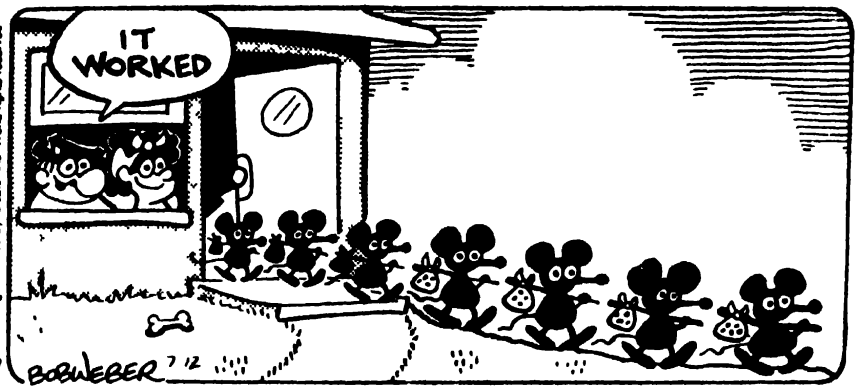

REGGIE PULLED A MUSCLE AND DILTON IS OUT WITH THE FLU!

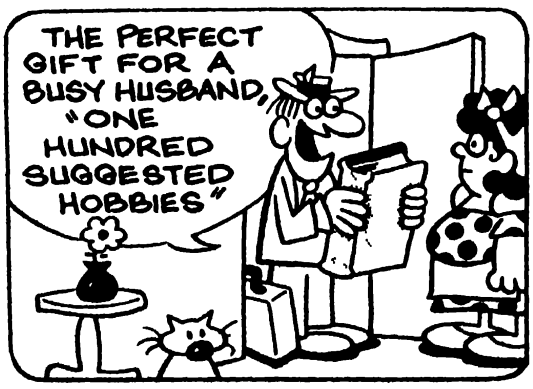

MOOSE IS THE ONLY ONE IN GOOD SHAPE!

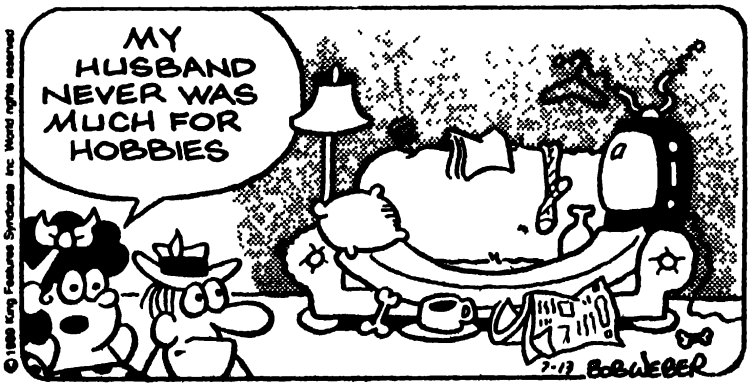

WHAT SHOULD I DO? AS CAPTAIN, I'VE GOT TO UNIFY THE TEAM!


GET RID OF MOOSE!


THE EXTERMINATORS ARE COMING!
OH, NO! THEY USE SUCH CRUEL METHODS TO ELIMINATE MICE


IT WORKED
BOBWEBER 7/12

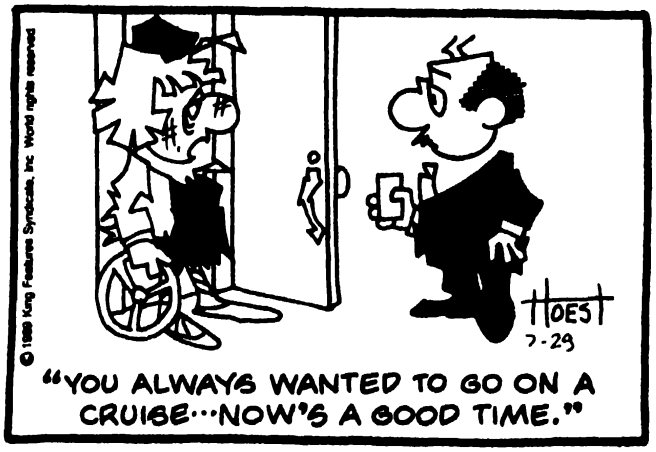

THE PERFECT GIFT FOR A BUSY HUSBAND, "ONE HUNDRED SUGGESTED HOBBIES"

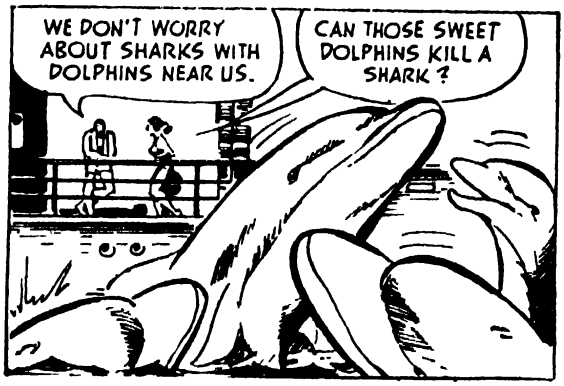

MY HUSBAND NEVER WAS MUCH FOR HOBBIES
7-13 BOBWEBER

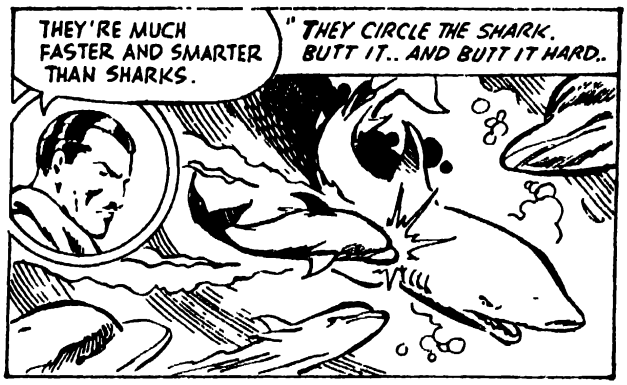

HOEST
7-26
"HE'S NEVER LEARNED HOW NOT TO RELAX."

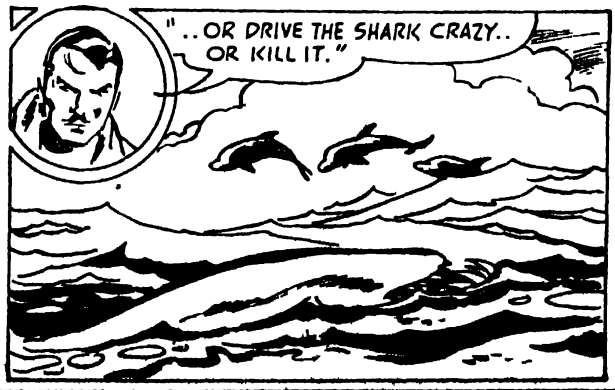

HOEST
7-27
"YES, AT OUR WEDDING, ALL OUR FRIENDS CONGRATULATED ME.... AND SEVERAL THANKED ME."

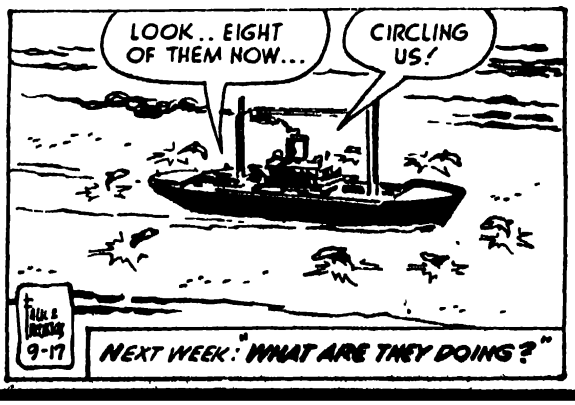

HOEST
7-28
"LORETTA LOVES MY NEW AFTER-SHAVE LOTION. IT SMELLS JUST LIKE A CREDIT CARD."


HOEST
7-29
"YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO GO ON A CRUISE...NOW'S A GOOD TIME."


WE DON'T WORRY ABOUT SHARKS WITH DOLPHINS NEAR US.
CAN THOSE SWEET DOLPHINS KILL A SHARK?


THEY'RE MUCH FASTER AND SMARTER THAN SHARKS.
"THEY CIRCLE THE SHARK. BUTT IT.. AND BUTT IT HARD.


"..OR DRIVE THE SHARK CRAZY.. OR KILL IT."

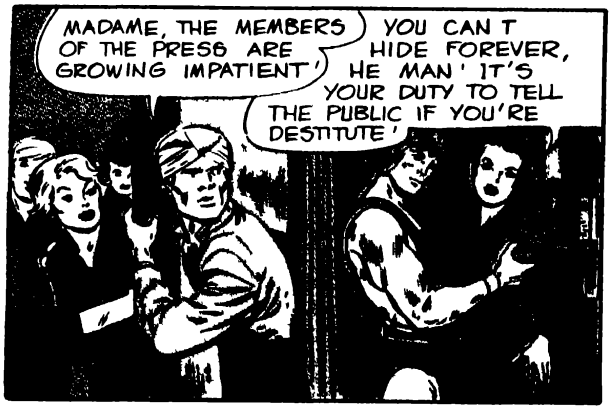

LOOK.. EIGHT OF THEM NOW...
CIRCLING US!
9-17
NEXT WEEK: "WHAT ARE THEY DOING?"


IT'LL TAKE A SMART SABOTEUR TO GET PAST ME!
YESSIR! ONE STEP AHEAD — THAT'S ME! HE'D HAVE TO BE UP EARLY TO SLITHER PAST ME! YESSIR!
I'D LIKE TO SEE ONE TRY TO GET PAST ME, HAWKEYE!
BEAU! D'YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS ROPE?
WELL DONE!
WHILE YOU TWO WERE ON DUTY, SABOTEURS SET FIRE TO THE SUPPLY ROOM!
OH, NO!
WHISPER
ER... BEHIND THE POTATOES, THERE WERE SOME... ER... MAGAZINES. DO YOU KNOW IF THE... ER... FIRE... ER...
YOU TWO WILL LEARN DISCIPLINE IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!
JUST A MINUTE THERE, SERGEANT!
YES?
COULD YOU SCRATCH MY NOSE, PLEASE?
I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE SOMETHING BEGINNING WITH 'S'
DENNIS, WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE! IT'S EITHER SAND OR SKY!
NOT THIS TIME IT ISN'T.
SHOO! SHOO! GO AND SEE BEAU!
BLOW ON IT! BLOW IT AWAY!
PHOO!
I HOPE, FOR YOUR SAKE, YOU HAVEN'T UPSET IT

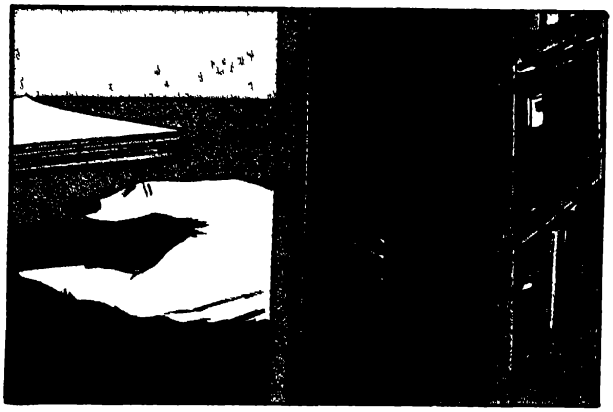
The previous six episodes appeared in Friday's edition of The Telegraph

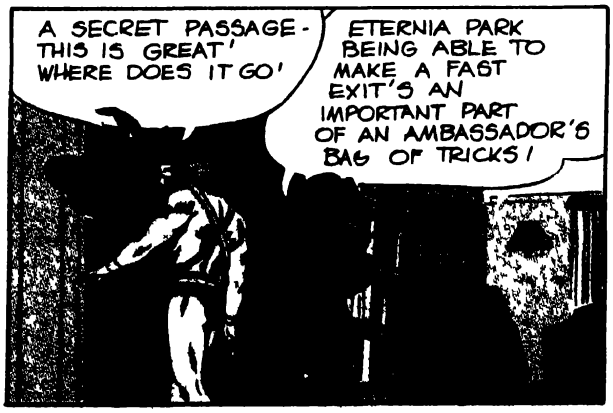






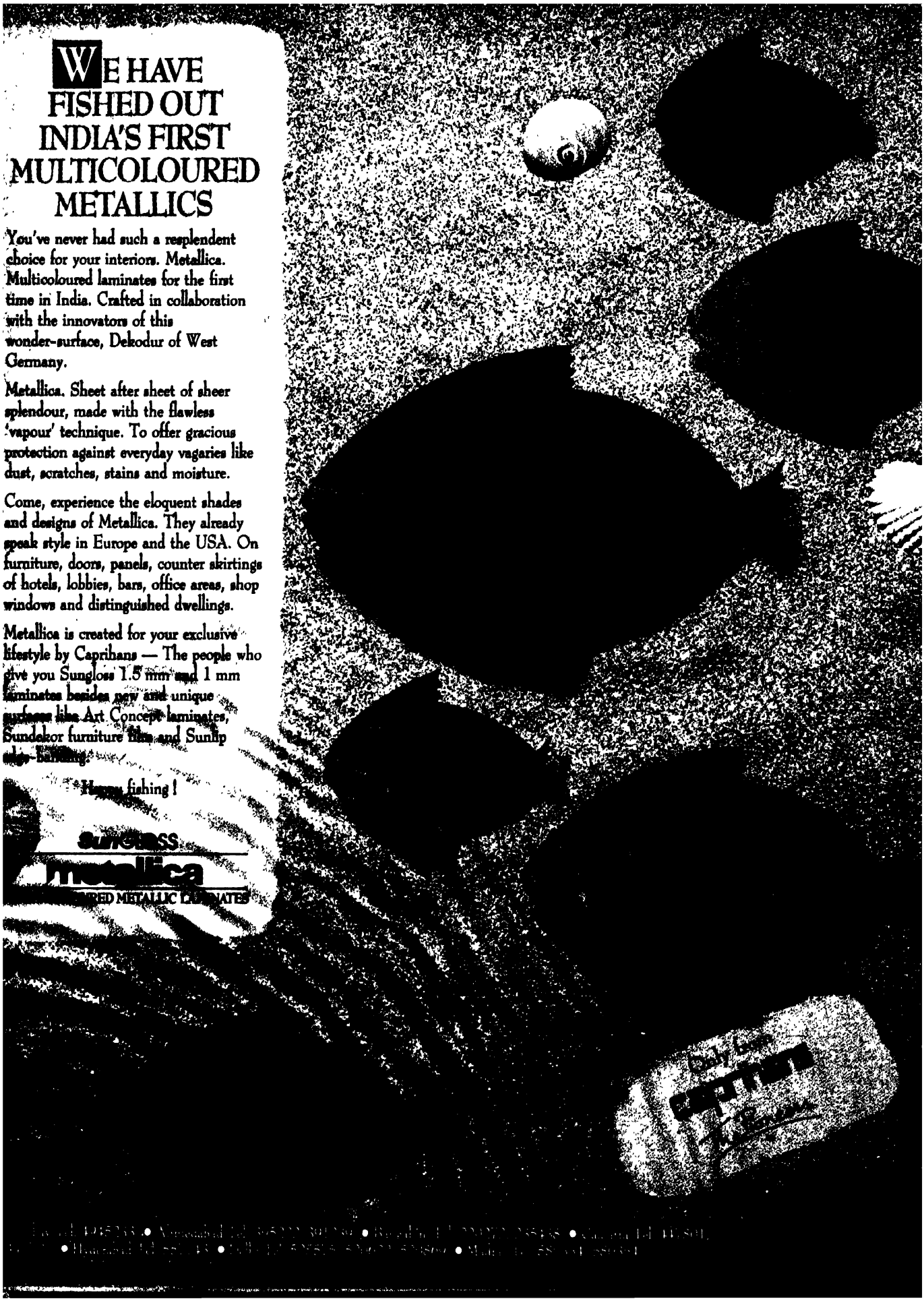






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METALLIC LAMINATES

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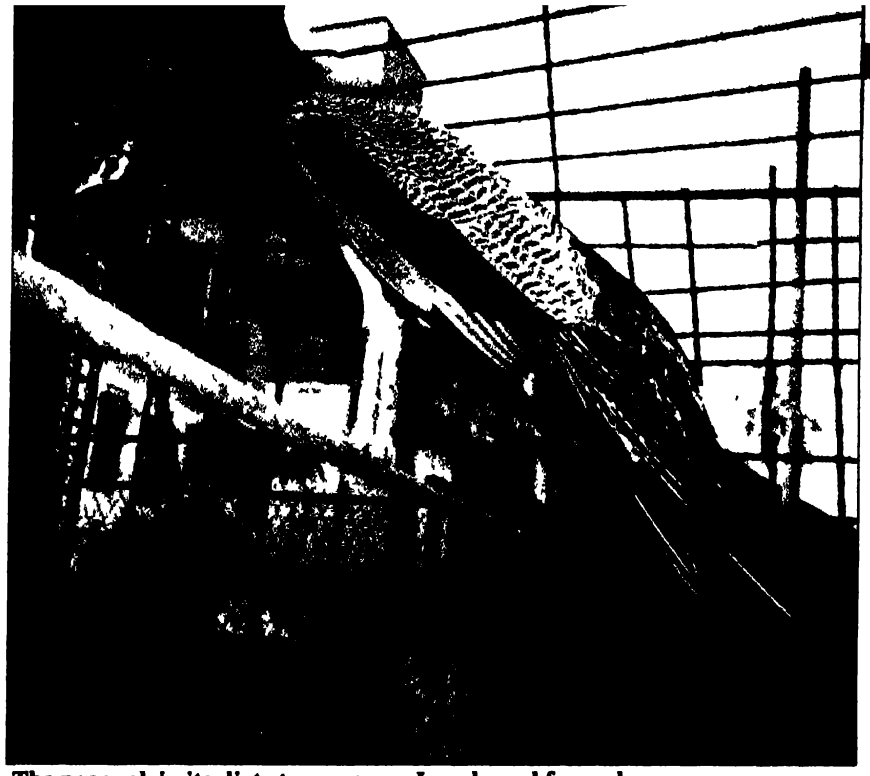
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ZOO

Trapped in the heart of the city, languish a few animals

Madhavi Irani writes about their wretched existence



The peacock in its dirt strewn cage: Lonely and foresaken

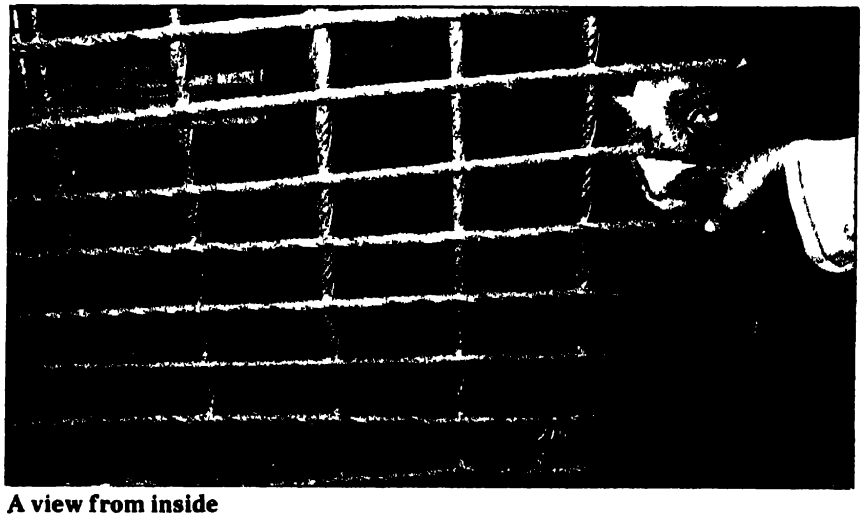
Twenty-nine Rashbehari Avenue seems an unlikely place for a zoo. Especially, if one considers the stinking garbage dump, smoke-filled tea stall and antisocial-infested park that form the other landmarks of the area. And yet, a bear, some monkeys, a bedraggled peacock, some exotic birds, a tortoise, rabbits and assorted fish have the misfortune of being part of the miserable menagerie on display.

Indignant locals, environment department officials and even government spokesmen notwithstanding, the "zoo" continues to thrive, as it has for the past 16 years, with temporary disruption in 1980 when some "*para mastans* demolished the enclosures after a dispute over a murder," according to Subhas Saha, advisor to the Malancha Sishu Udayan, the committee which has formed the "mini zoo."

Sharmi Baba, the big, black bear, is the prime attraction. She came to her present home when she was "an 18-day-old cub," says Saha. Her birthday, December 26, is celebrated by "distributing sweets, toys and balloons to the local children. We decorate all the cages with lights that day," he adds.

Putul Mukherjee, president of the Udayan, sits in front of his sweatmeat shop in the vicinity. He says, "Sharmi loves Campa Cola. Whenever the truck visits the area, we pour two or three bottles into her mouth." Burly and unwavering, he refuses to acknowledge that any harm will come to the animals and birds if they remain in their concrete homes instead of the open wilds.

Sharmi, the bear: Forgotten instincts



A view from inside



What about the teeming traffic, the incessant horns and other city sounds? "The animals have become habituated to the noise just as we have," is his unflinching reply. And the smoke that regularly emanates from the tea stall adjoining the peacock's cage, or the stink of decomposing waste in the garbage dump? "The smoke rises up and doesn't enter the cage, and as for the smell, the animals are used to it," he says.

But his words belie the condition of the animals. The lone peacock sits forlornly in its unkempt cage, looking up at the barred patch of sky above with vacant eyes. The cage floor is littered with refuse, decomposing cabbage leaves, a stray rubber ball

STORY

which someone probably threw at it broken flower pots and bricks Even as one stands pitying its squalid home the sullen tea stall owner lights his *angeethi* Almost at once, a suffocating thick pall of smoke fills the air, stinging the eyes and nose and filling the peacock's cage Adhir Mukherjee, another Udayan member remarks 'This is a daily occurrence We have asked him to shift his stall but to no avail"

Putul Mukherjee adds with a sense of pride "Sharmi is so accustomed to us that even though she has escaped from her cage twice, she always runs back inside What perhaps he chooses not to comprehend is that the animal knows no better Her cage is about five ft by six ft with a 10 ft long narrow extension She spends her days swaying from one paw to the other and responding to cries of *Sharmi ri ri* Unsuspecting, she opens her cavernous mouth to anyone who extends a hand Yet while Putul Mukherjee claims She or my



Trapped

of the other animals will not eat anything other than what we give them If you give Sharmi a bad biscuit she will know instantly there are children like 10 year old Mona Sen who admits to putting whatever I find on the road into her mouth

The indifferent attitude of the people apart the zoo surrounding are no better The neighbouring Deer Park and Sharmal Park has massive grounds littered with the filth and waste of slum dwellers An open urinal and temple of sorts Aparna Mandal stand alongside the very entrance with hostile inhabitants going about their daily chores The one covered room in the park is filled with waste paper and says Adhikari This is a den of antisocials'

Surprisingly none of the Udayan members seem particularly concerned about the state of the animals Says Kalachakravarty a local CPI(M) leader We have approached Homi Bose MLA to help us clean up the area but he does not come here any more Adds Mukherjee dismissively, 'Local shopkeepers contribute something every month for their upkeep But the actual monkeys are those outside the cage The dump and park are the major eyesores

According to Adhikari the area was handed over by the Corporation to the Metro Railway when construction of the underground railway was in progress After completion the Metro authorities handed back the space with money to the corporation to rebuild the park and zoo The result people for themselves

Says Khokan Das a local youth There were four deer and four ducks when the zoo started in 1971 All the deer died and only one duck remains' A look at the monkeys cage is enough to convince one that the deceased dear escaped the easy way Locked into their little world by three sets of grills the monkeys are barely visible The rusted grills are encrusted with grime and dust and except for a perch, the cage resembles a garbage dump with wood shavings, discarded plastic bags and refuse littering the floor Their instinct to leap and jump seems almost dead and cries of "*aa aa*" elicit only a weak sway of a long, furry tail

As a senior official in the state environment department puts it, "The animals live in inhuman conditions The entire concept goes against the Wildlife Protection Act and environment ministry norms" Then how is it that a crime of this stature is perpetuated openly, with apparent official connivance? The official explains, "About seven years ago, when Prasanta Sur was minister of state for urban development, he encouraged pavement beautification programmes It was then that the locals in the area got official sanction for their temporary 'zoo' However, at present, there is no legal sanction for such enclosures" But if as he says, all such 'zoos' in the city have been disbanded, why has this one been allowed to continue?

Moni Sanyal, Calcutta's deputy mayor, while expressing personal sorrow at the plight of the animals, says nothing can be done for them officially—yet "From what I have seen when I pass the area, I am deeply saddened The animals live in inhuman conditions There have been numerous complaints, specially from the Animal Lovers' Society The matter has been taken up by the government and we will take action It is true that Prasanta Sur inaugurated the 'zoo' but is unfortunate that the enthusiasm that marked the project at its conception, is lacking today"

And while the rabbits languish in a cage perched 15 ft above the ground, covered with cobwebs, and the fish swim in turbid water, Calcutta's citizens debate their future ■



Unhealthy surroundings

PUBLISH AND BE DAMNED



Many of Sukumar Ray's best-lo

Bengali publishers have given the adage a new meaning, says Brinda Roy Choudhury, as yet another book fair moves into full swing

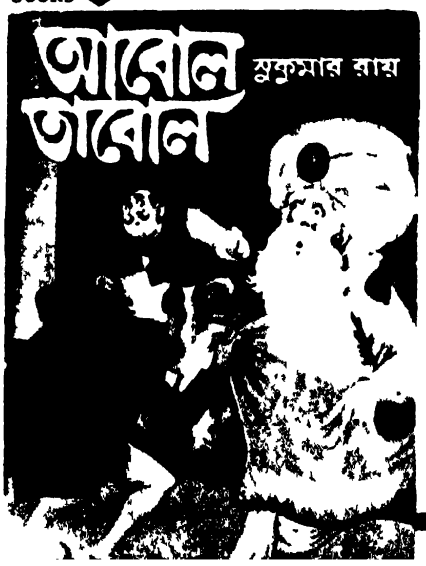
Sukumar Ray would have lost all his inspiration had he lived long enough to see recent publications of some of his sidesplittingly funny writings and illustrations Not only do books like *Kabita Samagra* look drab and boring but still worse distortions have begun creeping in His only consolation would have been that other literary giants have not been spared either Clearly publishing standards are on the decline

Bengali publishing has become solely confined to reprinting of old works And most publishers have become 'a business minded disorganised and unprofessional breed only interested in quick money says an insider Who is to blame for this? The publisher? Or is he only one of the factors responsible?

The many small publishers mushrooming in every nook and corner of College Row are investing in textbooks as they sell while general books do not Profit motive is their main motive comments Anil Acharya the editor of *Anushtup* There is another group—the more established publishers like M C Sarkar and Sons Mitra and Ghosh Ananda Publishers Dey's Signet Subarnarekha and Pushtak Bipani—who have limited their sphere of publishing

Ninety per cent of Ananda publications are novels and stories which have already appeared in Puja annuals or elsewhere—for instance stories by Abul Bashar Ashok Rudra Ananda Bagchi, comparatively new names but who have already gained some recognition We cannot introduce writers who have no standing for fear they won't sell' says Badal Basu, the manager of Ananda Publishers Mitra and Ghosh too is reprinting the works of renowned writers Gajendra Kumar Mitra, Niharranjan Gupta Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay and the like Signet Press is following in their footsteps while M C Sarkar is publishing only non fiction, and Pushtak Bipani essays

Covers of two Sukumar Ray books





Drab and uninspiring

Why is Bengali publishing in this deplorable state? Why do the miniature sketches of Kumropotash Hukomuko Hangla and Ramgarur in Sukumar Ray's *Kabita Samagra*, the drab cover and abysmal printing give you a feeling of great disappointment? Paucity of good writers and the high cost of paper are the factors responsible, claim the publishers We lost Ashutosh Mukhopadhyay Samaresh Basu Pramotho Bishi and Mustafa Ali But tell me who has replaced them? asks Bhanu Roy, the joint managing director of Mitra and Ghosh

The publishing world itself has some glaring shortcomings The Bengali publishing houses do not employ their own editors Many publishers come into this field when there is nothing better to do Anup Mahinder, the proprietor of Pushtak Bipani admits "I have been 13 years in the profession I joined after college with no experience

Paper cost has almost tripled in the past 10 years according to Badal Basu "What used to cost Rs 40 to print 16 pages now takes Rs 400 We do not want to compromise or standards but many small publishers do by bringing out Sukumar Ray in the way they have To make matters worse the authors of Bengali books demand a high 20 per cent royalty, whereas in the case of English books, which serve a wider market, this is seven to 10 per cent This is one of the reasons why M C Sarkar and Sons have taken to publishing non-fiction entirely where the royalty is much less at 10 12 per cent Pushtak Bipani is also publishing essays, where the royalty is much less

"Funds are our primary problem, says Suprakash Basu of the Publishers and Booksellers Guild Besides, publishing is still not treated as an industry It is merely a trade So, the possibility of Reserve Bank loans with reduced interest is nil Loans are solely given on the basis of a publisher's individual financial status Ten years back, the government used to provide paper at a subsidised rate for children's books,which has now been stopped

Publishers in Kerala have been able to confront these problems in a better way In the fifties they launched a movement to improve the state of publishing by



ustrations do not find a place in more recent publications of his works

forming a cooperative They got a government grant installed printing machines and conducted market surveys The result is that there is a huge body of Malayalam books in the market A similar experiment in Bengal however failed when Bengali writers like Premendra Mitra Birendra Chattopadhyay and some others formed the Lekhak Samabyay

The publishing scene was once very different During the forties writer Manoj Basu ran his own publishing house and two other writers Sumotho Ghosh and Gajendranath Mitra set up Mitra and Ghosh D K Gupta of Signet Press brought about a revolution in printing and publishing In the forties and fifties Buddhadev Basu Rabindranath and Saiyed Mustafa Ali were prominent on the Bengali literary scene The Parichay Group created writers like Samar Sen Sudhindranath Dutta and Subhas Mukhopadhyay

Signet Press introduced Jibananda Dasgupta and Samar Sen but the new generation of publishers who came in after them in the late fifties were not bothered about what they were publishing as a result the profession lost its respectability " The new group of publishers were ignorant Some of them had even started off as press compositors and galley boys and came into publishing to make money According to Anil Acharya of *Anushtup*, 'This general decline took place because the communist party did not consider the cultural movement as political Their motto was 'Last front of all fronts is the culture front'' From the sixties the era of reprinting of old works began and some translations of Shakespeare, for instance, thronged the market

So while virtually all experiments with new writers have stopped, the selected few in the profession who are running a parallel business can venture to launch new writers One such example is Indranath Majumder the owner of the bookstore Subarnarekha He has introduced a few new writers

On the Bengali publishing scene, hope really comes from the little magazine cum publishers who are here to pursue an ideology Says Acharya, "The Bengali psyche lacks the motivation to make a collective organisation work against odds What the publishers do not understand is that you have to build up funds by creating a readership And this can only happen through launching new experiments with new writers

BARTER BANK

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Babuji's Dost

By INDRANI AIKATH-GYALTSEN

Old Man Ghanshyam ran down the steep staircase three storeys below, across the courtyard and through the kitchen quarters, shouting to the other servants, "She's all right now. God willing she'll do as she is told..." To himself he muttered, "I must take the *dari* out to the *chattan*... It was always a favourite place with her...how clever of me to have thought of it just now...maybe she is coming out of her black mood ...Radhika *bitia* was always a problem...and now running away from the good *jamain* bringing shame on the household, where will it all end?" He ran out of the courtyard and by the edge of the field where the group of black rocks formed a platform jutting out over the river and hugging the western wall of the main house itself. Poor Ghanshyam ran till his old legs ached.

Going home...going home...going home, clanged the wheels of the train, iron iron, iron in her soul. If she was honest with herself, Radhika would have to admit that there was trepidation mixed with the exultation that carried her forward, almost faster than the train itself to the village which, before the limbo of the last four months, had always been her home. How could she ever explain to Avtar that she missed every blade of grass, with a homesickness that became a physical ache? Once the oldest *bhabi* had sent her *mithais* and with the parcel came an ant. She worried for weeks about the fate of the ant, all alone in the city, away from the company of the ants that he knew. So when Avtar asked, "Are you sick?" she turned her face to the wall and said "Yes".

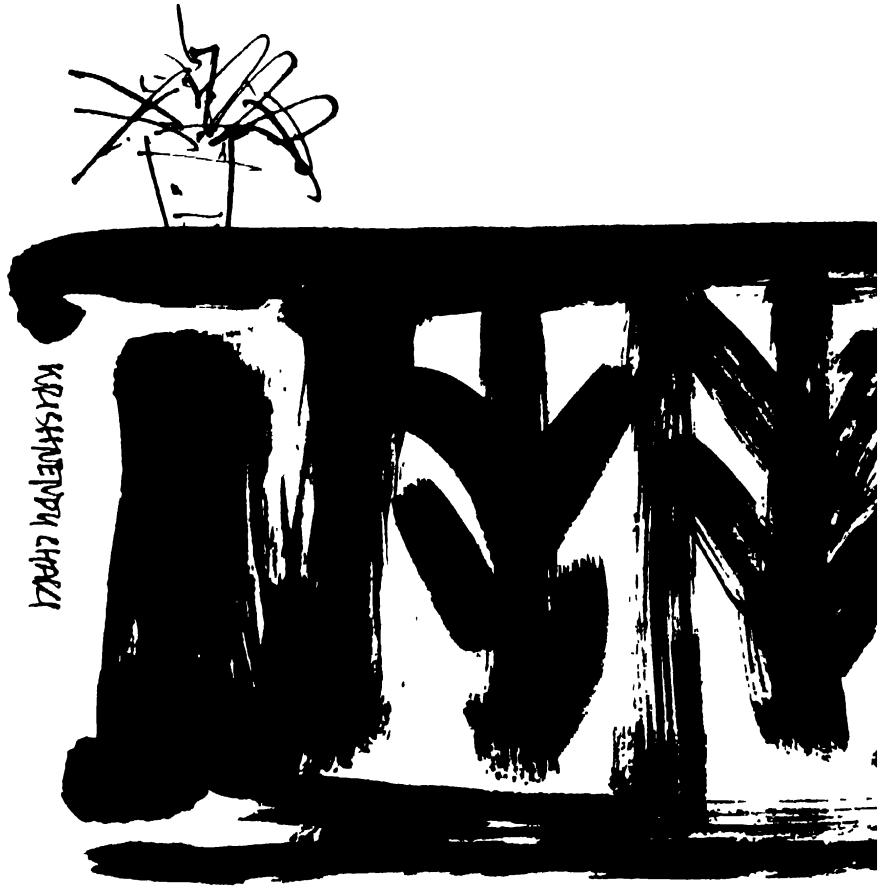
The trouble started six months back, but she didn't think of it as trouble then. Babuji's *dost*, Shridhar Acharya, had come to her house from 10 villages away, a distance of almost 50 *kos*. His son Avtar had finished his education in the city and was now desirous of taking a wife. He was well established, lived in a big building, moved in good circles and now required a girl from a good family. Shridhar *babu* was her own *babuji*'s *dost*, so what could be better?

The arrangements were quickly made, to the accompaniment of the bicker and bustle that such things attract. "Keep the silk saris away wrapped in muslin," said the oldest *bhabi*. "She'll need them everyday," said the middle *bhabi*. "She will see so many movies in the city and go to so many big shops." Added the younger *bhabi* maliciously, "I hope the wives of Avtarji's friends are not too fashionable." And so it went on with Radhika taking an active part in it all, enjoying herself as if it was the annual Durga Puja coming on instead of her own wedding. The realisation hit her when the *mehndih* coloured her hands.

Well, it was the scheme of things. Girls married, went away, then came back and great fuss was made of them. When she came back the *bhabis* would flock around her, she would bring gifts for the children and may be because she would then be a city person, the *bhaiyas* would pay her more attention. They'd stop their teasing. And her friends, they would gather again under the *bakul* tree or on the moonlit *chattan* at nights and she would tell them all about the latest fashions in the city. She would come during *Jhulan* she thought and Ghanshyam could put up the swings as he always did and their indolent swinging and chatting would be as it had ever been.

The homecoming was very different from what she had imagined. Perhaps it was her own fault. She had remained a sister, a daughter, a friend and an aunt. She ought to have tried to see herself through Avtar's eyes, through those of his friends, through the eyes of Babuji's *dost*.

But to be rational was very difficult in a limited space. Would anyone believe it if she told them there was no privacy to sulk in? No terrace or spare room where one



could go to be angry or sad and she was always one or the other? The building teemed with people They spoke to her, smiled but it always seemed they were looking beyond her to the next person to speak to or smile at There was perpetual activity Everyone lived parallelly, never met And when they met, little plates of nuts and thin tea or whisky were passed around People picked up a nut or two and then said they were very full, no more please And the conversation, brilliant brittle, fell like millions of pebbles over her yawning head

"Make an effort, try " urged Avtar So she had tried When they were saying clever things about politicians and there was a gap, she had difficulty putting in It is best to vote for the Congress After all it is the party of Gandhiji and Nehru There was a stunned silence Someone smoothered a laugh Avtar s best friend put an arm around him, 'Don t worry *yaar* ' he said 'She'll learn She has to be exposed ' And Avtar replied apologeti cally, 'These things well my family arranged the marriage you know What he said was true so why did it hurt so much? No one had a right to play about with her life or speak about her as if she was not there They should not have interfered with her silences A word, a look, a smile, a frown did something to another human being, waking a response or aversion and a web was woven which had no beginning and no end, spreading outwards and inward too, merging, en tangling, so that the struggle to free oneself of one further tightened the bonds on the other

Avtar was angry with a terrible stillness that night but then he was angry so often that the event didn't seem unusual There was the familiar white line around his mouth "Don't you even know what to say?' he almost hissed "And the way you dress, your earrings look as if they be longed to your grandmother!" "They did," she had replied and what was wrong with that? "And don't drink tea out of a glass in front of my friends " What about you, she shouted, "You yourself drink tea from a glass in your own home As if I've never been to the house of *Babuji's dost* "I am ashmed of you", he had flung at her and suddenly she realised so was she of him There was yet again a wall of anger between them Nevertheless, he had used her that night That was the strangest part of it all and the most humiliating At home if any of the *bhaiyas* were angry with his wife, he took a *khatia* and slept in the courtyard or on the terrace The respective *bhavi* was treated with special tenderness by the whole family the next day while *babuji* thundered at the world at large about the inconsideration of modern young men until the *bhaiya* felt like a cad and the whole matter blew over But this? You could either be angry with your wife or love her Not both

She had gone and stood on the balcony "I'll jump and die' she had thought But there was no place to fall Only the heads of people, so thickly together that they might not part as she fell So, she decided to run away "I'll use his housekeeping money to buy a ticket After all he used my body " And the train continued it's refrain going home going home going home



She had arrived early in the morning The servant women were at the well filling buckets for everyone s baths The oldest *bhabi* was boiling tea and milk over the *anghiti* and Parul, her father s widowed sister who lived with them, was cackling out her early morning instructions The shouts of astonished welcome wakened the *bhaiyas* and they came out into the courtyard, one by one "Where is Avtar? Is he following?" asked the oldest *bhaiya* "He should have sent a telegram, said the middle *bhaiya*, "then we could have come to the station " Wailed aunt Parul, "*Hai, hai* what a bad omen it is not to have garlands or conch shells ready for the newly weds "

"Be quiet!" commanded Babuji emerg ing Added the oldest *bhabi* gently, 'Have a glass of tea There are some things that are learnt through the pores of the skin It may take years to learn them or the span of a few minutes, depending on the intensity with which the atmosphere is charged Whatever private conflict it was that had brought Radhika away from her responsibilities it was not something that her family could shoulder If she had thought life could continue in her home as it had been before, purged of the pain of the last few months, within 10 minutes, the very faces of her loved ones had torn as under the harmonious pattern her sentimentality had sketched The insulation of love that she knew before was for the past The ministrations of now were an interim, the home-coming was ashes "Come to my room," said Babuji

He was his patriarchal self, stern, for bidding, "Have you quarrelled with Avtar?" "No", she had replied

"Why have you come?"

"I am unhappy"

"Does he beat you?" he asked and his hands trembled so much, he had to hold them together tightly

"No," she had said, "he does not beat

me "

"Do you have enough money always?"

"Yes"

"Does he' and Babuji coughed, looking away "come near you?"

"Oh yes she had replied in an off hand voice and Babuji was surprised at this first instance of a new bred hardness in his daughter

"Is he cruel to you?' asked Babuji

She took her time to answer that one If your husband always spoke to you through clenched teeth was that cruelty? Or was cruelty a drunken husband who hit and starved and tried to burn you? Babuji did not know the right questions to ask she concluded "No," she replied and for the first time father and daughter looked at each other "My bud like daughter, he thought "I'd like to horsewhip him Radhika saw in her father s face the kind of sorrow you sometimes come across una wares in the faces of workmen in repose or slowly carrying food from the hand to the mouth It is a sorrow that is not surprised at itself but accepts and expects it though finding in it no discernable pattern "This grief I have brought is for ever He will worry and wonder, even if I return to Avtar tomorrow, thought Radhika "I will go to Shridhar *babu* in the evening," Babuji was continuing 'and apologise for your thoughtlessness and your precipitate action He will understand that you are young, that you have never left home before After all, he is my *dost* ' No, she swore to herself You shall not apologise for what is not your fault Neither shall slow pain gnaw at your soul for years 'Yes, Babuji' she answered and left his presence

In the countyard, the *bhabis* were at their accustomed duties No one met her eyes The children were huddled together and had lost their spontaneity Only Aunt Parul seemed unsusceptible to the atmos phere She was poking at a recalcitrant hen and muttering, "This one here, she takes advantage of my old age She thinks she can lay her eggs anywhere as if she did not have a coop of her own 'Shoo out ' Suddenly she saw Radhika and shouted to no one in particular 'If you leave your husband s house, you have to be carried out feet first

"Feet first feet first feet first cawed the crows in splendid cacophony as Radhika walked blindly over the *papads* laid out to dry on the terrace She stood by the western parapet There set in the middle of the distant field was the *bakul* tree No swing hung from its arms and the girls were nowhere to be seen Strange she thought, this is the only village whose trees have leaves which give out light instead of shade, a golden green that filters upwards Directly below was the flat black *chattan*, that venue of countless hop-scotch games, doll's weddings and endless chatter, a hard dark lap that welcomed and beckoned

At some stage old Ghanshyam must have followed her upstairs "You've step-ped on the *papads* again," he grumbled 'Sorry, I didn't see," she said "That's it", he said, 'You never see You never think No wonder " And he stopped No, he thought, the old intimacies wouldn't do She was no longer the daughter of the house Besides, she was angry enough He decided to resort to cajolery "Why don't you go down to the *chattan*?" he coaxed 'I'll take a *dari* for you down there " She asked, "Why a *dari*?"

"Because" and he was stumped, "be-cause you are married now," he added lamely "Alright", she said "And I'll call your friends You can sit and chat there," he said eagerly "Fine," she answered, "call the whole village if you like "

And so old Ghanshyam ran with the *dari* under his arm One part of his mind sighed with relief at her acquiescence, the other part knew with a finality that no matter how fast he ran, he would find her there before him ■

THE 3rd VINEET GUPTA MEMORIAL PRIZE

FOR SHORT STORIES AND POETRY

Entries are invited for short stories in **English, Hindi** and **Urdu**.

English entries must reach **The Telegraph,** 6 Prafulla Sarkar Street, Calcutta 700 001, by April 4, 1990.

Vernacular entries must be sent direct to **Mr B.N. Gupta,** 4/131 Mathura Refinery Township, Mathura 281 006.

The prize winning English entries will be published in the Colour Magazine. The vernacular entries may be published anywhere at the discretion of Mr B.N. Gupta. Two prizes of Rs 1,500 and Rs 1,000 respectively will be given in each category on July 14, Vineet's birth anniversary.

Any number of entries may be sent. The entries must not have been published anywhere before and must be the author's original work. A signed statement must accompany each entry. The English entries must be typewritten, in double space, on one side of the paper and each entry must have the full name and address of the entrant. Carbon copies or photocopies will be rejected. Please superscribe the envelopes, 'Poetry' or 'Short story'. No entries will be returned and the decision of the judges will be final.

LOKENATH BAL (1908-64)



Born at Lunglay in Lushai Hill district in a middle-class family, Lokenath Bal was a romantic revolutionary who passionately yearned for India's independence. He passed his Matriculation examination from Chittagong High School in 1925 and four years later did his BA from Chittagong College. While still a student, he was greatly influenced by the group of Bengal revolutionaries of Chittagong, namely Surya Sen, Ambika Chakraborty, Ganesh Ghosh, Nirmal Sen and Ananta Singh. At the age of 16 he joined the Chittagong revolutionary group as a disciple of Surya Sen. Lokenath organised physical culture clubs, collected arms and recruited students and became their leader He was interned during 1925-28.

On April 18, 1930 around nine in the evening Lokenath, along with half-a-dozen comrades, stormed the AFI headquarters and seized its armoury. However, they could not locate the cartridges and hence the entire plan of distributing arms among the Chittagong youths failed. With Surya Sen and others, Lokenath took shelter in the Jalalabad hill. On April 22, General Bal (as he was known among his comrades) led the famous Jalalabad fight where 12 revolutionaries were killed. On August 31, he was arrested at the French colony in Chandernagore and was sent to Andaman jail to serve a life-term.

On his release in 1946, Lokenath joined M N Roy's Radical Democratic Party. After Independence, he retired from active politics and took a job with Calcutta Corporation. The hero of Jalalabad subsequently became a Gandhian and joined the Congress He died on September 4, 1964

The sketch above shows the building on Ananda Neogy Lane in Bagbazar (north Calcutta) where he lived for some time after his release from the Andaman jail.



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

Sanjay Dayal Ranchi 2, has sent this question and answer

The most widespread and destructive anti-Manchu revolt which lasted from 1850 to 1864 is known as ? Ans The Taiping Rebellion in July 1850

"The Taiping Rebellion began in China in July 1850 Lasting 15 years, this rebellion was the bloodiest civil war in history, accounting for the death of approximately 20 million people—a number equal to the entire population of England at that time

"Led by a deranged mystic, Hung Hsiuch uan, the movement originated in southern China among the Hakkas, descendants of northern Chinese migrants who still, after two centuries had not been assimilated into the local population Hung, who had acquired some missionary tracts from Canton, initiated a religious cult based loosely on the Protestant Bible, with himself as the 'heavenly younger brother' of Jesus Christ and the second son of God Hung brought Chinese philosophy and utopian thinking into his new religion and had a definite preference for the militancy of the Old Testament while totally ignoring Jesus message of love and his Sermon on the Mount

"Hung s followers formed militia units which clashed with imperial soldiers in July 1850, bringing the movement into open rebellion against the Manchu dynasty Marching north Hung proclaimed himself T ai-p ing T ien-Kuo (Heavenly King of the Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace), thus giving his followers the name Taiping, or Great Peace In the next four years, Hung and his conniving disciple Yang Hsiu-ch ing, led Taiping forces into 16 of the country s 18 provinces They took 600 walled cities—including Nanking, which became their capital—and occupied the rich and populous Yangtze River valley

"The Taipings destroyed Taoist, Buddhist and Confucian temples and images and zealously prohibited adultery drugs alcohol tobacco gambling witch craft and slavery Equality of the sexes was preached and practised with women serving alongside men in the armies The Chinese language was simplified

The Taipi[illegible] kingdom declined becau[illegible] of internal discord Hung had Yang assassinated and then in turn had his[illegible] assassinated Pr[illegible] armies fought pr[illegible] peanweapon[illegible] the aid of the M[illegible] emperor in addition to a force of West

CBS

11th Question **What are "Ravana s Whiskers"? (Rajesh Kumar Rai Qr No 187/2/4, Chhotagovindpur H/C Jamshedpur 831015)**

Ans. **It is the local name of spinifex grass which helps to hold the dunes in place. It is found around the southern tip of the island of Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu**

QUESTIONS

1. Which was the first and perhaps the most important of all man s discoveries? (Bala Menon Calcutta 31)

2. Which Indian business family has figured in *Forbes* magazine s list of 198 world billionaires? (Amit and Partho Chaibasa)

3. Which river crosses the Equator twice? (Durgadatta Bhoi and Ashish K Saha, Bargarh)

4. Who said, "Truth is never pure, and rarely simple?" (Murari Mohan Rakshit, Burdwan 2)

5. Whose autobiography is entitled *Return to Earth*? (Manoj Kr Singh, Sindri)

6. Differentiate between the *coralari* and the *coralli ni* (Amit Rastogi, Calcutta 45)

7. Millionaire Andan Khashoggi was released on a $10 million bail on one condition What was it? (Debashish Basu, Durgapur 4)

8. What is a 'slip-gun ? (Nirvak Bhattacharjee Kharagpur 2) .

9. Which politician called a colleague, "A sharp needle, packed in cotton"? (Sanjay Kr Agarwalla, Mayurbhanj)

10 In a coin wh[illegible] s the milling and wh[illegible] s it there? (Lalitendu Pradhan Jhar suguda 4)

ANSWERS

1 Fire

2. The Birlas The list includes the names of industrial houses or families who have a net worth (after debt) of $ 1 billion or more

3 River Congo

4 Oscar Wilde

5 Edwin Aldrin (second man to set foot on the moon)

6 They both are coral hunters *coralari* hunt underwater whereas *coralli* hunt on the water sur face

7 He would wear an electronic monitoring bracelet

8 It can be that has been tied in such a way so it cannot be tired by thumbing the hammer

9 Mac Z long about Deng Xiaoping

10 It is the serrated or jagged edge if proverbs people from straying off metal from the coins a common practice (This was the very first question asked by me in the first open quiz way back in 1967 at the Birla Hyde Memorial Quiz C U B)

ern mercenaries led by an American adventurer, Frederick Townsend Ward When Ward died command went to Maj Charles (Chinese) Gordon, on loan from the British Army Gordon was to become famous as the defender of Khartoum

By the end of 1864, the Taipings had been routed and Hung had committed suicide by taking poison"

Dr Suptendranath Sarbadhikari Calcutta 45 writes

In the quiz column of December 10 1989 there was a question on Q fever Some interesting facts about the name Derrick (1935) investigated a few cases of fever among abattoir workers in Brisbane Australia He inoculated the blood from these patients into guineapigs for transmitting the infection into the latter As the cause of the disease was unknown it was termed as Query or Q fever Burnet identified the causative organism and it was named *Rickettsia burnetti* Simultaneously the same agent was isolated independently from ticks by Cox who designated it as *Rickettsia diaporica* as it could pass through filters impermeable to other rickettsiae The Australian and American isolates were later found to be identical The agent of Q fever exhibits several peculiarities and so it has been separated from other rickettsiae into a special genus and renamed as *Coxiella burnetti*

Postscript Good news for quizards

AQUO announces the Argus Plate Quiz to be held on February 16 and 17, 1990 at the Dalhousie Institute Entry fee Rs 30 per team Entries close at the Dalhousie Institute on February 11 1990 The draw will be put up on the Institute's board on February 13

Also, the Percy Baptiste Quiz for schools on February 17 at 3 pm at the Dalhousie Institute.



The Sound of Sirens

Suneeta Rao:
'S' as in Singing,
'R' as in Rage

A high-voltage presence, crackling sex appeal and dynamite in their throats. That's what makes the brand new crop of pop stars what they are. And with a new decade Doordarshan picking up the vibes, they've got it made. Lekha Dhar and Anil Grover turn on the strobes on some of the swinging singers to hum into India's pop music

A typical 'Wanted' ad for a pop star could read something like this "Does your presence light up the stage and send out the hots? Do you have a great pair of legs and are proud of them? Can you make eyes at the camera? Can you smmmmack it on that hot little mike in your hands? Can you jump about on stage wiggle a little and still keep your breath? In short, are you va-va voom? Then come along, you're the kind of material girl we're looking for Preference will be given to those who can sing "

The high priestess of pop music, Madonna, said it in her starker way "I wouldn't be a success without looking sexy I know I'm a great singer, but that's not enough " India's own original siren, Sharon Prabhakar, put it another way "We have to project ourselves as more than-life figures We have to stand 10 feet tall because people fantasise about us We are part of the dream machine "

Indian pop music winked sometime in the middle of the last decade, with the songs a lot more racy and Westernised and the music making free use of modern recording technology aided by catchy, simple lyrics. The catchword then was "disco" Usha Uthup, who really set it rolling much earlier, and Sharon Prabhakar and Nazia Hassan, who added the zing to the thing, were still fighting a losing battle against the perennially favourite Hindi film music and the ghazal wave that rocked the scene a little later But about three years later, Indian pop really took off If we had the Madonna clone, the five-foot-nothing pack of dynamite, Alisha Chinai, causing little explosions all over India, Malkit Singh of Birmingham with his *tutak-tutak-tutiyan* brand of Punjabi pop told several millions all over that they were the world now Ila Arun came in with her *Banjaran* pop, too, and Gurdas Maan did a Malkit this side of *sarson da saag*

But pop in the national language was sending out very strong vibes, oh yeah, and the pretty Preeti Sagar who sang, *My heart is beating*, in the film, *Julie*, a decade ago, also jumped on the bandwagon *(With Love)*, never mind the firmly-wrapped-sari image; at least she had now relented to wear a sexy *hat!*

By now, the young ones (despite the handful of 'elite' who still swear by Prince, not Preeti, yuch) had begun coming out of their dens in their hip-hugging faded jeans and steamy sweat shirts, and asking for Alisha's *Jadoo* or Sharon's *Suno Suno*, boldly blowing bubbles on their gum Suneeta Rao could therefore tell *India Abroad* "Yes, they used to put their noses in the air and dismiss Hindi pop But now increasingly people are buying Hindi pop cassettes without feeling embarrassed "

Election time last year really did it The computer Prime Minister thought it a cool idea to woo a whole new mass of urban youth by giving dowdy Doordarshan some pep pills in the shape of *Pop Time* The elections may not have been won on the plank of pop, but the Sapna Mukherjees and Parvati Khans and Suneeta Raos got a



Nadeem Khan

captive audience of *hum log*. The 'selling' of a pop star takes a bit of doing, and *Pop Time* gave them maximum mileage on Sunday's prime slot.

Some of the stars themselves acknowledge the former PM's contribution to the current popularity of Indian pop and even refer to it as "Rajiv Gandhi's *Pop Time*". "Our PM," says Parvati Khan, "realised a long time ago that our pop music was getting famous abroad and the youth of the country were getting sick of the type of programmes being presented here. He intended to bring out the pop streak in India and sell it abroad, not just folk music and classical." To Parvati, Rajiv Gandhi is still "our PM" having endeared himself to pop music freaks forever, so what if the electorate in the north sang a different tune in November last.

Parvati Khan: 'A good body, though not enough body in her voice'

Parvati Khan doesn't pout for the former PM for nothing. Doordarshan had blocked her when she did Viveck Vaswani's anti-drugs serial, *Nai Dishayen*, in mid-1987 after a fanatic wrote a letter asking how a Hindu name and a Muslim surname could be clubbed. But she bounced back six months later by which time Rajiv ol' boy saw to it that she got an apology.

Parvati was seen to good effect (though not heard ditto) in *Pop Time* recently and a leading member of the music industry, who preferred to be unidentified, felt: "She has a good visual effect, but doesn't have much singing calibre. A good body, though not enough body in her voice. Preeti Sagar is a very good singer but her visuals in *Pop Time* do her no good. In live shows, it's a lot less voice and a lot more visuals, special effects..."

Avinash Oak, Western Outdoor's recording manager is "happy at the way it's going," too. "Ghazals have faded out, pop is in. Now pop stars like Parvati Khan have busy schedules, with tours in London and Indonesia lined up, not to mention the Parvati Khan Nites in the country. In fact, she had two offers from Pakistan, but turned them down because she received a veiled threat that she would be terminated by a fanatic youth if she performed in public."

Trinidad-born Parvati Maharaj put her oomph to good use in her modelling and acting days some 10 years ago; some still recall her cardiac-arresting dance sequence in Vinod Pande's *Ek Baar Phir*. Having got married to the cinematographer of the film, Nadeem Khan, who is the stepson of writer Dr Rahi Masoon Reza, "the whole screenplay changed". From Trinidad to New York for a course in geriatrics, Parvati moved on to London where she qualified as an SRN at the Westminster group of hospitals deciding that her vocation would be, not vocals, but psychiatry. "I never intended to be a singer. I wanted to be a psychiatrist. My only asset was that I loved to sing. Singing was my best friend," says Parvati.

In London, she sang for BBC's Asian section "without knowing what the Hindusthani words meant." This, she admits, was a great disadvantage because the diction suffered. "But somehow I understood and emoted the tune. Today, I have learnt the language and it makes much more sense." Her first playback was for the film, *Disco Dancer*, with her number, *Jimmy aaja*, winning her many fans and awards that includes the recently bestowed 'best song of the decade' from a cultural organisation in China! Meanwhile, she has done playback for *Aasman Se Ooncha*, *Parbat Ke Us Paar*, *Love Love Love* and *Aawara Gardi*. Discovering that she could compose music, too, Parvati cut her pop album (*Masti*), a light ghazal one (*Missing You*, not composed by her) and pop again (*Dil Diwana Ho Gaya*) which was released a couple of months ago.

Dusky doll Suneeta Rao, whose debut album, *Suneeta Senorita* (HMV), is sending everyone panting, "Si, si," is of

OFF BEAM

Doordarshan might have promoted them in *Pop Time* but it has run into trouble with some of the stars already. The first was Remo Fernandes who attacked them, saying that Doordarshan featured him on *Pop Time* without his permission. And worse, it was one of his old recordings. Naturally, it didn't reflect well on him as contemporaries were into hi-tech with jazzed-up shows and computer graphics.

Next came Alisha Chinai; she was to have featured on the show, but never appeared. One of her songs, *Vote for Alisha*, was the main hitch. The song, she thought, was well timed because of the elections, but it also featured the Indian flag and there were objections. Mani Shankar Aiyer is said to have written a letter to Alisha's husband, Rajesh Jhaveri, objecting to the use of the flag in the video recordings, as people would associate it with the Congress(I) and say it was propaganda for Rajiv Gandhi.

But Mr Jhaveri maintains that it was a "fun song" and the intention was never to promote any party. He has also said, "What's wrong with an Indian waving his flag?" Well, not at election time, felt Doordarshan.

course the most exciting new voice in recent times Twentythree year old Suneeta was born in West Germany, but has been in her motherland since she was two Her father, Dr D K Rao, is a noted surgeon, and her mother, Kamla Sista, is a professional singer,also backed by HMV, and an AIR and TV artiste Music races in her blood all right Elder sis Kalpana Louper Rao, married to a Swiss national and doing dentistry in Zurich, is involved in music and with a group called Totally Red another sis is busy with jingles and audio visuals Suneeta's brother, who is studying engineering in the United States also tries his hand at the guitar and drums

Although she's still a first timer as far as albums go, Suneeta Rao is confident that



Suneeta Rao: Giving showbiz full time

she will succeed "I excel in my field of music," that is, Hindi pop, she says *Suneeta Senorita* has been received very well as was her *Pop Time* appearance, but her reason for doing well is different "I'm scared of doing badly "

The same fear of failure kept her on the top of the class at school, at St Xavier's College (economics) and when she tinkered with computers for four months But she saw no point in "dabbling with d-BASE" While doing her MA, Suneeta found her attention constantly veering towards showbiz and since "showbiz is something you can't give yourself half-heartedly to," it was showbiz for Suneeta Eco could wait

She has behind her a string of musicals like *Evita, Grease Lightening* and *Bottoms Up* (which did about 150 shows), topped by a memorable performance in *They Are Playing Our Song,* which was difficult to sustain as she and the male lead were the only two characters in it

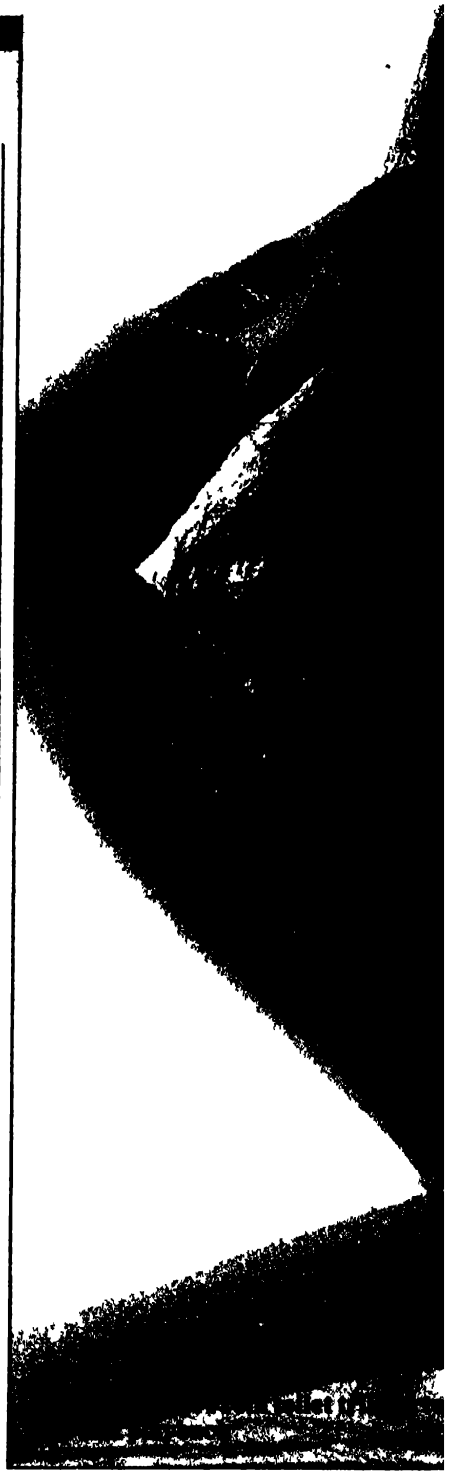
While she was doing *Grease,* she was spotted by Sanjeev Kohli of HMV, but her "hands being too full" at that time, she kept the offer at bay Eighteen months later, HMV signed her on and *Suneeta Senorita* was on the way, somewhat delayed because of Jingles King, Louis Banks, who did the music, being over booked Talking of jingles, Suneeta's voice has launched a thousand products (to use a minor exaggeration), notable among them being Kwality Ice Cream, Rich Cafe, Barbie Doll, Crown TV and Keltron.

Since pop music requires a lot more than just vocals, Bombay's English theatre has been the perfect cradle Sharon Prabhakar first swished in with *Evita,* a brilliant performance if ever there was one Alisha Chinai, who did a cameo in the same musical, followed suit And now we have the Rao who wowed the audience of *Evita*

But, as one whiz, taking a look at the cluster of new entrants to the field of Indian pop, puts it "Everybody who was a nobody is coming out with a cassette now It's like the ghazal boom. There are very few companies who are willing to support an unknown artiste So, anybody who has the money makes a cassette and runs to a music company with it If they (the companies) have nothing to lose, why shouldn't they look at these stars? The result is that all kinds of music are being sold under the label of pop " To add to it, he spleens, there are live shows, star nites, hard sell, *Pop Time,* what not "The resultant mix," as a top Bombay singer puts it, "looks like a derivative from the Hindi screen "

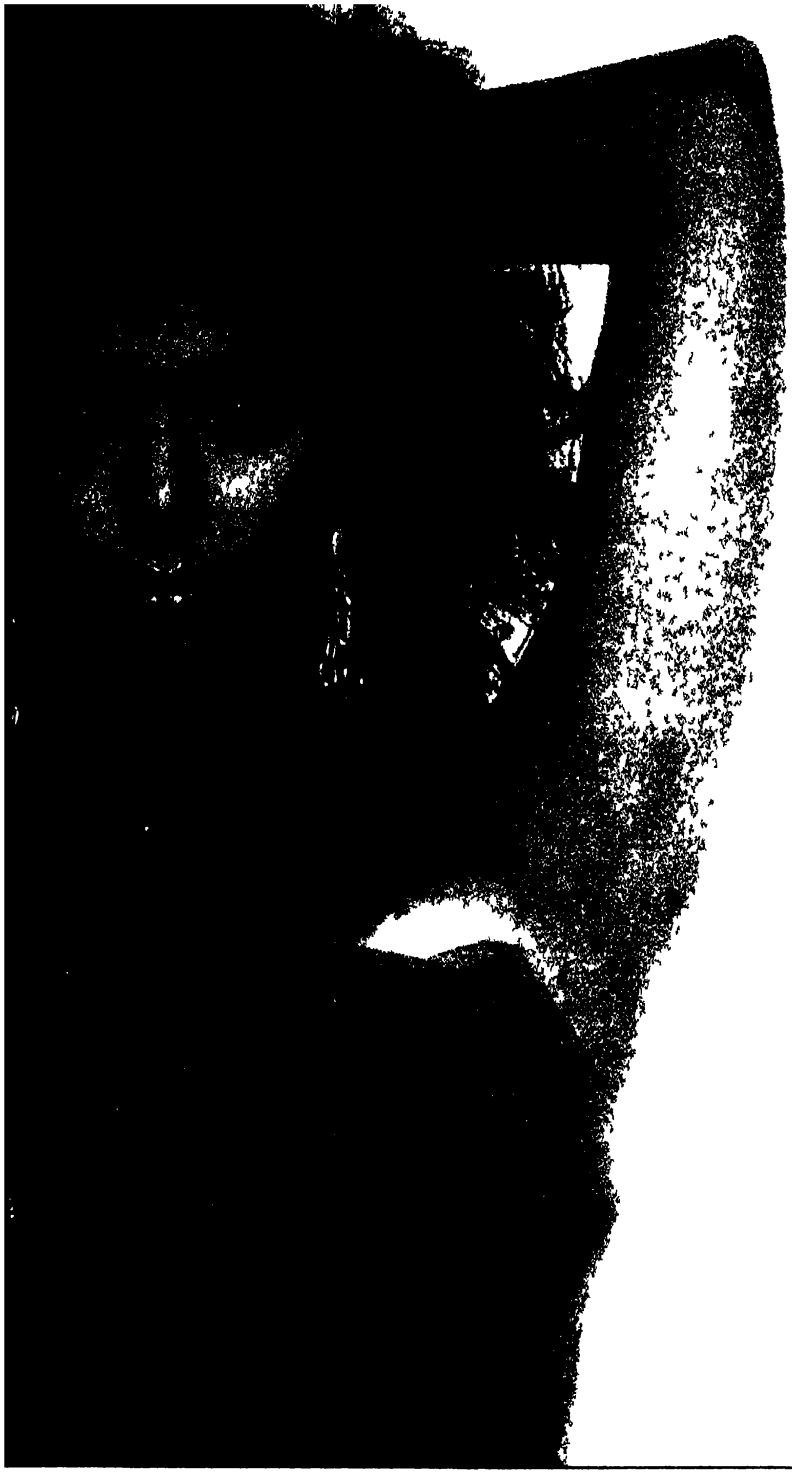
Parvati Khan is quick to protest "Hindi pop is Hindi pop You can't go to Patna and sing in English, expecting the audience to appreciate it Some might, some won't. If you saw my *Pop Time,* I varied it so that the man in Bihar and the guy in St Xavier's both can enjoy it." That's why, she explains, she had to do the English sentimental, *Papa's really all I've got* (in which, a wag said, Parvati's moist eyes looked more bedroom than sentimental) and the popular folk song, *Khulla taala.*

The latest pop star to bounce off Bombay's musical theatre is the slim and svelte Shweta Shetty who is easily



identified by her husky voice and wild hair. The trad south Indian family background didn't stop Shweta Shetty from making her mark in musicals like *Best of Broadway, Play It Again Norman, Last Tango in Heaven* and *Godspell,* graduating from toilet trilling to jingles and live shows, not to speak of a disastrous telefilm, in just two years, thanks very much to good friend Shamak Davar, the man behind many a musical. Her debut album, *Going Wild,* is about to typhoon the market

CBS's promotion manager, Pervin Tata, is confident of Shweta's talents because "she has sung her way through a number



Gautam Rajadhyaksha

of plays" "The sexiest singer in town," as a high society magazine called her, gave a solo piano recital at *The Times of India* sesquicentennial celebrations and *Bombay* magazine's recent 10th anniversary binge Like Suneeta, Shweta has turned her back on theatre now and has plunged into pop and playback, fulltime

Another simultaneous CBS launch will be Asha Puthli with *Chipko Chipko* which has no sexual connotations, by the way, instead, it is meant as a tribute to the father of the 'Chipko' movement, environmentalist Sunderlal Bahuguna, and seeks to expose the frauds of high-flying godmen While Parvati Khan and Suneeta Rao returned to India to launch careers in singing, Asha Puthli is an Indian who was the original punk in the late sixties, shocking the Bharatiya Janta with her thin-pencilled eyebrows and technicolour hair as much as with her outrageous statements about sex and morals Imagine, in the sixties

Being multi-faceted, Asha is not only a jazz singer with 15 albums to her credit, but a dancer, actress (remember the sensational film, *The Savages*, in which she did full frontal scenes much before Sima was born free in *Siddhartha*), and someone who has shot a TV film for the American network on the Pushkar fair

The archetypal Bombay girl who bit the Big Apple, she has now turned to Indian pop as a medium of protest with lyrics which go like *Lohapat gamnu ki lalli ma ki loop loop* (lyricist Indeevar)! Asha Puthli currently runs a corporate liaison agency office in Manhattan and took the music world by surprise by singing a contract with CBS Records International in the USA some 16 summers ago A spokesman of CBS (India) says "It took us 16 years to sit up and take notice, but it was definitely worth it " *Chipko Chipko* keeps current pop interests in mind though, and includes a sentimental song on Indian rail travel, "a snake song" which Asha feels will "appease the popular tastes of the Indian listener", the soft *Aayee mam sagar paar* and the foot-tapper, *Ek number ke chakkar mein* The New York-based Asha



Puthli is expected to come to Bombay shortly to promote her album and, says CBS, "Hopefully, it will get her fans to call her, as she wants to be called, Aaaaaashaaaaa!" (Was that a dig at HMV's Aah. Alisha?)

The pop scene has "great potential", says Parvati Khan, but Alisha finds it "discouraging" Alisha's reason is simple "Because I have no competitors I am the only one " This typifies the sirens, pop singers who've got 'more', an aggressive self-confidence, the move-over-folks brassy touch. They've got to catch the eye, not just the ear

Suneeta Rao says it a little more sedately when she explains why, despite her three year training in Carnatic music, she took to pop "I like to belt it out. I like to perform when singing. It is not just singing that you do when you are pop singing." Shweta Shetty doesn't fight shy of saying, "You've got to be pushy, you know "

Confidence, talent, class, sex appeal, not necessarily in that order, is what you've got to have. As Jasmine Bharucha, described in *Society* magazine as "India's only answer to Madonna", capsulates there "If you wanna be a great singer, you gotta think like one, feel like one and be like one. I know I'm good and I know I can be a success."■

OFFICIAL
PANORAMA

Corks pop from champagne bottles every New Year's Eve, but where do they really come from?

From sponges at the bottom of the sea, many think. From gardens of petrified mosses and lichens, other believe. From factories that manufacture synthetics. From some mysterious, unknown place.

Cork has been called nature's best-kept secret. Most people don't know where it comes from or that it has hundreds of uses besides the familiar champagne and wine bottle stoppers. Cork gives the symphony conductor a secure grip on the teardrop handle of his baton, and it hurtles toward space as the heat shield of the shuttle's rocket booster.

"When people open a bottle of wine they don't think the cork was once the outside of a tree," says Fernando Soares Carneiro, an economic-affairs counsellor of Portugal, the leading cork producing country.

Cork is the outer bark of the cork oak, *Quercus suber*. This protective layer is usually one to three inches thick and can be peeled off without harming the tree. A cork oak is mature enough for stripping when it is 20 to 25 years old. Thereafter, its cork grows thick enough to be stripped about every nine years. The tree can live for about 150 years.

This extraordinary evergreen oak, whose velvety leaves resemble holly leaves without sharp points, is found in abundance only around the western Mediterranean in Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.

Cork forests on the Iberian Peninsula produce more than half the world's annual supply of at least 200,000 tons. Most quality cork comes from Portugal's Alentejo region, which stretches south from Lisbon toward the Algarve coast. Just after a harvest the trees appear naked, their bare trunks a fiery red. Some people say the trees are blushing because they have lost their clothes.

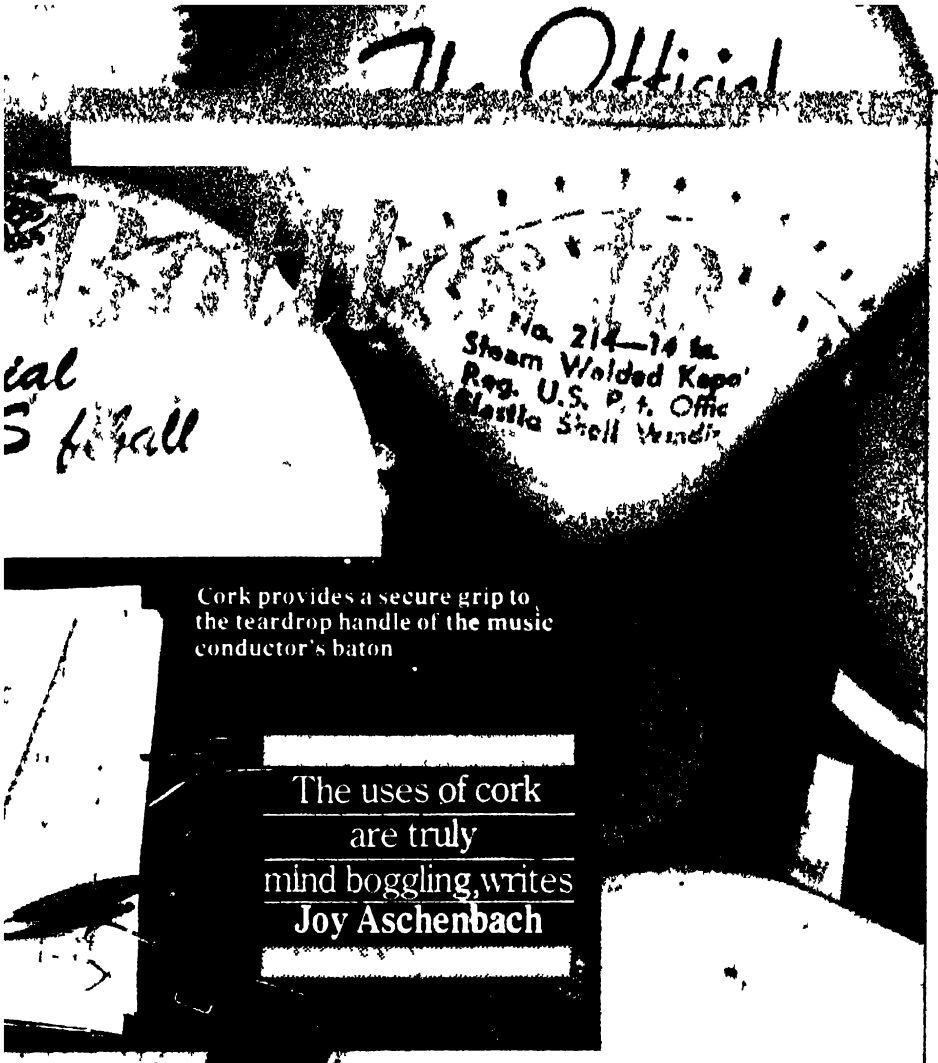
Cork is still harvested by hand because most of these oaks grow crooked. The hatchet must strike the tree carefully; no new cork will grow if the vital inner layer of bark is damaged. Two cuts are made around the trunk and two or more up and down. The spongy outer bark is pried off in large, lumberlike slabs.

Cork is so versatile because it has a densely packed cellular structure. There are 150 million to 200 million 14-sided cells in one cubic inch of natural cork. Half of cork's volume is air trapped within the cells, making it four times lighter than water.

Cork is not only buoyant, but compressible. It can tolerate 14,000 pounds of pressure per cubic inch and expand to nearly its original shape within 24 hours. Its cellular rather than fibrous nature makes it impermeable to liquids and gases. It also insulates, is resistant to the effects of friction, is fire-retardant and absorbs



A naked cork oak in Spain being stripped of most of its outer bark which is dried and boiled before use.



Cork provides a secure grip to the teardrop handle of the music conductor's baton

The uses of cork are truly mind boggling, writes Joy Aschenbach

Corked bottles of vinegar in a herb lover's backyard slowly absorbing the flavours of different condiments



vibration and sound. And it is virtually indestructible. It does not deteriorate with age.

Natural cork's biggest job is sealing containers, from wine bottles to test tubes. About 6.5 billion wine-bottle corks are punched from bark each year. Mushroom-shaped champagne corks are pieced together.

Evidence of cork's vintage quality is a third-century wine bottle unearthed in France, still corked and filled with drinkable wine. Cork fine enough for bottle stoppers does not appear on trees until their third stripping, when they are about 40 to 45 years old.

Most other corks as well as nearly all scrap cork is ground up and combined with natural resins, rubber, plastics or other synthetic binders to make hundreds of products. Corks become gaskets for automobile motors, inner soles for shoes, expansion joint fillers for bridges, tunnels, nuclear plants, highways, sidewalks and lining shields of trucks transporting radioactive and toxic materials.

Cork can be found on the floors of Britain's Parliament and the U.S. Library of Congress and on the lobby walls of the Lincoln Center in New York. Corks in the valve pads of saxophones and clarinets, the handles of fishing rods and the cores of baseball.

Some of cork's newest uses are top secret. "It gets into Star Wars," says Arthur Dodge, president of Dodge Cork in Lancaster, Pa.

Despite its remarkable qualities, cork has been replaced by synthetics in a number of products such as beer and soft drink cap liners and the screw tops of inexpensive wines. There's a shortage of cork worldwide; they had to switch to synthetics. There is not enough cork for major industries to bother with," says Jerome Manton, president of the Cork Institute of America. In years of less abundant crops, such as 1988 and 1989, the price more than doubled.

Although most of cork's uses have been developed in the 19th century, its utility has been recognized at least since ancient Greek and Roman time. The Romans made cork floats for fishing nets, bungs for casks, winnowing sieves and head coverings. Cork soles have endured their long marches because of their cork cushioned midsoles. Nearly all the ancient uses for cork continue today.

Attempts to cultivate cork in other climates have met with almost universal failure. For example, Thomas Jefferson tried for 10 years to get acorns from French cork oaks to grow in South Carolina. There is no record that any survived. Since then, farmers who have tried elsewhere have not had much better luck. Some cork trees have sprouted here and there, but the only place they grow commercially is in their native lands.

(National Geographic News Service)

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Awaargi (A):** Paradise (Bentick Street; 285442), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046) - 4 shows

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Anil Kapoor, Govinda and Meenakshi Seshadri. The music is by Anmu Malik.

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 391090)

Directed by Aziz Sajawal and



Nayana Das and Tapas Paul in *Anuraag*

with music by Nadeem Shravan, the film stars Jackie Shroff, Farha, Aditya Pancholi, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road, 241383), Indra (Indra Roy Road, 471757), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)—4 shows.

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya. The music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Ribaee (A):** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473)—4 shows; Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 478808), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—all noon show.

A film by Arunaraje, starring Hema Malini, Vinod Khanna and Naseeruddin Shah. Also in the cast are Neena Gupta, Mohan Agashe, Rima Lagoo, Ila Arun and others. The music is by Sharang Dev.

• **Souten Ki Beti:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141)—12, 3, 6, 8.45; Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956)—3, 6, 8.45; Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133)—noon.

Jeetendra, Rekha and Jaya Prada are the chief attractions. The film is directed by Saawan Kumar and the music is by Vedpaal.

• **Zahreelay:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue; 390762), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440).

A film by Jyotin Goel, the cast includes Jeetendra, Sanjay Dutt, Chunkey Panday, Bhanupriya and Juhi Chawla. The music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

• **Anuraag:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—3, 5.45, 8.30, Alochhaya (Behaghata Main Road; 355059)—2, 5, 8.

Tapas Paul, Satabdi Roy, Nayana Das, Subhendu Chatterjee, Anup Kumar, Soumitra Banerjee and Ruma Guhathakurta comprise the cast of this film, directed by Jahar Biswas and music by Usha Khanna

• **Bhagyalipi:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Sujit Kumar's first Bengali film which stars Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy, Aparajita, Aruna Ira-

Bhagyashree and Salman Khan in *Maine Pyar Kiya*



ni, Paintal and the director himself. The music is by Sumitra Lahiri.

• **Ganashatru:** Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Basuree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 478808)—2.30, 5.30, 8; Prachi (AJC Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Satyajit Ray's adaptation of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, whose cast includes Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Subhendu Chatterjee, Vishma Guha Thakurta, Dhritiman Chatterjee, Mamata Shankar and Ruma Guhathakurta.

• **Manasi:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road, 474567)—3 shows.

Directed by Anjan Mukherjee and with music by Asit Ganguly, the cast includes Tapas Paul, Sanchita, Madhabi Mukherjee, Rupa Ganguly and Arjun Chakraborty.

• **Nayika Sambad:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561)—3 shows.

A re-release of this Agradoot



Anjana Bhowmick and Uttam Kumar in *Nayika Sambad*

hit, starring Uttam Kumar and Anjana Bhowmick. The music is by Hemanta Mukherjee.

Special Events

4-5 February

An exhibition of Dagwar Dasgupta's paintings, organised by Max Mueller Bhavan, in the Central Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

4 February onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm (except Mondays)

An exhibition of water colour by Biren De till February 24.

At Galarie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5) AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6): AI-309 at 1915. Dep (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7). AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4) SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730, Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325, Dep. (2). JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (3): RA-214 at 1050, Dep. (5): RA-214 at 1650, Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740; Arr. (1): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (3): RA-213 at 0950, Arr. (5): RA-213 at 1550, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1640.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (4): IC-443 at 0830; Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110; Dep. (4): IC-444 at 1150.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily) BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3). BG-094 at 1730, Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1410, Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1610, Arr (4) IC-444 at 1110.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1445; Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145, Arr (3, 6): IC-226 at 1705.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2, 5). KB-106 at 1430, Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily). IC-263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1200, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2210

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0900 and IC-273 at 1920; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0810 and IC-274 at 1830.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1715, Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (daily). IC-771 at 0705, Arr (daily) IC-772 at 1240

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily). IC-205 at 1330, Arr. (daily) IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1130, Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1630

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-542 at 0555, Arr. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-541 at 1225

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-285 at 0545; Arr (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2045.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 1840.

RE-SCHEDULING OF FLIGHTS

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. However, Indian Airlines was following a partial emergency schedule when we went to press. Passengers may contact 264433, 263135, 266869, 262602, 569433, 204433, 569611 (Ext. 314) for assistance.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-703 at 0605 and IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-704 at 0855 and IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-219 at 0605 and Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-220 at 1045 and Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6). IC-213 at 1650.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1710.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0900.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1010.

Silchar-Imphal-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-259 at 0730; Arr. (daily): IC-260 at 0900.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 0825.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily). IC-741 at 0945 and IC-743 at 1300. Dep (2, 4, 6). IC-243 at 0610. Arr (daily): IC-742 at 1205 and IC-744 at 1520. Arr (2, 4, 6): IC-244 at 1030.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily). PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily). PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600, Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

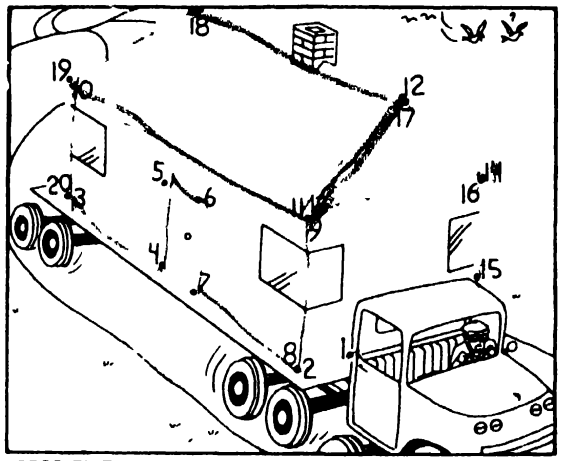
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	**2312**
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep – Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep – Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri – Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	**2304**
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri – Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp.** Tri-Wkly Dep — Tues Fri & Sat Arri – Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep — Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4 15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep — Tues Thurs & Sat Arri – Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep — Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromondal (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



STOP THIEF! A thief, above, is making off with a rather large haul To complete the picture, add lines dot to dot.

• SAY WHAT! Unscramble each U S state's one word motto 1 Rhode Island—POEH 2 Utah—SYDTURIN 3 Wisconsin—WDROARF 4 Texas—NESHPIFDIR

1 Hope 2 Industry 3 Forward 4 Friendship

	1	2	3	4	5
1	M	E	T	A	L
2	E				
3	T				
4	A				
5	L				

IT'S A METAL TESTER!
Four five-letter words that interact with the word METAL are required to complete the word square above See how quickly you can find the words Definitions are as follows

1 Iron or tin, for example (already shown)
2 Rub out
3. Try a bite
4. Roadside flower
5 Dirty looks

Remember, a word square consists of a group of words that read the same both horizontally and vertically

1 Metal
2 Erase 3 Taste 4 Aster 5 Lasts



• CLASS ACT! Jasper's seat in school is in the middle row, third from the front and fourth forward from the back. Two persons sit to Jasper's left, and two sit to his right.

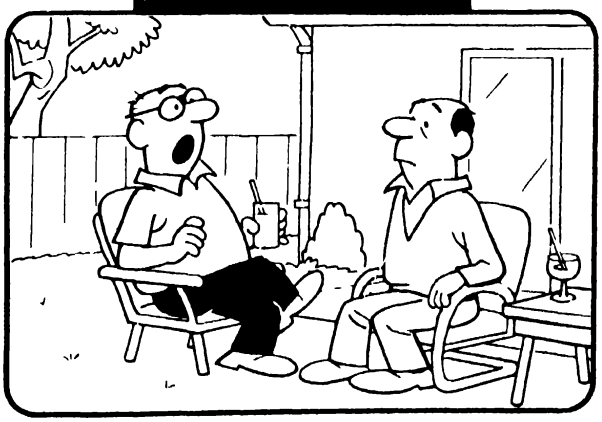
Now then, if all the rows have the same number of seats, and all the seats are filled, how many students are in the class?

Thirty (six rows of five each)

HOCUS-FOCUS



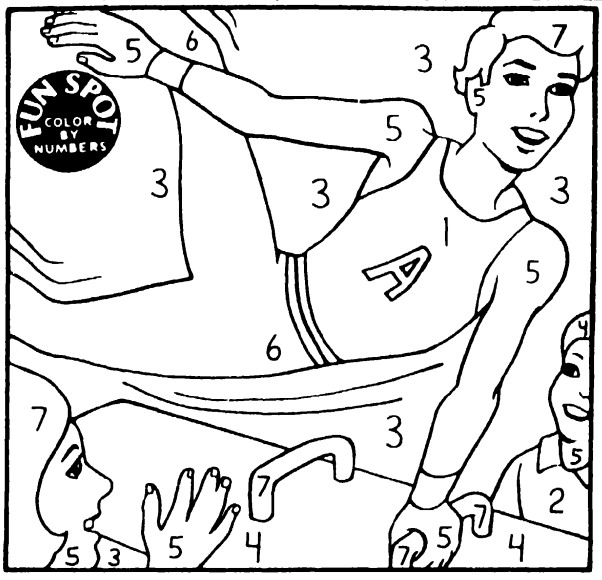
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Birdhouse is missing 2 Sleeve is shorter 3 Radio is missing 4 Bush is smaller 5 Necktie is different 6 Glass is different

FUNSPOT



HELD OVER! "Look Ma, one hand!" says the gymnast, working out above Add the following colors neatly: 1—Red 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones 6—Dk. blue. 7—Dk brown

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

BREATHER

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible treasure Raw, hero



ARIES
March 21—April 20

The emphasis this week is on house home, property land office and industry Romance will bloom in the next 11 days You may have to buy sell go in for trading, commission and agency work Health improves but do not over indulge in food and beverages A journey, including long distance and immigration, is possible

TAURUS
April 21—May 20

Hard work and cosy comforts for Taureans Romance will be your life blood In finance, do expect to close a deal or get a promotion Despite sustained hard work your health will remain more or less fine Travel love and money make the three aces Learn to relax with a recipe and devote more time to your kids

GEMINI
May 21—June 20

Travel shift transfer legacy and the galvanising of the home front are the highlights of the week Romance blossoms after February 9 Legacy, loan trading and collaboration form the quartet for you Your energy level may not be very high Go for regular checkups Travel is your birthright Children education and renovation will occupy most of your time

CANCER
June 21—July 20

You will socialise like a champion and laugh heartily Romantic activities are assured Deeds and contracts will be signed in your favour As far as health is concerned you will have too many irons in the fire so learn to rest and recoup February and March will keep you busy in terms of communication and short trips Expect relatives and foreigners to drop in

LEO
July 21—August 20

You will work like a bulldozer Parents, and elders will interfere in your work But remember they mean well Strictly speaking romance hots up after February 11 A promotion or recognition of your talents is very probable Your health remains suspect Travel only for serious work and business collaboration Devote some time to home and children

VIRGO
August 22—Sept 22

Visits conferences interviews collaborations, appointments and success in ventures are the salient features of the week You will be full of charm and verve The result will be that you will score over others A job switch or an increase in perks is possible If you continue to be regular in your habits your health will remain steady Hobbies gardening antique arts and kids give you a tremendous thrill

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22

The accent this week will be on children games of chance loans trust and investments Love and socialising give you immense joy and pride Buying shopping selling banking and investments are well signified Minor back troubles and colds may be anticipated and remedied Travel is an important ingredient of the week Expect visitors to drop in A visit from the stork or an official engagement is on the cards

BIRTHDAYS

February 4
No strong aspect Matters related to children, show business acting, communication, journalism and entertainment will give you untold joy and ecstacy.

February 5
Moon trine Sun You will succeed beyond expectation provided you make a deliberate and conscious effort Be purposeful Romance, socialising and substantial gains are the other goodies for you

February 6
Moon conjunction Jupiter This conjunction favours lovers and employees Those who are interested in research as well as the arts should make it big

February 7
Moon opposition Saturn This opposition means that you must take care of your health and beware of treachery and flattery Expenses will be heavy However on and after August 19, the situation will show a marked improvement

February 8
Moon opposition Neptune Your dreams, aspirations and hopes will be fulfilled Be practical and level-headed If you do that, there are more chances of efficiency and therefore, success.

February 9
Full moon Leo, Western astrology The full moon always brings important changes in the lifestyle of an individual These changes will be in complete evidence from mid-August

February 10
Moon sextile Jupiter Late in the night, moon sextiles Jupiter It will help actors, publishers, industrialists, those in TV, video, electronics, computers, journalism, trading and advertising.

SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 22

An official engagement, marriage, business connections, foreign collaborations, publicity and image building ventures are indicated Romance will be hectic and ardent Those in business and profession do wonderfully well Accept psychological pressures and all will be well Travel will bring pleasure and profit Childbirth or education of children, and buying and selling of property are a strong direction of the week

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23—Dec 20

You will reach out to people in a fantastic manner You will have a chance to make good money Romance blooms after a week Health improves and so does your efficiency Expect visits calls, interviews, meetings and conferences A trip is possible Your home will give you the solace and comfort you do need now

CAPRICORN
Dec 21—Jan 19

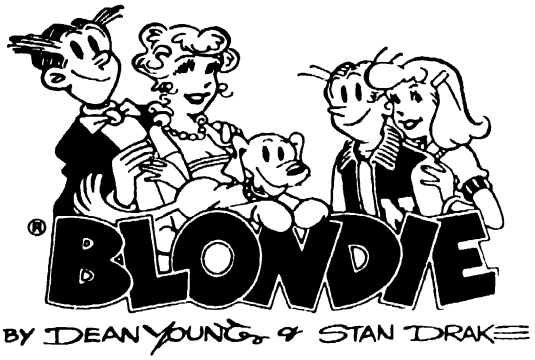
The week signifies children romance, hobbies entertainment, promotion buying and selling You will be loved respected and cherished Income and expenses will even out Your health remains excellent Expect people to call on you or invite you to their city or village

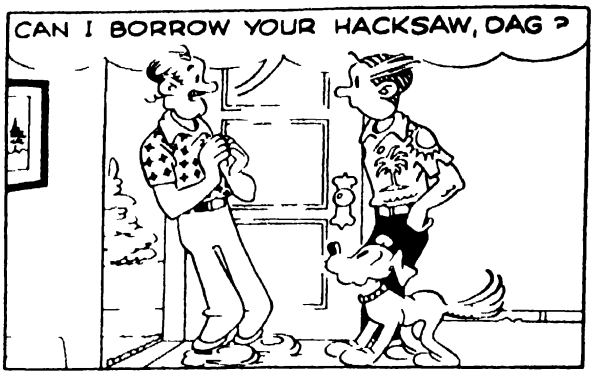
AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18

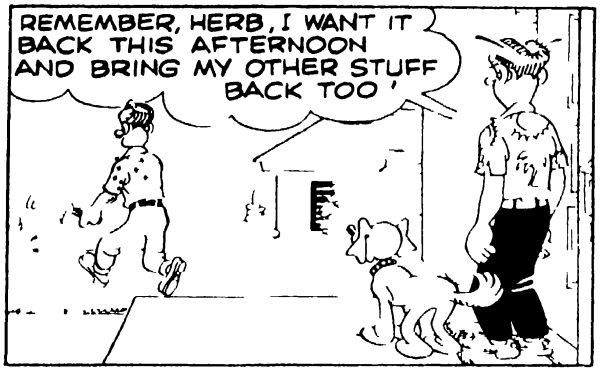
Home parents and elders do have a very major say in your life this week You will be exceptionally affectionate and caring Expenses will skyrocket Learn to meditate and sleep at an appropriate hour Travel will be entertaining You will establish happy contacts

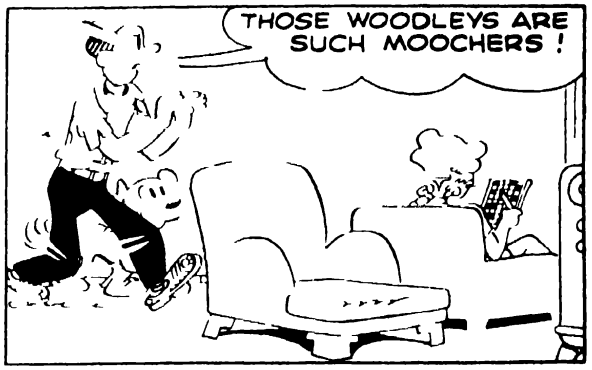
PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

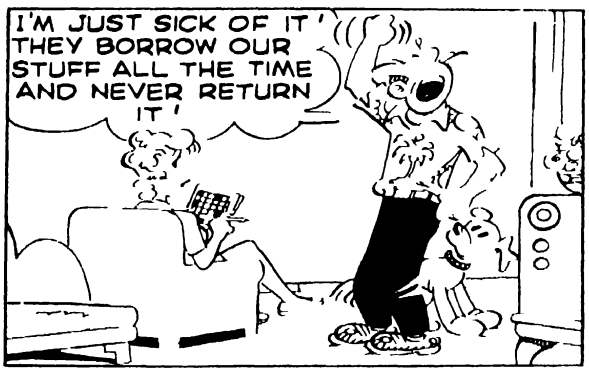
Travel, trips, expenses, visit to clinics and rewards are the main trends of this week You will love in the tradition of Romeo and Majnu Your earnings will increase and you will also spend lavishly Friends will be helpful Take extra care of your health Go for regular checkups You will travel because your heart will be pining and yearning for affection A major reshuffle at home is likely

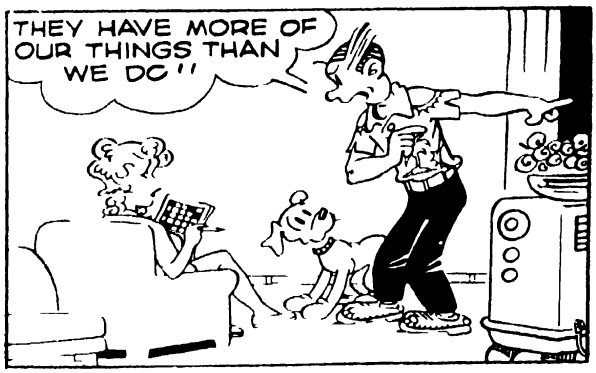


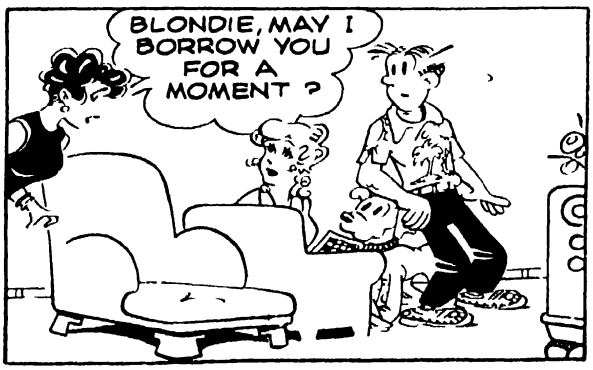




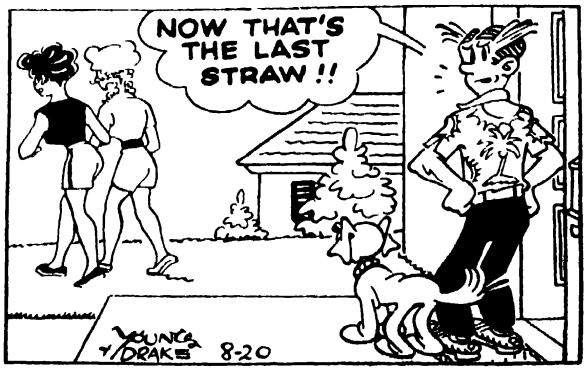




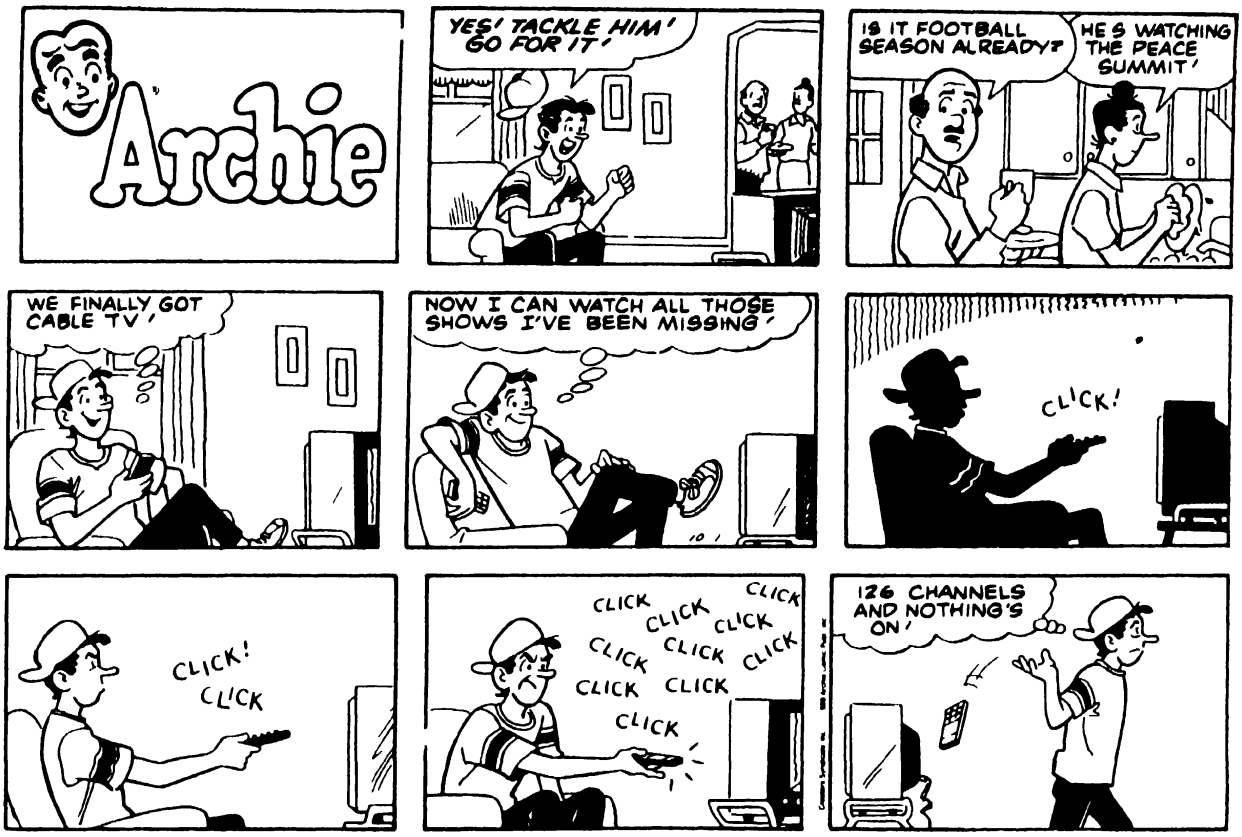




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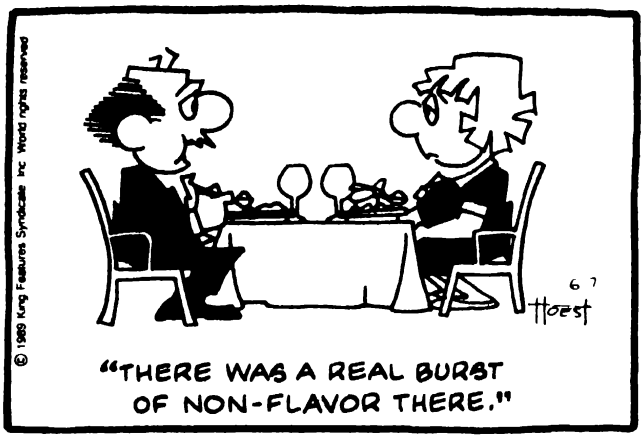
ARCHIE



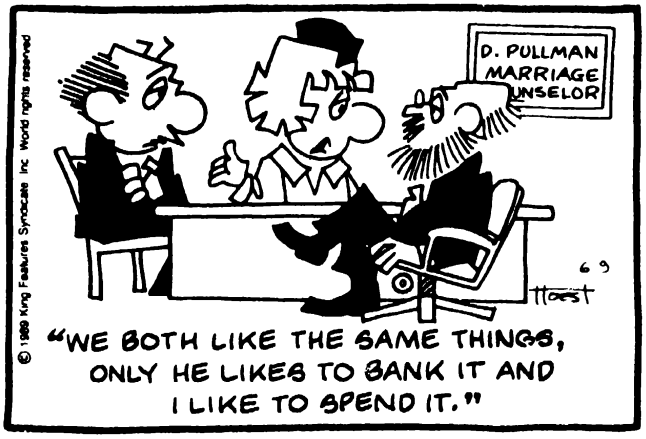
MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber

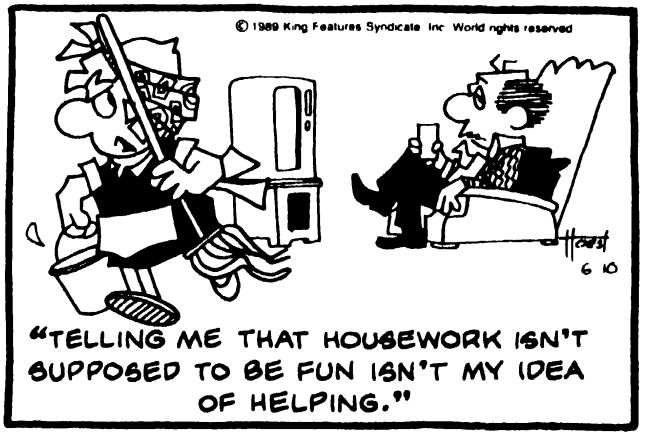


THE LOCKHORNS

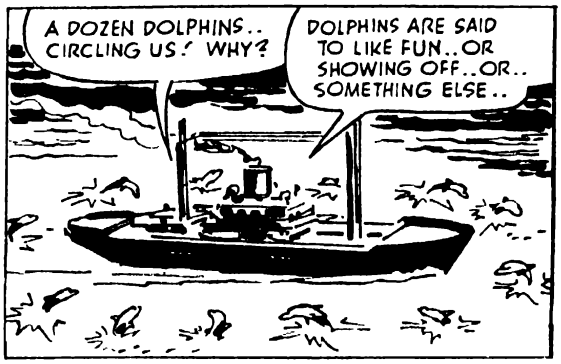


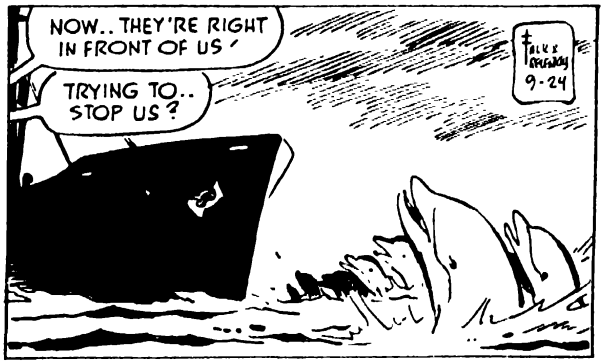


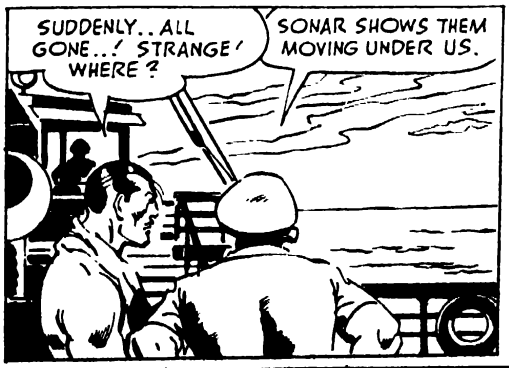


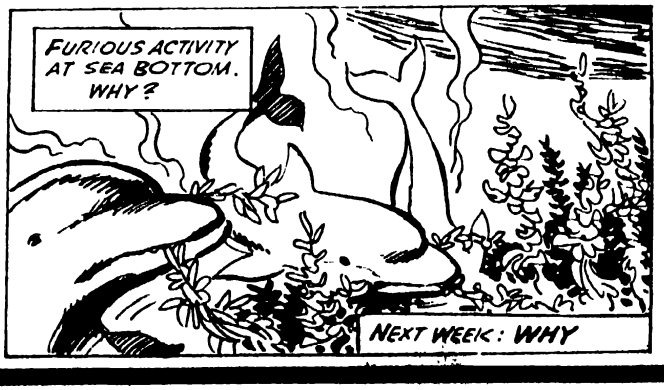


MANDRAKE By Lee Falk







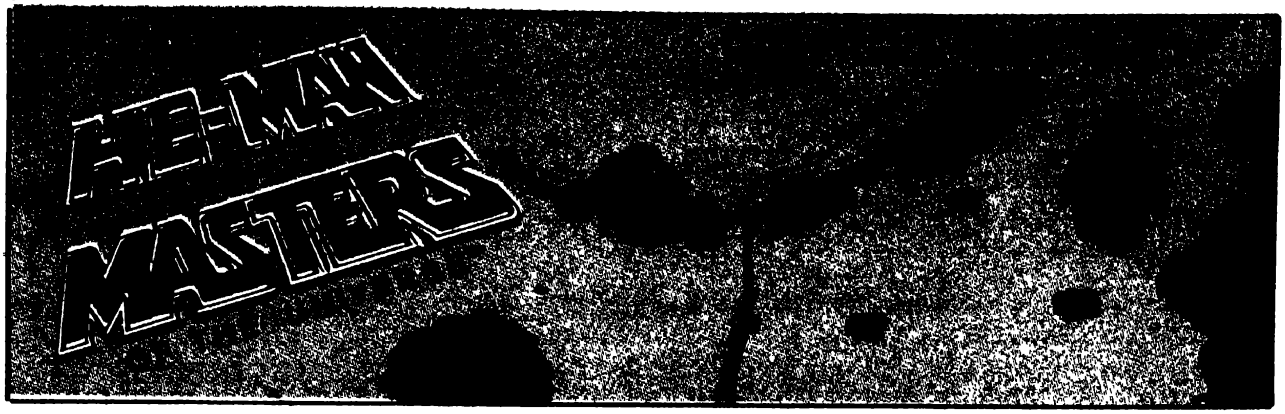


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THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP

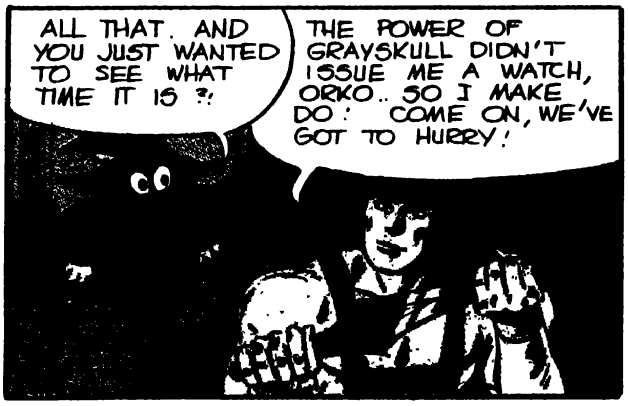


The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special







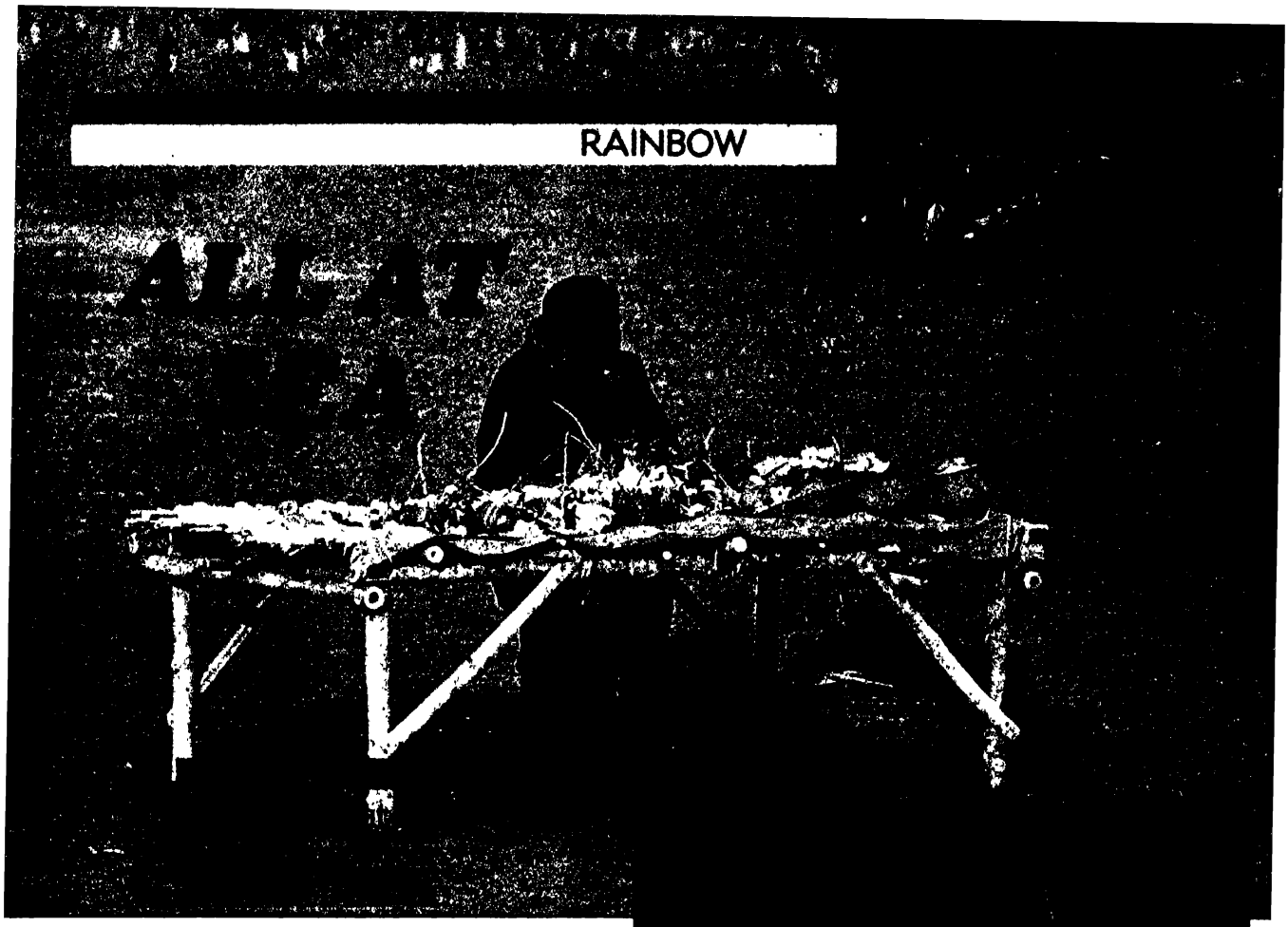






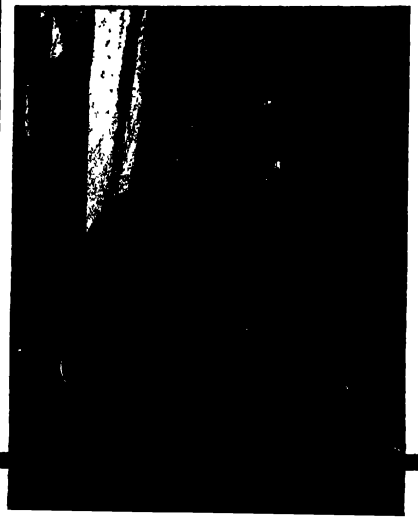


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RAINBOW









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The Telegraph
11 FEBRUARY 1990

6 Calcutta, the city which cannot be wished away, has now inspired the inimitable R.K. Laxman.

13 Tracing the history of the Kremlin.

16 Gorgeous zari work is produced by the humble artisans of Howrah. A photofeature.



18 We focus on a unique Krishna temple in a remote West Bengal village, exposed to the ravages of time.

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KARATE KID

Sunny Ghosh may be just 3' 2", but already packs a lot of punch in that chubby little frame

Photographs: Aloke Mitra

"One day I will be a Karate King," says four year old Sunny Ghosh who participated in the All India Gojukai Championships held recently in Pune The fair and chubby gentle looking kid weighing a little over 30 kgs, not only took part in the Kata (a test to find out the fighter s ability to beat a squad of opponents) with other participants older (seven to 15) than him but also managed to come second in the basic test which accepted 32 participants between six and nine years of age In the basic, the technique, style, seriousness and motivation are watched

Sunny studies in the nursery section of St Paul's School "In fact I just thought of taking him to the meet to improve the mental strength of the kid, but I am astonished at his performance, says his coach, Lalit Shaw Sunny's beaming father, Sankar Ghosh, adds, He began punching sandbags right from the age of two He jogs over three and a half kms everyday and can easily perform 28 situps besides skipping regularly He practises five to seven hours every day Sunny was admitted to the Calcutta Karate Club in September last year The club is affiliated to Zen Nippon Karate Do Japan, and coach Lalit Shaw is a Second Dan Black Belt The question which Sun-





Sunny the Superboy



Picking up a few tips from coach Lalit Shaw

ny's parents have to face frequently is about possible injuries "I'o tell you frankly we are not afraid at all We want our children to learn something special and stand high above the others I have also had my daughter, Biky, admitted to the same karate school," says a confident Mrs Juma Ghosh "We will go as far as he can We would like to go to the farthest extent "

Sunny, also known to his friends as Saikat, admits in his childlike tone that he has many friends and he is always the He-Man, not the Skeletor, to them "But my friends are not afraid of me and my sister My favourite hero is Superman and Hanuman I watch all (war) films " Speaking about his dreams, Sunny recounts, "I dream that I am lost in the deep jungles of Dengkali (the reference is from Phantom comics) It is raining heavily and suddenly Skeletor appears I don't use the sword, but my bare hands to tear him apart "

Says Mrs Ghosh, "Sunny is not fussy about food But he loves milk and meat, and sometimes, rosogollas " His coach, who has great expectations from little Sunny, adds "We have had kids all the time, but there was certainly something special in this little one and so I took him for the meet I have never taken kids of this age In fact, he was not allowed to take part in the basic, but on my earnest request they decided to relax the rules and Sunny was the youngest participant in the meet "

When Sunny was asked about the things he loved doing, he promptly replied, "I love only karate " He welcomes everyone with a bow and says "Ooze," which his coach explains as "Namaskar " He practises all day with his elder sister, Biky, who is also a student of CKC Sunny has proved to be a quick learner, he is usually the demonstrator in the club's practice session

"My children are not TV addicts," says Mr Ghosh proudly "When they have done their homework, they prefer to have either me or my wife as the referee and the 'battle' between the brother and sister begins"

Speaking about his experiences of the meet and the tour, Sunny recalls with a cheesy smile, "I am always dying to learn contact punch (children below 12 are not allowed to perform body contacts) and I don't know where I was taken, but I became very serious as the uncles told me that if I did well they would give me prizes. Besides, I don't mind going anywhere in the world as long as there is karate over there and the people of that place love karate "

Then, Sunny adds a little sternly. "I don't like to talk so much. I prefer to do things. If you want, I can show you how punches are delivered."

Robin Roy

BARTER BANK

• **Musical synthesiser:** I would like to exchange a Yamaha PSS-470 musical synthesiser with a wooden case and stand for anything of equivalent value. Write to [illegible] Basu, [illegible] Sinha Street, P.O. Deben Nagar, Purulia [illegible].

• **Walkman:** I offer a UNISEF double-jacked Walkman with two pairs of headphones and a matching stabiliser for anything of corresponding value. Contact Rabello Mazoomdaar, 12/5 A.B. Nagar, Calcutta 700061.

• **Cassettes:** I would like to exchange the cassettes of *Randy Travis: Always and Forever, The Best of Bangles* and *The Very Best of Scorpions* for the cassettes of *The Best of Modern Talking, Police: The Singles* and *Country Special Hits*. Contact Rashmi Baruah, Prantik, P.O. Silpukhuri, Guwahati 781003.

• **Study material:** I would like to exchange a set of IIT Roorkee 1988 tutorial books (comprising a set of 36 books) for some good story books and Rock music cassettes. Write to Soumen Ghosh, Flat no. A-10/8, Kalindi Housing Estate, Calcutta 700089.

• **Typewriter and camera:** I would like to exchange a portable electronic typewriter and an SLR camera with tele and wide angle lenses and a flash with charger for a VCR or anything of corresponding value. Write to Nalin Sinha, BD-273 Salt Lake City, Calcutta 700064.

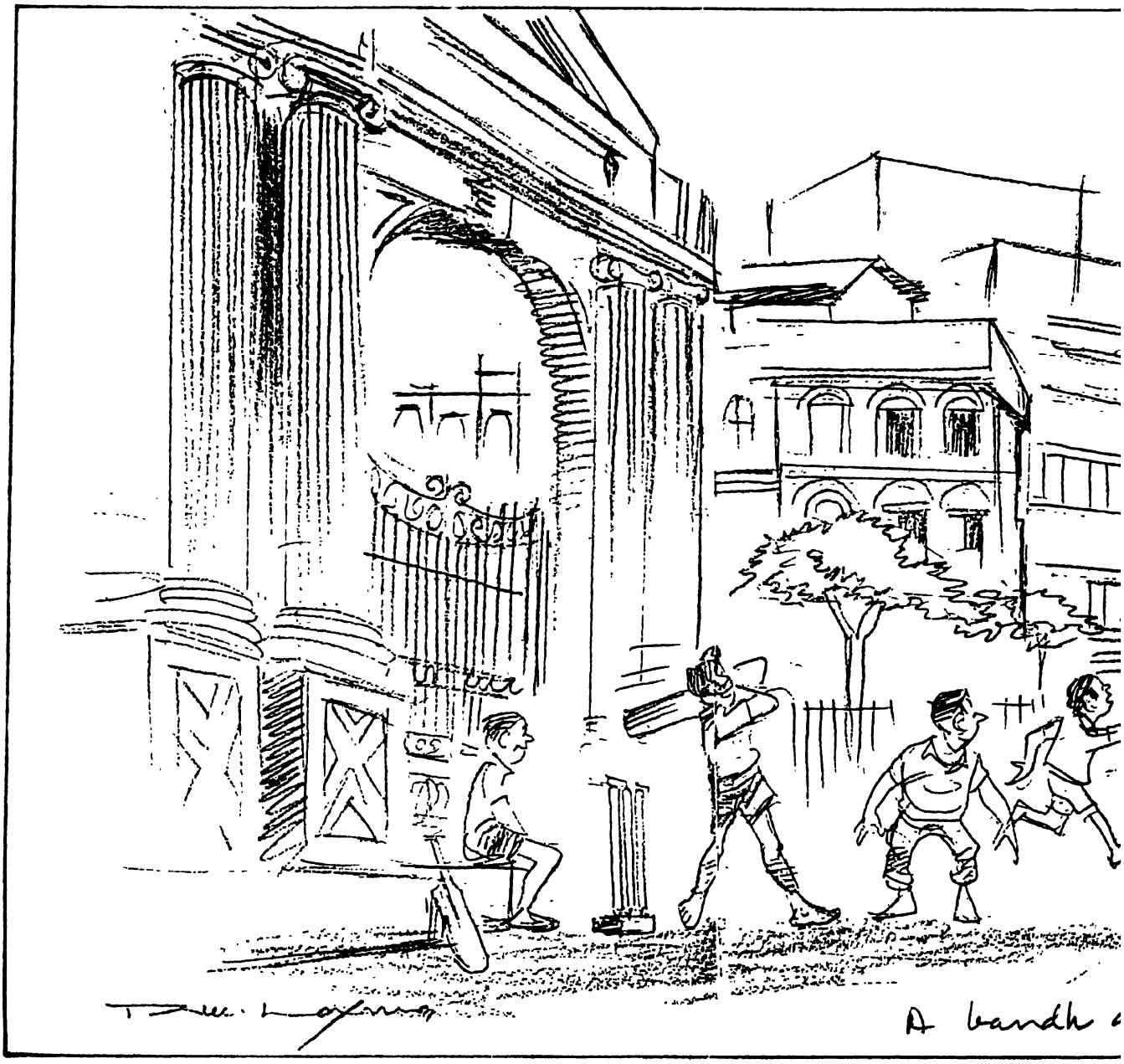
• **Stamps:** I would like to exchange 200 stamps for a calculator: Write to Wasim Athar, C/o Mrs A. Amir, P.O. Box 862, Calcutta GPO.

• **Law books and personal computer:** I offer several books on company law and income tax, and a dB spectrum personal computer for anything of corresponding value. Contact Rajesh Poddar, 1A, Heysham Road, Calcutta 20.

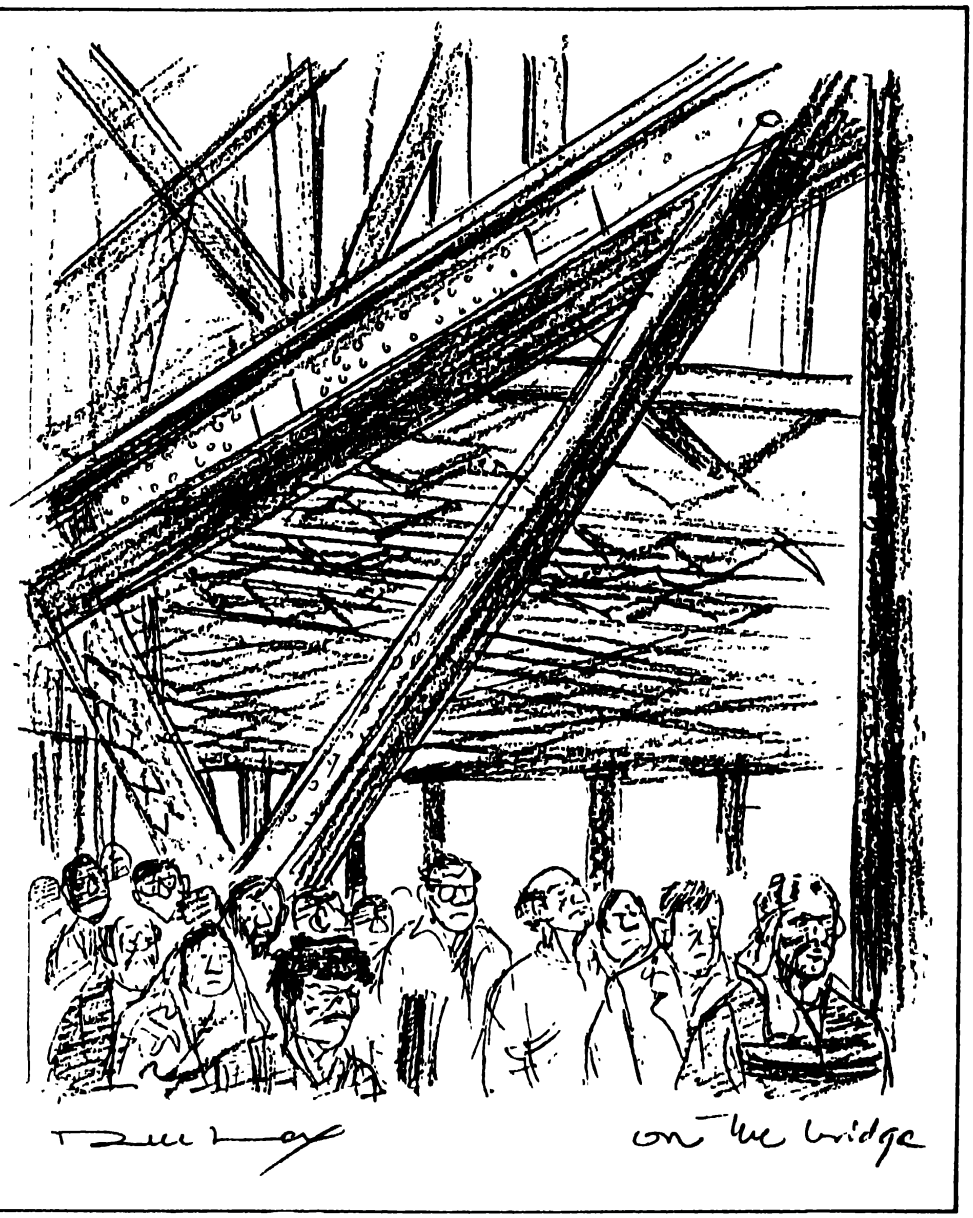
• **Stamps and pen-pal lists:** I offer 500 Indian and foreign stamps and three pen-pal lists for posters of Graf, Sabatini and Sam Fox or anything of corresponding value. Contact S. Chakrabarty, 'Dharmada', 1071 Bivar Road, Shillong 793001.

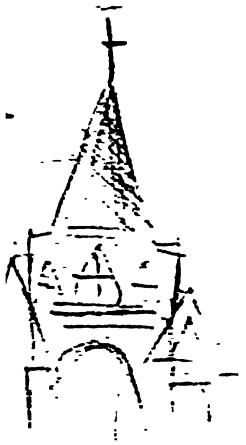


LAXMAN'S CALCUTTA



Calcutta is the most sketchable city I have seen. I have in my travels both inside and outside the country come across some very interesting narrow cobbled lanes, high weather-beaten walls of houses dotted with dark eye-lets of windows, rows of tiled roofs with jagged edges, crumbling ruins of temples, weed-grown mansions, disintegrating ornate iron gates of stately homes, fluted pillars holding aloft facades of majestic buildings, and so on.



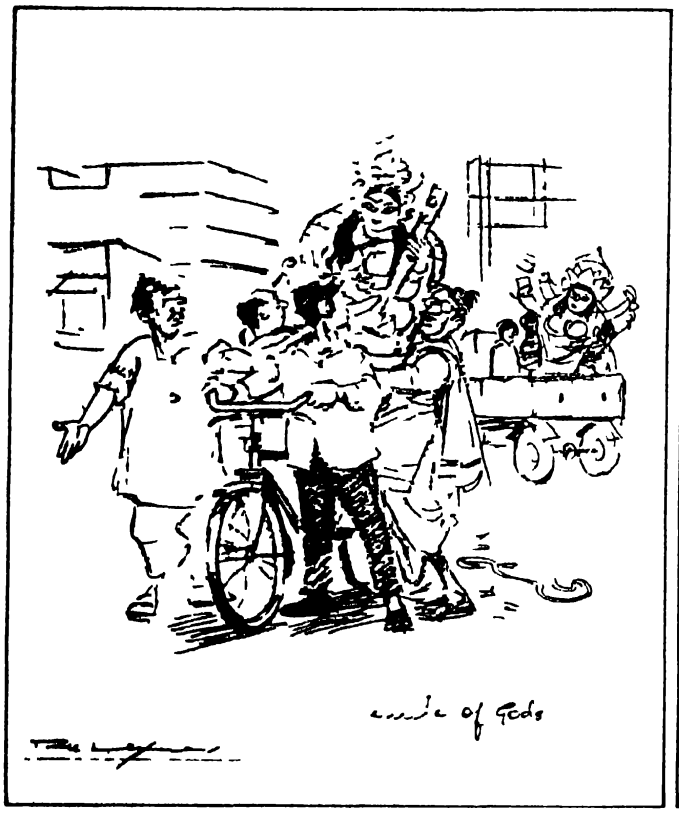


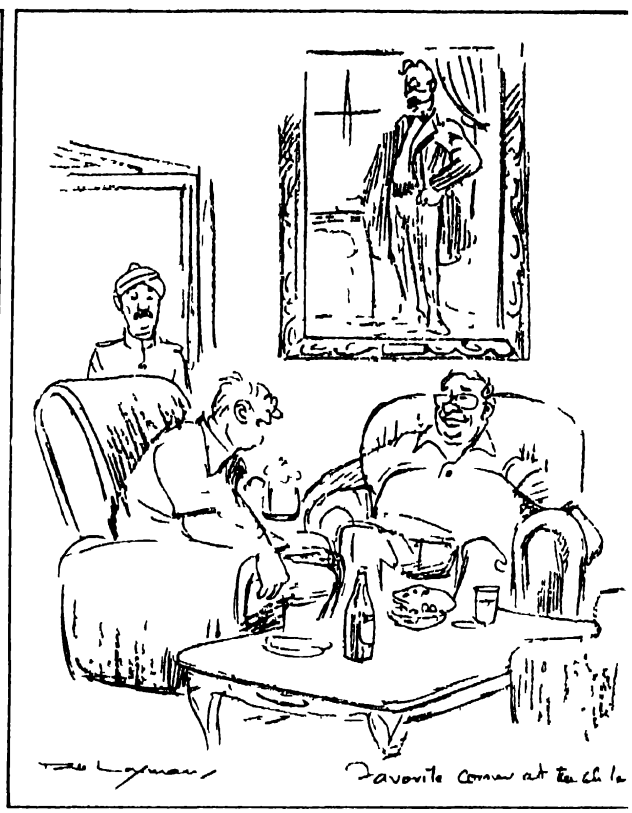


An inimitable cartoonist's incisive look at the city

Extracted from *Calcutta Images* by R.K. Laxman; The Manjushree Foundation, Calcutta; Rs 400.









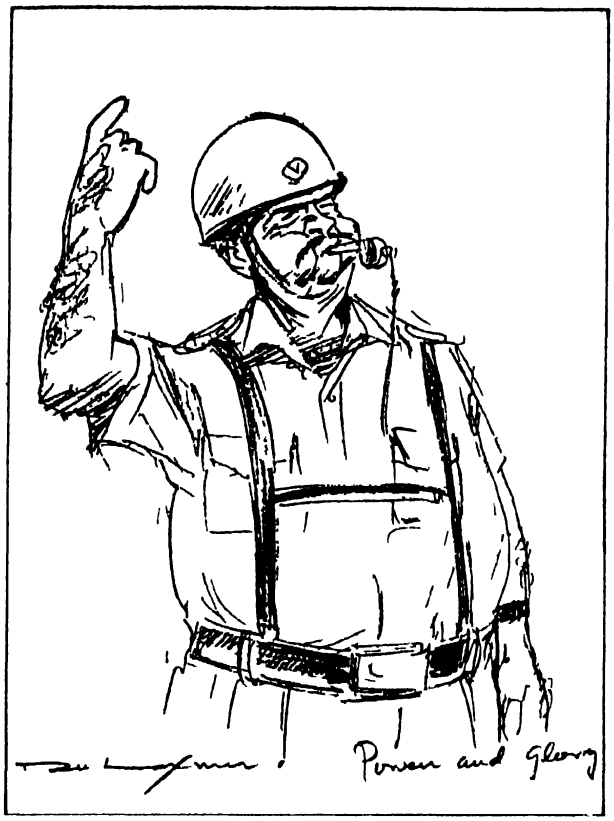
My fingers have always itched to sketch them

Calcutta is a treasure house of such items, for an artist born with an eye for the tragi-comic in everyday life That is why this city has been one of the most photographed, painted, sketched in the country

Way back in history, the alien traders and colonisers took time off to fumble with paint and brush to record their impressions of the city With the arrival of camera obscura it readily offered itself as a subject for the young novice photographers who succeeded in capturing the sombre mood of Calcutta, in black-and-white Now the techniques of colour photography are so advanced that it looks as if there cannot be any bad photographs at all! In respect to Calcutta particularly, any shot taken at any time, at any angle, anywhere, seems to fall automatically into a pleasing natural colourful composition. To indulge for a moment in a bit of fanciful theory, it is perhaps because the city abounds in geometrical shapes everywhere.

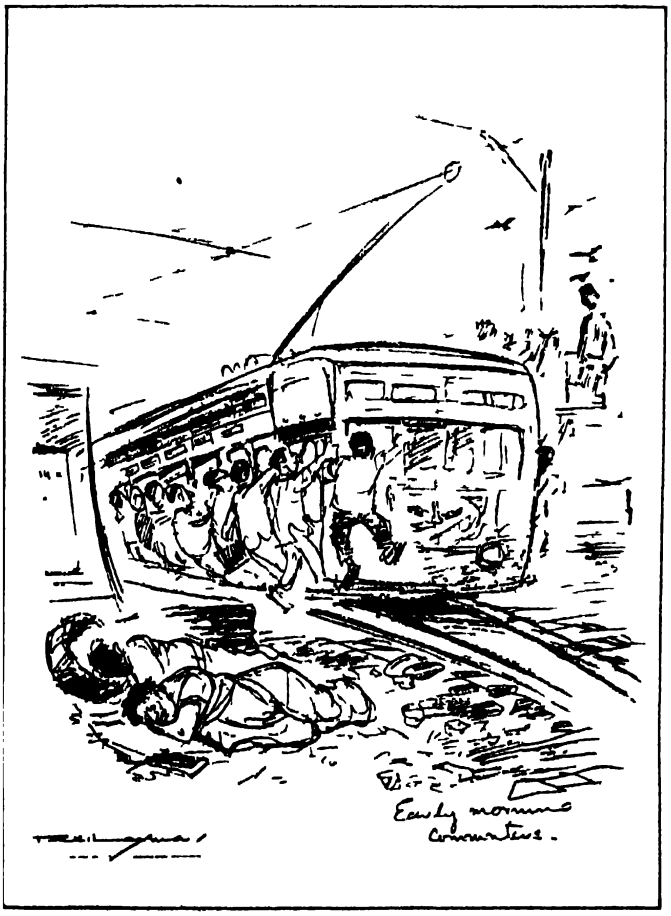
To start with, the Howrah





Bridge full of criss-cross lines, triangles and rectangles at one end and on the other, the ubiquitous circular wheels of rickshaws, buses, push-carts, the stacked up empty tar drums, the vertical lines of the mighty public buildings, triangular roofs, curved balconies, etc The colour is supplied by hoardings advertising TV sets and tyres, baby food and soft drinks But the real contributions are made by the millions of tattered cinema posters stuck all along the walls of every street, every pillar, every bit of exposed space Against this backdrop, the vast theatre called Calcutta, the drama of life is enacted, involving a medley of pavement dwellers, bus passengers, trains, business executives, tourists, beggars, housewives, school children, rickshaw-pullers, scholars, holy men, wedding processions, protesters, joggers, cows, dogs, crows and so on, all in incongruous juxtaposition Looking at this panorama

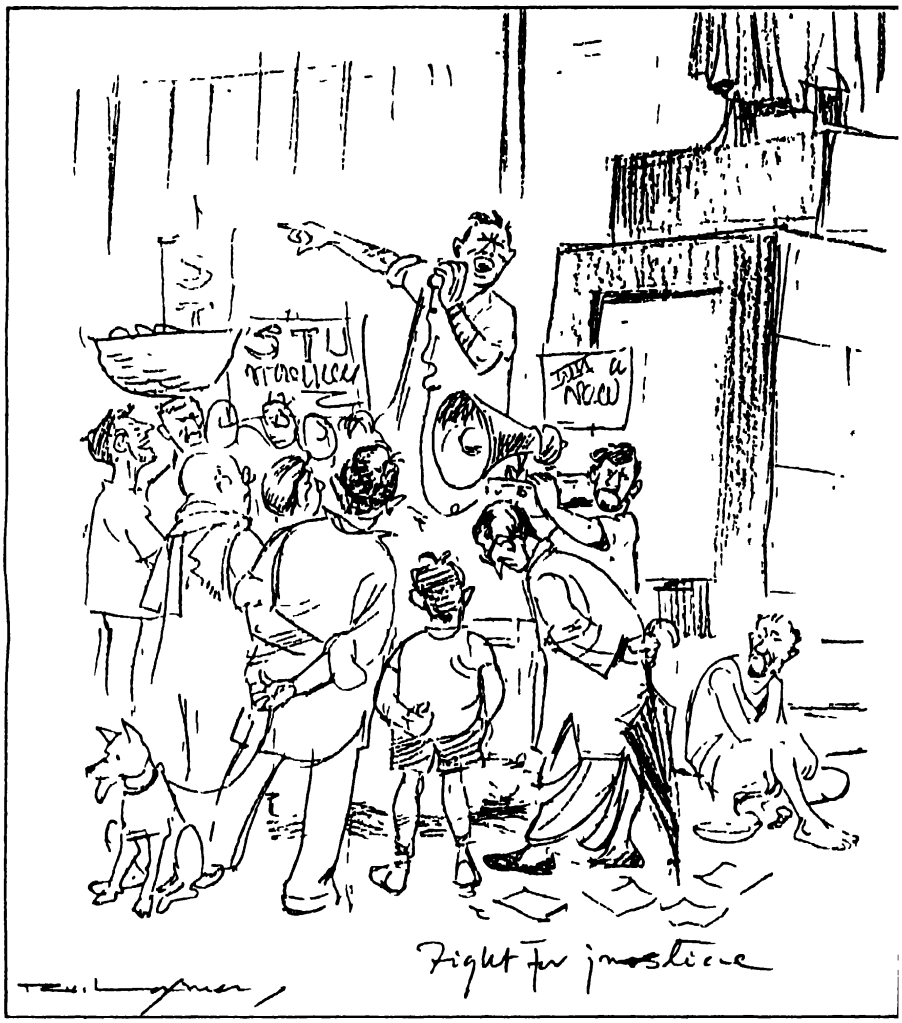












one can't help becoming somewhat philosophical and may see in all this a certain sadness, satire and perhaps an indefinable salvation.

To make these drawings, I chose not pen and ink nor paint and brush but the common every day pencil. A pencil sketch has an innocent quality about it which the more elaborately worked out pen and ink drawing or painting does not seem to possess. A pencil in a competent hand will trace a visual image and capture the sharpness or softness or vagueness of an object and the result acquires a strange charm of its own. Also, a fleeting image is not a photographic representation but an after impression, reliant on the memory.

The sketches are of this kind. I have left out the obvious; the familiar monuments and places. A camera is better



equipped to do that job. So the viewer should not expect to see in these drawings, any resemblance to reality. If indeed there happens to be any I will say it is purely coincidental as the fiction writer would, after basing the entire theme for his novel on real people and happenings! Just like he exercises poetic license, I have attempted, in graphics, some sort of fiction, so to speak. Thus the pavement dweller, the hawker, the fishmonger, the vegetable vendor, the rickshaw-puller, the bridges, the garbage heaps, the drain pipes, the bathers, the buildings, the mansions, the faces and other trivia are there, of course, in reality. But I have taken them and refashioned them after my own artistic inclinations and humorous attitude towards what goes on around me. ■

OH, TO BE REBORN A SERVANT!

The advertiser is to be congratulated for having such touching faith in humanity, for having such splendid belief in myths and illusions. Let us wish him every good luck. He will probably need it even more when his wish is granted.

Servants have been sent on earth to provide a constant vindication of the theory of Karma. Lead a pure and unblemished life and the chances are that you will be born again to the elevated status of a servant. The more wicked your lifestyle, more the chances of your being condemned to being born an employer in your next incarnation. Contradiction of terms, did you say? Not at all. Any householder will testify as to who is the actual ruler of the domestic empire. Your 'humble' servant, of course. The image of the pathetic, raggedy creature ceaselessly toiling from dawn to dusk, so lovingly propagated by the Hindi filmmaker, is as real as Sridevi's eyelashes.

Reality is more like this. A perfectly well dressed entity, booted and wristwatched, presents himself to interview you. As you clear your throat, the eyes of the new arrival does a quick reconnoitre of your living arrangements. Notes with displeasure that the TV isn't in evidence and furthermore there are far too many rooms for comfort. After trival matters like basic salary (approximately a little less than what the breadwinner earns) is dispensed with a cynical laugh (on his part), he points out that he is non-veg, accustomed to one day's holiday a week and one month's paid holiday a year, rather prefers tery-cotton shirts and coconut oil, and hopes that the hours of duty would be humane. Something like three hours in the morning and two hours in the evening. The prospective employer notes with silent gratitude that the future saviour has forgotten about provident fund and bonus. Overjoyed at having found a cook-cum-bearer who has actually deigned to stay, she whispers tearfully, "Thy wish is my command". From there on starts the reign which would have given even Attila the Hun an inferiority complex.

Morning starts with the rattle of the tea tray, dumped unceremoniously on the night table. The tea, of course, looks grey and tastes kind of strange, because the tea leaves were drowned in water which hadn't been boiled properly. Breakfast is a collage of bits of burnt toast and greasy eggs. Whilst grimly trying to swallow some delicious morsels, you suddenly find yourself engulfed in a dust-storm. For it is dusting time. A flick here, a flick there, crash goes our favourite vase and—silence. "When does the sweeper come?" asks your 'help' irritably.

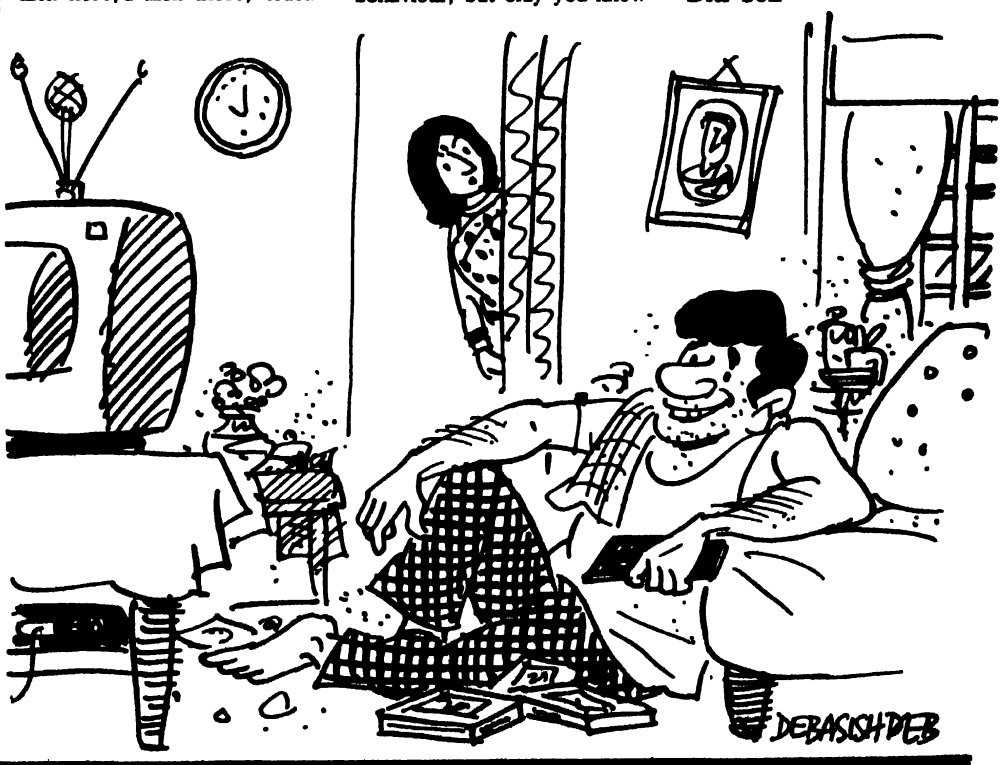
A harried and harassed housewife's dream

Like magic the housework is completed. No matter that the dining table is full of crumbs and the ashtrays are overflowing with stubs, it is now time to prepare lunch. After an hour of clashing and banging of pots and pans, he emerges triumphant from the battle. He has succeeded in reducing the food to globs, floating despondently in an uniformly same gravy, be it meat, fish or vegetable. This 'nouvelle cuisine' is, of course, demolished chiefly by its own creator. Siesta time follows during which you are rushing around answering doorbells (the phone *mistri* two weeks too late , the children home from school and the postman with a VPP parcel which you never asked for anyway.) Rising at dusk, fresh and alert, he homes straight for the TV, dinner being a cursory afterthought.

Days pass with husband and children groaning endlessly about inedible food and rude behaviour, but only you know how lucky you are to have someone to fetch the kerosene, collect the milk and the weekly rations, and take the dog for a walk. Until sundry items like the children's felt pens and the husband's shirts, start to vanish. All fingers point in one direction but stoutly you deny all allegations. Then one day you find him delicately fingering your new watch. Reluctantly you bid him adieu despite all the threats being thrown at you by the 'injured' party. He leaves in righteous indignation and promptly tells your overjoyed neighbours how ill-treated, underfed and overworked he had been. And you settle down to yet another long siege of endless housework and endless interviews with prospective 'helps'.

The only consolation you can think of, is that after so many years of true penance and sacrifice, surely you will be reborn a servant and it will be your turn to wreak vengeance on your unfortunate employer.

Ditl Sen





QUIZ

A report from Swapan Mukherji on the last open quiz of 1989

"Like the lazy hazy days of a Calcutta summer, the city quiz-scene had a long dry season in 1989 Two of its popular events had to wait for the New Year So Calcutta s quiz bugs were longing for a break and that too for no less an event than the Argus Close-up, billed for mid-October last year It had to be postponed to January 1990

"January is the month of feast and fiesta in Calcutta With the Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary Football Tourna ment and the International Film Festival which added extra attractions this year still a slot was left open for the Argus Close-up Quiz After two days of hectic elimination and preliminary rounds the grand finale came on a January evening The Dalhousie Institute wore a festive look with a well-decorated arena to bill the event Of the eight teams TNT Tears (last year s runner-up) had to scrape through They had a close call when they beat Octette on the last question of the last preliminary round to qualify for the final Others in the final were IIM-Calcutta, Vas Victis, Magnum Spookies, Dalhousie Institute A & B and Lake Youth Club TNT Tears DI-A and Spookies were the only three seeded teams to reach the final

"After a gruelling battle ranging for three hours over audio oral and video rounds, the DI-A team proved that they are really the A" team by scoring 31 points under the leadership of Neil O Brien and duly supported by teammates Derek O Brien, Stanley David and Debabrata Mukherji Spookies came next with 22 and IIM-Calcutta got third place with 19 points

"R M Sen as quiz master was superb in his question selection and presentation with ever-appreciated witty remarks The DI-A also won the Aquo Grand Prix for winning all the four major quiz events in Calcutta

"The audience trophy, the Silver Argus Peacock was won by Gautam Ghose

"Neil O Brien, president of AQUO was quite right when he remarked that such an event should have drawn a larger crowd '

CBS

11th Question: **In slang, what does the expression "to do a Melba" mean? (Binarani Sarkar, 690 Lake Town, Calcutta 89)**

Ans: **Announcing one's retirement with great fanfare and thereafter making a comeback. (After Dame Nellie Melba, the opera singer, who made this a habit. Frank Sinatra and Imran Khan have followed in her footsteps—O'B)**

Sunil Mahta writes from Silchar

"My question is 'How did Rai-Bareili, a UP township, get its name?' and my answer is 'During the British Raj the Britishers built a library for themselves The local people used to call it Laibaichi (colloquial) and hence the name Rae-Bareili got its name'"

It s an interesting story, Sunil But alas only a story, like Calcutta getting its name from the conversation between the grasscutter and the Englishman According to the *Encyclopedia Brittanica* it is named after the Bhar tribe

Postscript: This weekend is the Argus Plate at the Dalhousie Institute prelims on Friday, February 16 at 5 30 pm, and finals on Saturday, February 17 at 6 pm The Percy Baptiste Quiz for schools also at the Dalhousie Institute on February 17 at 3 pm

QUESTIONS

1. Whose memoirs are entitled *My Turn?* (Sk Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
2. What is common to Maiden s hair, Baby's tear, Cat's claws, Kiss-me-quick and Bleeding heart? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3)
3. He was companion and tutor of Achilles who tried to reconcile him with Agamemnon He was brother of Cadmus and Europa, eponymous ancestor of the Phoenicians. Who was he? (Manoj Kr Singh, Sindri)
4. What is a "smoke ho" in Australia? (Sailesh Kr Singh, Sindri)
5. Which European author wrote his magazine articles on pink paper, poetry on yellow paper and novels on blue paper? (Amrita Das, Rourkela)
6. *Yeh Vaada Raha* is the usual Hindi kitsch that starred Rishi Kapoor, Poonam Dhillion and Tina. What made it unusual? (Suprobhat Ghoshal, Calcutta 39)
7. What is a launch window? (Othello Mazoomdaar, Calcutta 61)
8. Name the English batsman who has the distinction of hitting the highest number of boundaries in any Test innings. England's former captain Ted Dexter remarked about him: "He should be remembered, perhaps, like wartime bomber pilots, as someone who faced a lot of flak and lived to let someone else tell the tale."
9. Who were known as the "Ladies from Hades"? (Pushan Dutt, Calcutta 19)
10. In the history of World Cup football, there has been only one World Cup in which there was no final match Instead, there was a super league among the four top teams. Name the year, and the countries between which the crucial league match was played, a match which was mistakenly believed by many to have been the final match of that World Cup. (Amit Kr Roy, Chaibasa)

ANSWERS

1. In words we'll, the Scottish equivalent is the Broad Army were established by the Germans to take. The pilots and men whose job it was to impressed the Germans that they gave them the nickname.
10. The 1950 World Cup. The decisive match was played between Brazil and Uruguay, the latter winning 2-1.
9. A break for a smoke during a working day.
8. Alexander Dumas.
7. One of the heroines has an accident and is transformed—by surgery—into the other one. Only the voice remains the same Duddee—a rare happening—by Jaya Bhaduri So, both Tina and Poonam speak in Jaya's voice.
7. The time period during which a spacecraft must be launched to achieve a desired mission
6. John Edrich.

KREMLIN

The Kremlin, that vast medieval citadel surmounted by golden domes, the seat of Soviet power, was once an insignificant, fortified outpost on a small hill on the Moscow River

From 12th century fort to palatial compound, the Kremlin would emerge as the touchstone of Russian history for more than 400 years, enduring centuries of invasion, pillage and siege before such regal celebrations as the coronations and weddings of the early czars were possible

During the Mongol subjugation, which began in 1238 and lasted two centuries Moscow became the most powerful principality in Russia although its houses were little more than log cabins and even its palaces and fortifications were made of wood

Little is left from the Mongol period because Moscow's wooden houses were vulnerable to fire which swept through the city every 20 years or so

Moscow's permanence was assured in 1480 when a Mongol army withdrew without attacking during the reign of Ivan the Great To put his stronghold in the top

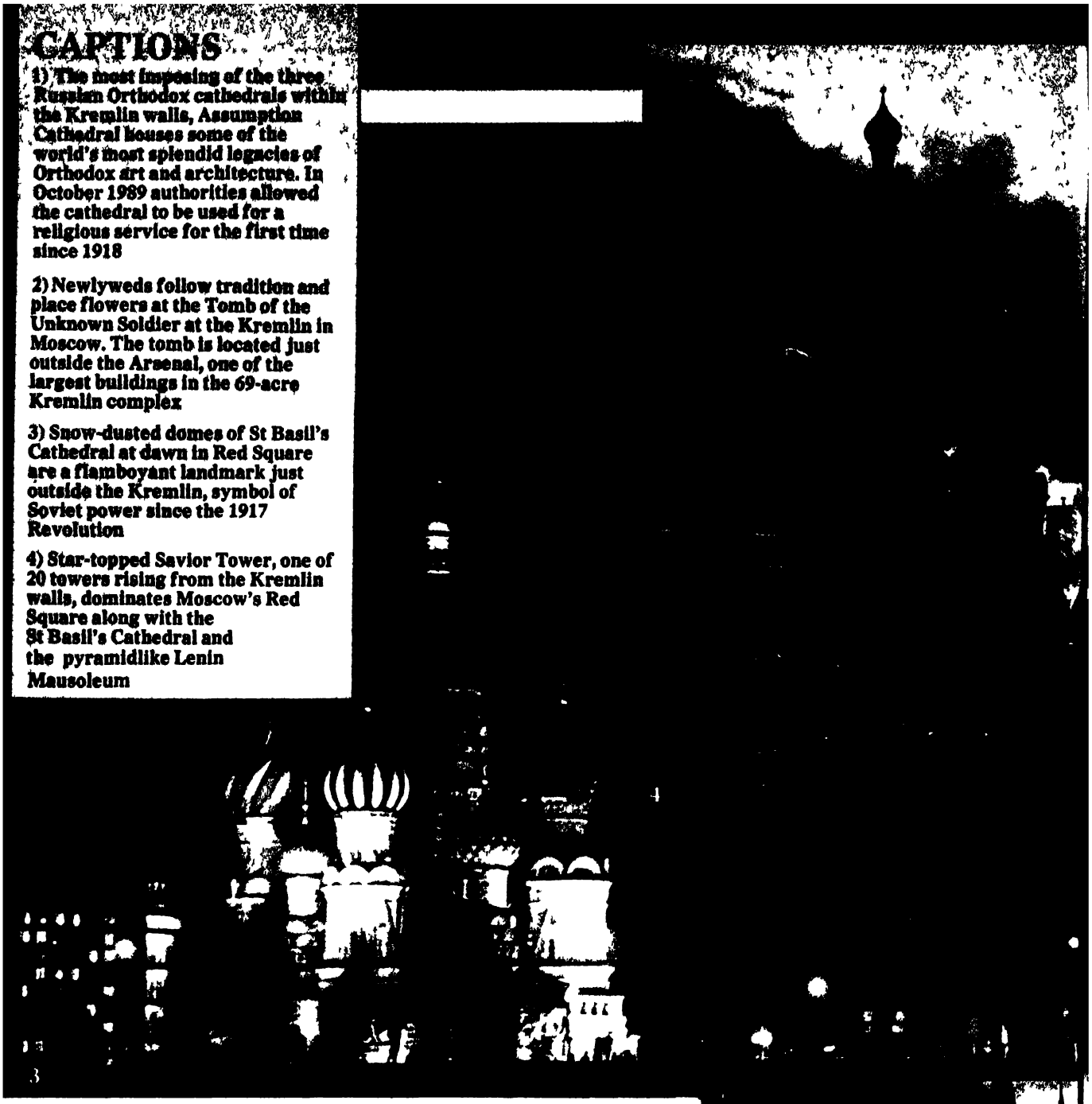
The very sound conjures up visions of immense power, although the citadel does appear to be under siege at the moment. But how did it all begin?

league of the world's capitals, Ivan wanted impregnable fortifications incorporating all the latest advances in military technology and an impressive citadel adorned with fine buildings

Ivan set about rebuilding the Kremlin on a grand scale, bringing architects, military engineers and hydraulic experts from Italy This enormous undertaking, which took 30 years to complete, included construction of a high castellated brick wall as thick as 20 feet, with fortified towers at the corners and additional towers in between

Though numerous decorative additions have been made to Ivan's fortifications in the past five centuries, and many of the old buildings have been destroyed, much of his "Italian Kremlin" still stands





CAPTIONS

1) The most imposing of the three Russian Orthodox cathedrals within the Kremlin walls, Assumption Cathedral houses some of the world's most splendid legacies of Orthodox art and architecture. In October 1989 authorities allowed the cathedral to be used for a religious service for the first time since 1918

2) Newlyweds follow tradition and place flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin in Moscow. The tomb is located just outside the Arsenal, one of the largest buildings in the 69-acre Kremlin complex

3) Snow-dusted domes of St Basil's Cathedral at dawn in Red Square are a flamboyant landmark just outside the Kremlin, symbol of Soviet power since the 1917 Revolution

4) Star-topped Savior Tower, one of 20 towers rising from the Kremlin walls, dominates Moscow's Red Square along with the St Basil's Cathedral and the pyramidlike Lenin Mausoleum

In the days of Ivan and afterward a whole medieval city existed within the Kremlin walls—workshops and barracks great houses for noblemen a monastery and dozens of churches log paved streets teeming with people

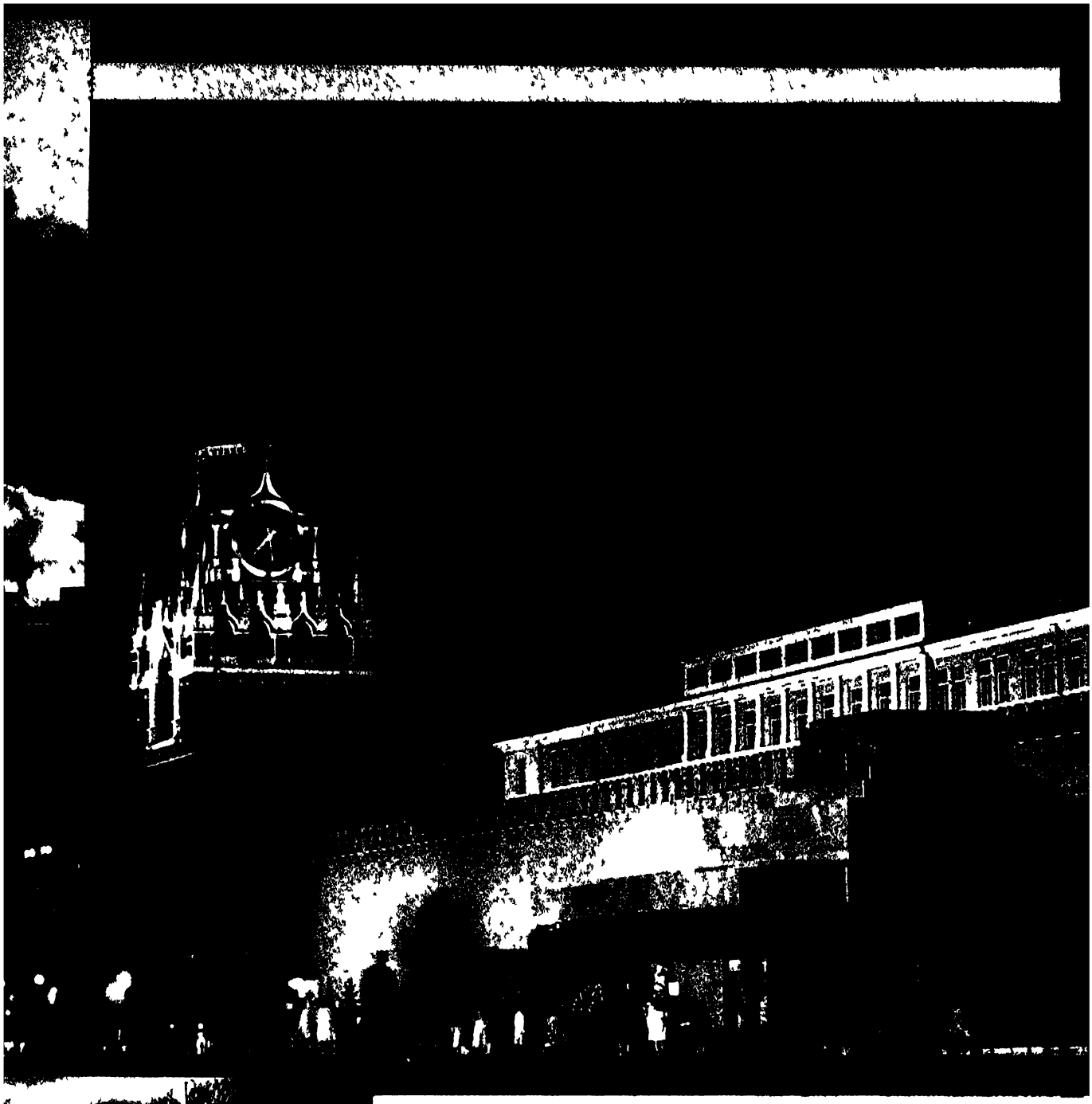
Peter the great abandoned the Kremlin in 1712 moving to the new capital he built at St Petersburg now Leningrad Kremlin life did not revive until Moscow became the capital again in 1918 after the revolution

The Kremlin (derived from kreml Russian for citadel) sprawls over 69 acres on its triangular hilltop site The palaces churches and museums that make up the State Museums of the Moscow Kremlin contain a dazzling collection of nearly 100 000 objects illuminating seven centuries of Russian royal life

And treasures are still turning up As recently as 1988 a workman digging a hole in a basement floor near the Savior Tower found a hoard of 299 pieces of 13th century silver jewellery and objects They are believed to have belonged to a wealthy ruler captured and killed by the Mongols

Access to Trinity Tower one of 20 towers rising from the Kremlin walls, is through a closely guarded entrance that leads to the headquarters of Kremlin security the surrealistically named Palace of Amusements where Joseph Stalin lived in the 1920s and '30s

As we approached the Palace of Amuse-





ments our Russian companions were tense and nervous as if some secret was about to be revealed Inside Trinity Tower we were greeted by a most unexpected scene The guard on duty was playing a trumpet at his desk The tower serves as the rehearsal studio of the Kremlin Commandant s Exemplary Band a highly accomplished military band that plays at official functions

Kremlin has a recurring problem with flocks of hooded crows on its rooftops Because the sound of gunfire inside Kremlin walls would be an embarrassment the commandant s office took up falconry as a more discreet means of culling the crows

The falconry operation was not a total success Crows apparently know a goshawk when they see one and they immediately fly away en masse I never saw a crow caught

On a winter morning just before leaving Moscow I approached the Kremlin through the Alexandrovsku Gardens Children were sliding down the steepest part of the Kremlin hill on improvised tobogganS an officially unsanctioned pastime winked at by officials

At the Borovitskaia Tower gate I noticed a militia captain of the Kremlin detail pulling some seeds out of his pocket He recognised the man as one who had been difficult on several previous occasions The captain gave a little whistle and a bird flew down and took the food from his hand Make yourself at home! he said waving me through with a big smile

(National Geographic News Service)



THE RICH LOOK

Prabuddha Bhattacharya focuses on the exquisite zari work turned out by the humble artisans of Howrah



Unknown artisans in the Domjur and Panchla areas of Howrah district create exquisite patterns of zari on saris and other pieces of cloth. Strange images start emerging at the magic touch of their nimble fingers. Almost all the members of the families here are engaged in zari work. These richly patterned clothes are sold all over India and exported abroad. But the humble artisans lead a very spartan existence, beyond the pale of recognition. ■

HARE KRISHNA!

Tucked away in a remote village of West Bengal is a crumbling Krishna temple, which has now started attracting attention because of its unique fresco.

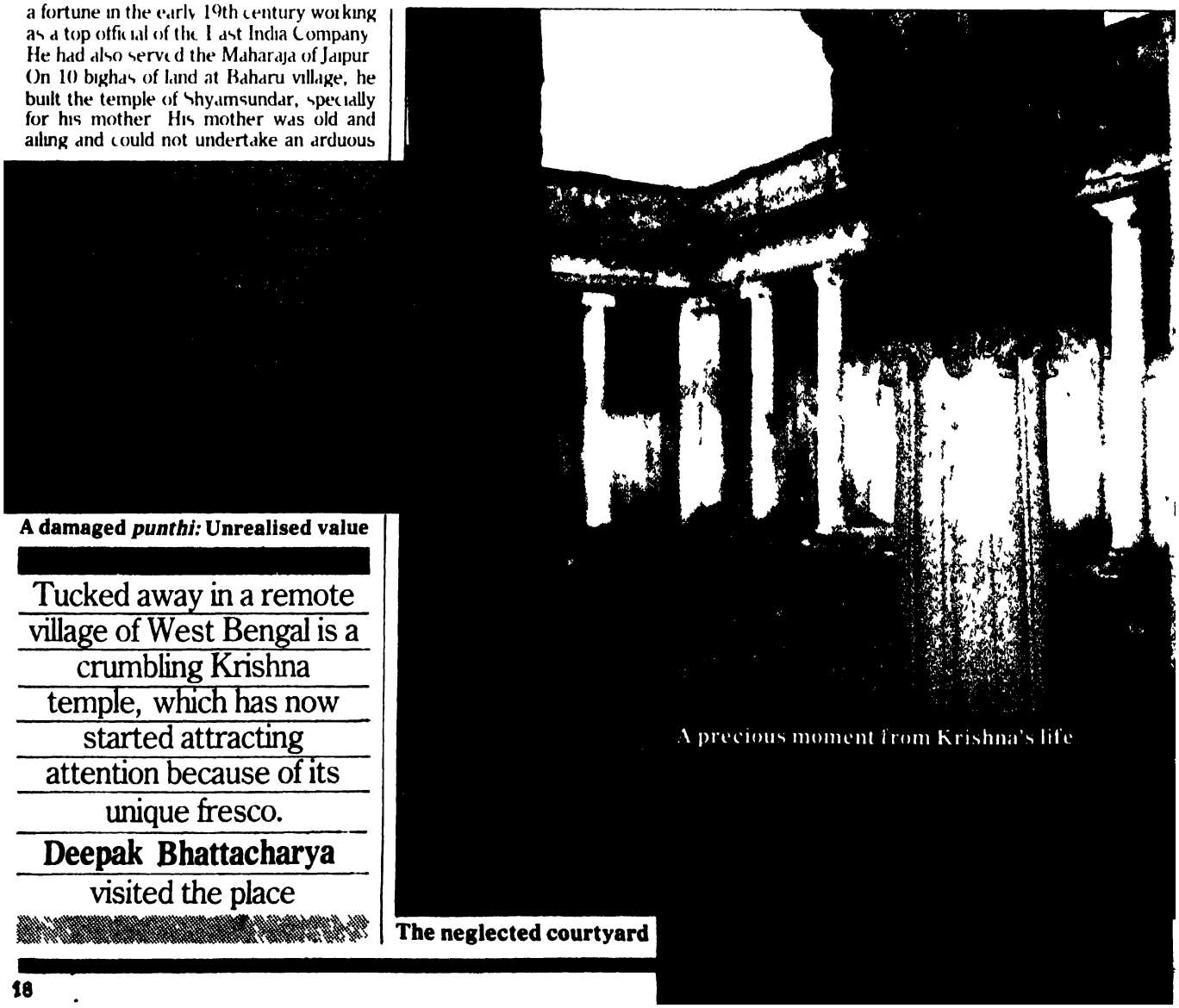
Deepak Bhattacharya visited the place

A derelict temple hidden by a cluster of trees in a remote village near Joynagar (South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal) has recently been attracting the attention of art historians. The temple's outer walls are adorned with a beautiful fresco portraying important moments in the life of Lord Krishna. Executed in the early 19th century, the fresco is considered unique for having adopted the style of the Kalighat *patuas* then flourishing in this part of the country. Today amid neglect and the onslaught of time, this work of art is fighting a losing battle.

Diwan Nanda Kumar Bose had amassed a fortune in the early 19th century working as a top official of the East India Company. He had also served the Maharaja of Jaipur. On 10 bighas of land at Baharu village, he built the temple of Shyamsundar, specially for his mother. His mother was old and ailing and could not undertake an arduous journey to Vrindaban. Nanda Kumar decided to construct a temple similar to the one in Vrindaban to fulfil his mother's wishes.

For reasons yet unknown, Nanda Kumar brought over an artist from Jaipur to decorate the walls of the Shyamsundar temple. It could be that his stint as the Diwan of the Jaipur royalty had acquainted Nanda Kumar with the delicate craftsmanship of the artists there. Whether Nanda Kumar instructed the artist to imbibe the style of the Kalighat *patuas* or the Rajasthani sculptor himself chose to incorporate this local pattern on the wall of the temple is not known by the surviving members of the Bose clan.

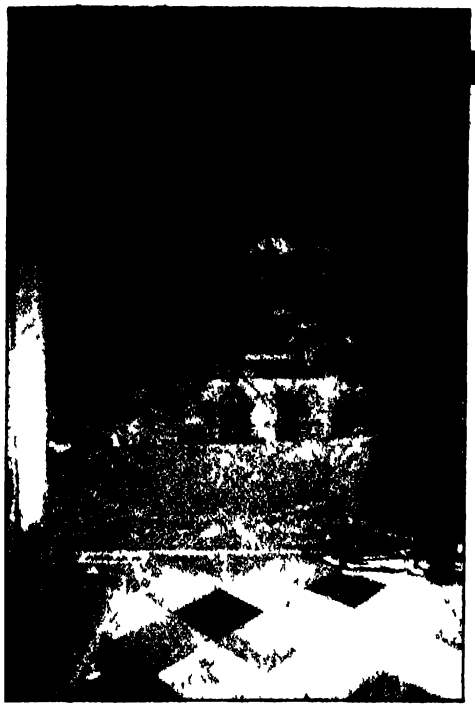
Even the renowned historian, Bratin Mukherjee, was struck by the similarity the fresco had with the Kalighat *pat*. Mr Mukherjee pointed out this resemblance at a recent seminar in Calcutta. The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) has begun taking interest in the temple and the fresco. Last year, a team of ISKCON devotees arrived at the shrine and washed the walls by spraying water. Members of the Bose family were, however, irked by this exercise and strongly believe that the colours of the fresco have started fading faster after the treatment.



A precious moment from Krishna's life

A damaged *punthi*: Unrealised value

The neglected courtyard



Fresco paintings on the sidewall of the main temple: Unique



A four-km walk from Baharu station takes you to this village A glance at the numerous dilapidated constructions on the 10-bigha plot owned by the Bose family gives an idea of Nanda Kumar's passion for building The Durga temple, now in a shambles, had once been an important centre of worship for the neighbourhood Jagadindranath Bose, the aging trustee of the Bose estate, pointed out that the Diwan had built three temples—Harabari Kunja, Madanmohan and Radhagobinda, all of them in the temple town of Vrindaban The last two have survived even to this day simply because Nanda Kumar had foreseen that dearth of funds often resulted in poor maintenance of these shrines and had allowed markets to flourish near the temple premises Markets bring revenue, Nanda Kumar with his acute business sense, had realised more than 150 years ago

Depicting scenes from Krishna's colourful life, the fresco is divided into numerous parts and sub parts The scenes include Krishna with Radha and the *gopis* and the young Krishna stealing sweets Each of these scenes is included in a 4 x4 area while some are smaller composed and executed within one or two square feet According to Jagadindranath, Nanda Kumar had brought sandstone from Chunar near Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, for the temple There are no gaps or relief between the scenes on the fresco and, at places, lack of scientific preservation has destroyed the colours At present, daily worship continues following the Vaishnav pattern

Today, the Bose clan which is now divided into three groups, is fighting court cases among themselves for right of the temple and the surrounding land While court cases linger, theft has become rampant The shrine has been stolen and so also some valuable jewels and gold ornaments Some of the items have been recovered by the police, but these are lying in the custody of the court as the legal battle is yet to be resolved A few years back, about three bighas of land were gifted to the local administration by the family and a government office now stands near the temple Besides, a substantial area has been declared as vested land by the state government largely reducing the estate Nanda Kumar had built nearly two centuries ago Several members of the Bose family attend office in Calcutta some till the land while others are unemployed

Theft and decay have also damaged and reduced the interesting collection of *punthis* in the possession of the Bose clan After Nanda Kumar died around 1835, his son took over Badyanath it appears had a love for learning and got calligraphists to copy the Vedas, Puranas, Sankhyas and the Bhagvad Gita in flowing Bengali script Even members of the family seemed to be unaware of the importance of this possession and had allowed the *punthis* to wear away Since financial problems are making it virtually impossible for the presentday Boses to save their ancestral relics, it can only be hoped that the government will step in and save this precious cultural treasure ■



A view of the unprotected main temple

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Awaargi (A):** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046) 4 shows

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Anil Kapoor, Govinda and Meenakshi Seshadri. The music is by Annu Malik.

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Purnasree (Raja Raj Krissen Street, 554033)

Directed by Aziz Sajawal and with music by Nadeem Shravan, the film stars Jackie Shroff, Farha, Aditya Pancholi, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan.

• **Khatarnaak:** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani, 270147)—4 shows

The cast includes Sunjay Dutt, Anita Raaj, Farha, Kiran Kumar and Anupam Kher.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N Banerjee Road; 241383), Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270)—4 shows.

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya. The music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Rihaee (A):** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473)—4 shows; Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—all noon shows.

A film by Arunaraje, starring Hema Malini, Vinod Khanna and Naseeruddin Shah. Also in the cast are Neena Gupta, Mohan Agashe, Rima Lagoo, Ila Arun and others. The music is by Sharang Dev.

• **Souten Ki Beti:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141)—12, 3, 6, 8.45; Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956)—3, 6, 8.45; Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133)—noon.

Jeetendra, Rekha and Jaya Prada are the chief attractions. The film is directed by Saawan Kumar and the music is by Vedpaal.

• **Zahreelay:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue; 390762), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 55200), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440).

A film by Jyotin Goel, the cast includes Jeetendra, Sunjay Dutt, Chunkey Panday, Bhanupriya and Juhi Chawla. The music is by Anand Milind.

• **Taqdeer Ka Tamasha:** Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664)—4 shows.

Jeetendra, Govinda, Aditya Pancholi, Moushumi Chatterjee, Mandakini and Kimi Katkar comprise the cast. The film is directed by Anand and the music is by Anand Milind.



Debashree Roy, Aruna Irani and Uttam Mohanty in *Bhagyalipi*

Rupa, Sanchita, Madhabi, Biplab and Tapas in *Manasi*



Bengali Films

• **Anuraag:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—3, 5.45, 8.30, Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road; 355059)—2, 5, 8.

Tapas Paul, Satabdi Roy, Nayana Das, Subhendu Chatterjee, Anup Kumar, Soumitra Banerjee and with Ruma Guhathakurta comprise the cast of this film, directed by Jahar Biswas and

music by Usha Khanna.

• **Bhagyalipi:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Sujit Kumar's first Bengali film which stars Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy, Aparajita, Aruna Irani, Paintal and the director himself. The music is by Sumitra Lahiri.

Special Events

15 February onwards

Eight Days on Ganapati—an exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Gosto Kumar, till February 22.

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Ganahat Road; 755314).

15 February: 6.30 pm

Natanam Kalakshetra present a solo Bharata Natyam dance recital by Ranjabati Sircar, disciple of



Ranjabati Sircar

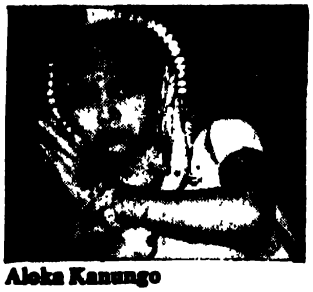
Guru Khagendranath Barman, as part of Rukmini Devi Arundale's 82nd birth anniversary celebration.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

16 February: 6 pm

Eastern Railway Women's Organisation, Howrah Division, presents an Odissi dance recital by Aloka Kanungo and a light classical vocal recital by Prateek Choudhury.

At Vidya Mandir (Moira Street; 446420).



Aloka Kanungo

17 February: 6 pm

Upasana Sanskriti Parishad's *Nrityamela '90* features Papiya Ghosh (Kathak), Tomiko Furumoto (Bharata Natyam) and Radha Dutta (Mohini Attam).

At Bharatiya Bhasa Parishad (36 Shakespeare Sarani; 449962).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325; Dep. (2): JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (3): RA-214 at 1050, Dep. (5): RA-214 at 1650, Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740; Arr. (1): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (3): RA-213 at 0950, Arr. (5): RA-213 at 1550, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1640.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (4): IC-443 at 0830; Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110; Dep. (4): IC-444 at 1150.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730, Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1410, Dep. (4): IC-443 at 0910, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1610, Arr. (4): IC-444 at 1110.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1445; Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1705.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1200, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2210.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0900 and IC-273 at 1920; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0810 and IC-274 at 1830.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1715; Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (daily): IC-771 at 0705; Arr. (daily): IC-772 at 1240.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily): IC-205 at 1330; Arr. (daily): IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1630.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-542 at 0555; Arr. (2, 3, 5, 7): IC-541 at 1225.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2045.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 1840.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-703 at 0605 and IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-704 at 0855 and IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-219 at 0605 and Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-220 at 1045 and Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-220 at 1560.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1650.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1210; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1710.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0900.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1010.

Silchar-Imphal-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-259 at 0730; Arr. (daily): IC-260 at 0900.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 0825.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-741 at 0945 and IC-743 at 1300, Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-243 at 0610; Arr. (daily): IC-742 at 1205 and IC-744 at 1520, Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-244 at 1030.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

RE-SCHEDULING OF FLIGHTS

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. However, Indian Airlines was following a partial emergency schedule when we went to press. Passengers may contact 264433, 263135, 266869, 262802, 569433, 204433, 569611 (Ext. 314) for assistance.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

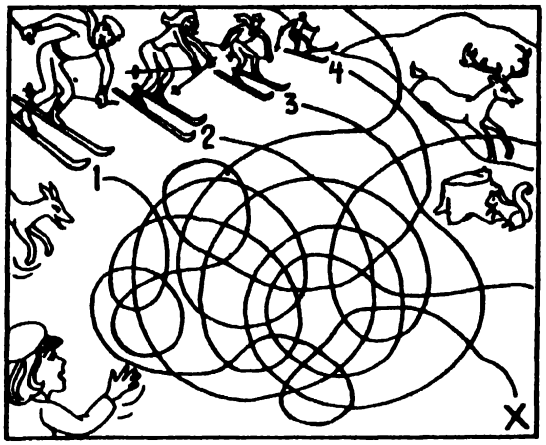
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri —Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed, Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp. Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	Madras Mail	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	Ahmedabad Express	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	Coromondal (Madras) Express	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	Ispat Express	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	Sambalpur Express	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

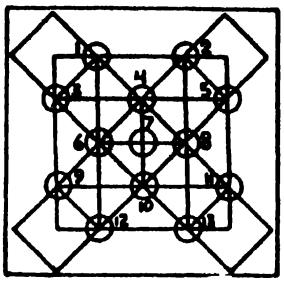
ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



WAY TO GO? Which skier blazes a trail that reaches point X, above? Is it number 1, 2, 3, or 4? We'll let you decide.

• SUM FUN! I doubled my age, subtracted six, and multiplied by one and one-half. From the result, I subtracted an amount four more than my age, and presto, that left my age How old am I? I am thirteen



SQUARE DEAL IN CIRCLES!

The intricate geometric figure above contains some 27 squares of various sizes, and 13 small numbered circles. Six of these circles, when filled in, or checked with a pencil, will either occupy at least one corner, or interrupt at least one border, of each of these squares

You are asked to find six such circles.

One possible answer is given below. You may find another.

Remember, the idea is to find six circles that will affect the figure's squares as described

Circles 1, 2, 4, 10, 12 and 13 will do it, for instance

• **KEY WORD!** A theme that many men have echoed through the ages was given expression thusly by Albert Einstein: "Everything that is great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labour in—."

Letters of the missing six-letter word are shown scrambled below.

What is that key word?

The word is freedom



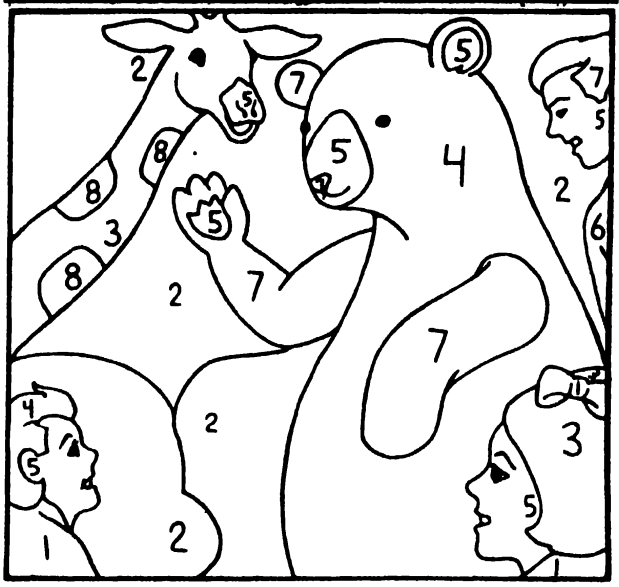
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Difference 1 Flagpole is missing 2 Arm is moved 3 Mirror is missing 4 Book is smaller 5 Stacks are shorter 6 Bench is missing

FUNSPOT



BIG STUFF! Many stuffed animals are small and cuddly, but some are bigger than people. Code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Orange.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

VELOCITY

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Love, cry

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Socialising, adventures, partnerships, collaborations, pleasure and pain are the main trends of the week You will be madly in love Business transactions show a favourable trend towards the middle of the week Despite a pleasurable social round, your health will cause concern Travel, with a stopover, is probable

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Home and property, renovation and decoration, buying and selling, trading and commission are favourably signified You will have time for fun and games despite a busy schedule Financially you will have money to play around and call the shots You will be plagued with throat and stomach problems A home away from home or a change of scenery is very likely

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Expect money, gifts, legacies and loans You will wine and dine, coo and woo, and make the best possible use of the time However, keep a careful eye on your finances Health will improve and you will move about freely Journey and communication are the highlights of the week

CANCER

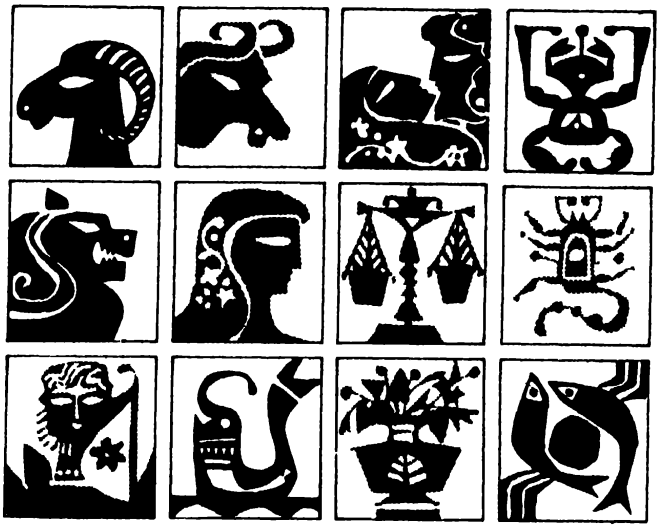
June 21—July 20

Good food, fine friends, bags of money and excellent entertainment are in store for Cancerians Romance will be pleasant and easy, but not hot and important Watch your finances You could feel a bit below the weather Travel is indicated for work and paradoxically for leisure

LEO

July 21—August 21

Romance, partnerships, marriage, divorce, collaborations and journey are well signified for Leons Romance is your destiny, specially after February 12 Expenses will again be the cross you may have to bear Healthwise, many highs and lows this week. The second part of the week is favourable for travel.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

You will be introspective Expenses will multiply Travel is likely You will fuse business with pleasure very well Those who are employed will have a chance to show their mettle A promotion or a job switch is probable Because of overwork, a medical check-up is advisable Travel is a distinct possibility

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Friendship and support, love and marriage, buying and selling of house, office and properties are the chief trends of the week Romance has its beautiful and loving echo for you in the latter half of the week Those in trading and busines will do well The health of elders could cause concern

BIRTHDAYS

February 11

Moon trine Uranus: You may expect a sudden good fortune and plenty of happiness. Loans, funds and legacies are also fated for you. Expect to travel in 1990.

February 12

Moon trine Neptune: This trine will help authors, astrologers, writers, musicians and editors to make a fortune. Others also will gain by their contacts and vivid imagination.

February 13

Moon square Jupiter: Despite a few rivals and enemies, you will win the game. Therefore, do not lose heart. The trick is to be persevering and patient. Property matters turn out favourably.

February 14

Moon square Saturn: This square means that you will have to make an extra effort to succeed. Once you learn to control and discipline yourself you can scale any heights. Be brave

February 15

Sun trine Moon: This is a lucky formation for editors, bankers; businessmen, traders, commission agents and those interested in science and research. Marriage, engagement, children, creativity, hobby and entertainment are your destiny

February 16

Moon sextile Saturn: This sextile means opportunities for doctors, lawyers, teachers, architects, gardeners, hoteliers, chefs, sportsmen and politicians. Others also will reap a rich reward for their past efforts.

February 17

Moon sextile Venus: Those in jewellery, perfumery, showbusiness, dance, music, theatre, films, speculations and shares do remarkably well. Have faith in your self.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

A new high in status prestige and honour is almost certain Do expect promotion, perks, pelf and power Romance will be an ancillary because work will consume your time and energy Financially, this is an excellent week Your health will stand up to tremendous pressures and pulls and, therefore, feel free to go right ahead

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

A fine week for ceremonies, functions, meetings, enterprises and publicity campaigns You will love with passion and devotion Expect a contract, a settlement or a new business deal to come through Your health improves and thus you will work with full steam Travel will be necessary and useful as well

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Loans, legacies, joint finances, taxes, insurance, buying and selling, transfers and shifts are this week s important indications Romance blooms with great intensity and spirit of sacrifice It is time to make a good investment or a fast buck Your health poses a slight danger and you will be accident-prone A shift or commuting may force you to travel

AQUARIUS

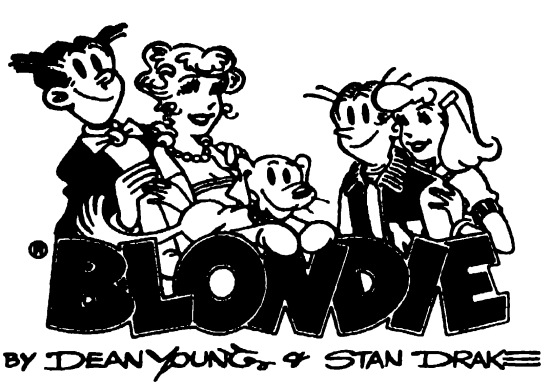
Jan 20—Feb 18

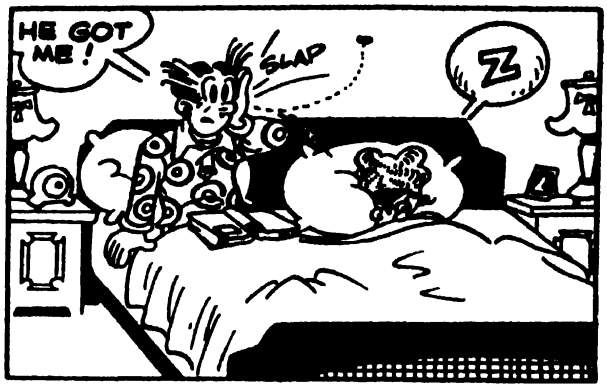
Marriage, children, boss, home, research and experiment help you to make much of this week The time is right for engagement, marriage and romance Loans and funds will be available So make good and practical use of money Your health improves but the health of family members will cause some concern

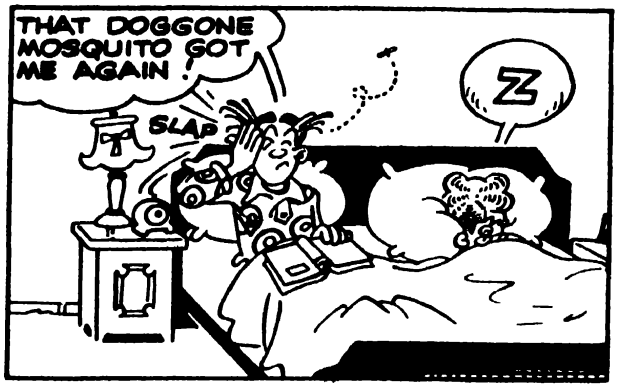
PISCES

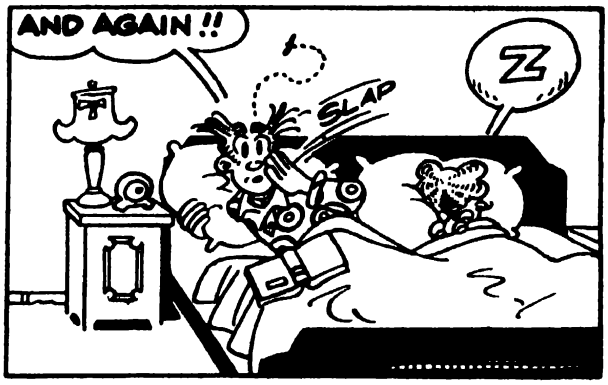
Feb 19—March 20

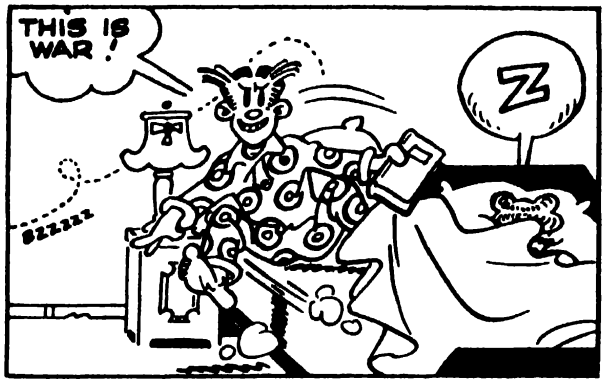
The focus is on work, health, responsibilities and a superior level of excellence. Secret meetings and open and happy courtships are the contradictory predictions for you. Other salient features are lending, borrowing, buying, selling, trading or going in for agency and brokerage. Do not neglect your health or else you could land up in a clinic or hospital. An important journey awaits you in the next 15 days.

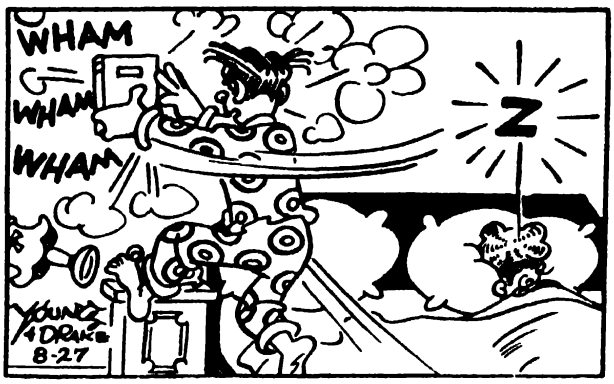


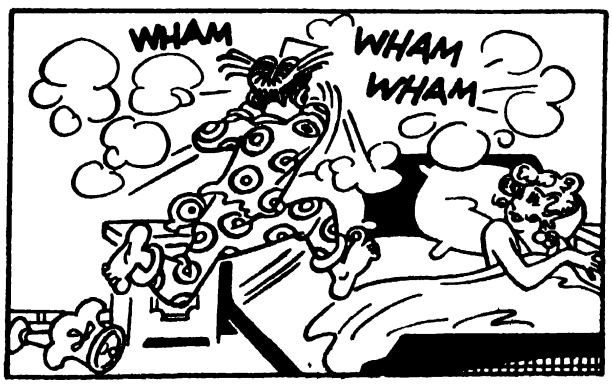










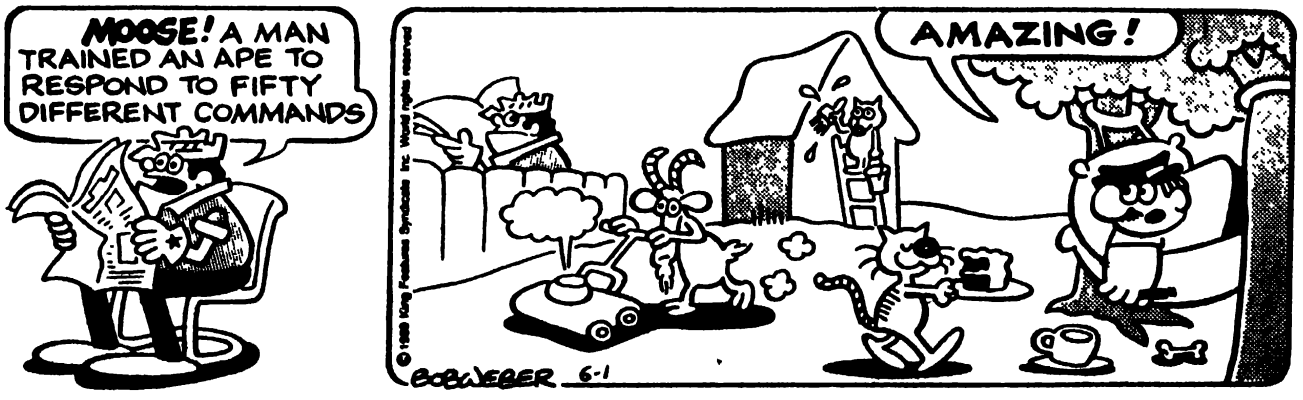


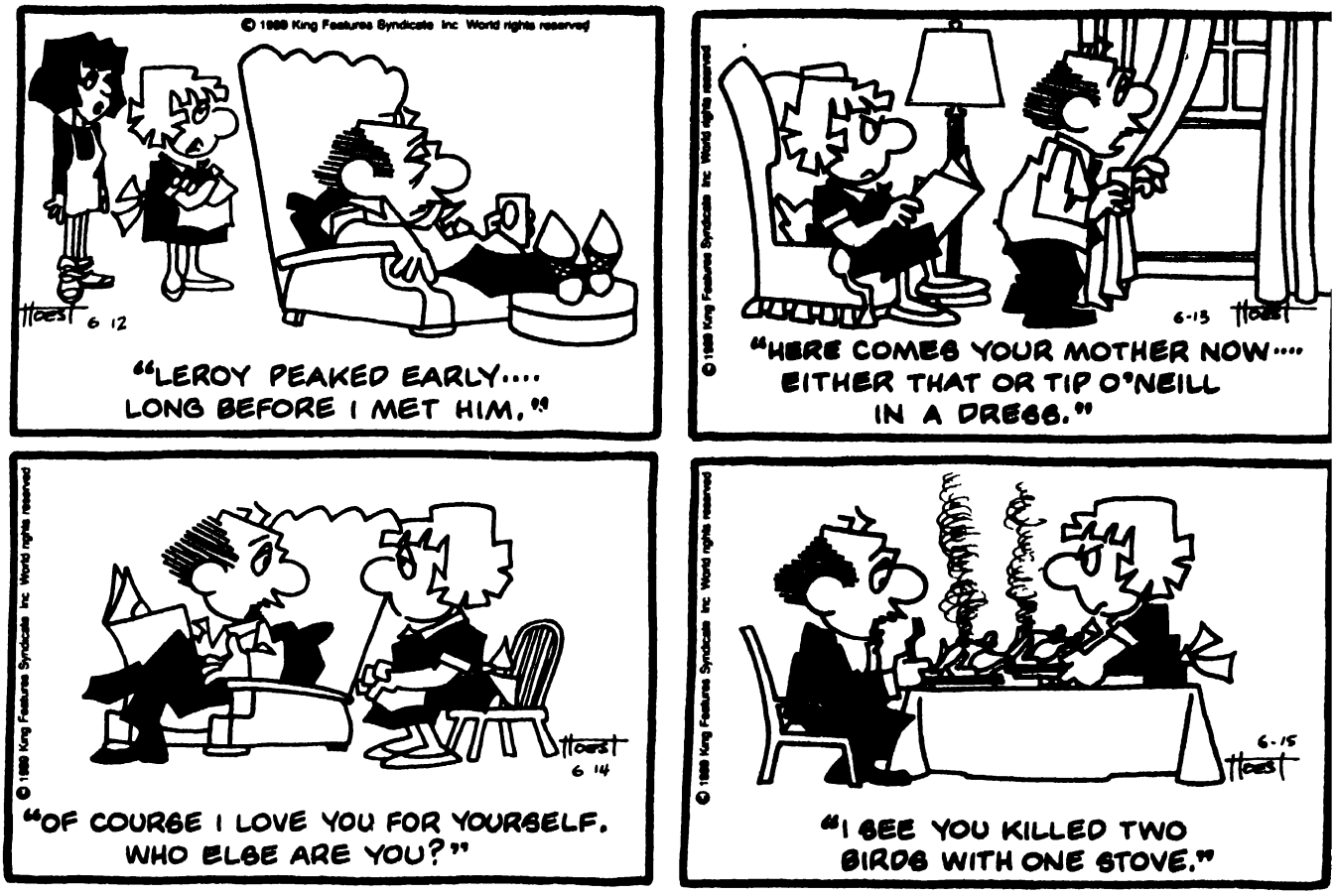
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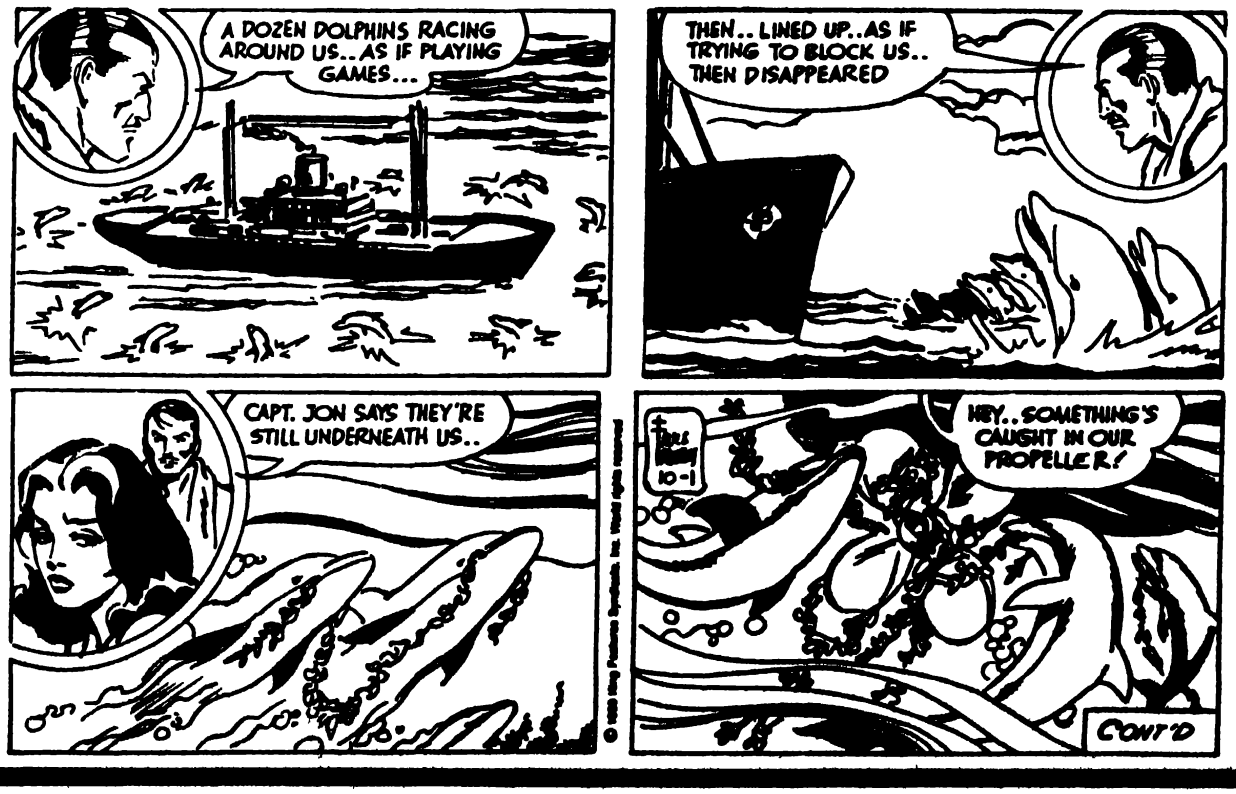



Archie
NOTHING IS GOING TO RUIN THIS WEEKEND! I'VE GOT A DATE WITH VERONICA!
FOR MONDAY, I WANT YOUR REPORTS ON "MOBY DICK"!
I GUESS YOUR BOOK REPORT BLOWS YOUR BIG DATE! NOW YOU HAVE TO READ "MOBY DICK"!
NOPE!
VERONICA, I THOUGHT WE'D RENT A MOVIE INSTEAD OF GOING OUT!
GREAT!
MOBY DICK?
IT'S A CLASSIC!
EXCELLENT REPORT, ARCHIE!
THANK YOU, MISS GRUNDY!
BUT YOU MADE ONE MISTAKE!
WHAT WAS THAT?
GREGORY PECK WASN'T IN THE BOOK!


AH-HA! RAIDING MY REFRIGERATOR! EXPLAIN YOURSELF!
FREEZER
IF I KNEW YOU WOULD GIVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN— I COULD HAVE THOUGHT UP SOMETHING
5-31
BOB WEBER
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MOOSE! A MAN TRAINED AN APE TO RESPOND TO FIFTY DIFFERENT COMMANDS
AMAZING!
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BOB WEBER 6-1


© 1989 King Features Syndicate Inc World rights reserved
Hoest 6 12
"LEROY PEAKED EARLY.... LONG BEFORE I MET HIM."
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6-13 Hoest
"HERE COMES YOUR MOTHER NOW.... EITHER THAT OR TIP O'NEILL IN A DRESS."
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Hoest 6 14
"OF COURSE I LOVE YOU FOR YOURSELF. WHO ELSE ARE YOU?"
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6-15 Hoest
"I SEE YOU KILLED TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE."


A DOZEN DOLPHINS RACING AROUND US..AS IF PLAYING GAMES...
THEN.. LINED UP..AS IF TRYING TO BLOCK US.. THEN DISAPPEARED
CAPT. JON SAYS THEY'RE STILL UNDERNEATH US..
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10-1
HEY.. SOMETHING'S CAUGHT IN OUR PROPELLER!
CONT'D


THESE FOOTPRINTS WERE MADE BY MY DORIS! I FEEL SICK.
586
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS! HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY TELL THAT THESE ARE HER FOOTPRINTS?
THE SCRAPE MARKS LEFT BY HER KNUCKLES.
THERE SHE IS— MY DORIS. SHE CERTAINLY DOESN'T GET ANY PRETTIER.
FOR GOODNESS SAKE, PEEP! SHE'S COME THOUSANDS OF MILES TO SEE YOU! YOU MUST AT LEAST SPEAK TO HER!
HELLO, DORIS.
MY DORIS IS TAKING HER CLOTHES OFF TO BATHE IN THE OASIS. YEUK!
MAYBE I COULD SHOOT HER WHILE SHE'S WALLOWING IN THE MUD.
PEEP!
THROUGH SHEER LOVE AND COURAGE THAT WOMAN HAS COME THOUSANDS OF MILES TO BE WITHIN A HUNDRED YARDS OF YOU!
588
YOU DO IT! I'LL NEVER HIT HER FROM THAT RANGE!
YOU MUST ADMIT ABOUT MY DORIS— HER USUNESS TAKES THE BREATH AWAY.
GREETINGS! IT IS I! I THE UBIQUITOUS TRAVELLER! I THE WISE MAN WHO SPEAKS OF THE SUN, THE MOON AND THE STARS!
STONE ME! WHO'S THE CRUMPET?
SUCH BEAUTY! SUCH FULLNESS OF FIGURE! I WOULD GIVE MUCH MONEY FOR SUCH A WOMAN!
NOW JUST A MINUTE.
THAT'S MY DORIS DOWN THERE! A BRITISH WOMAN! AND WE DON'T HAPPEN TO SELL OUR WOMEN LIKE CATTLE!
A POUND?
SOLD.

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special





(Left to right): Daniel Toscan du Plantier, a French guest, Haradhan Banerjee, Ramraj Yagnik, Gerard Depardieu, Bejoya Ray, Viswa Guha Thakurta, Lily Chakraborty, Deepankar De, Mamata Shankar and Ranjit Mullick: For the records

OUR FILM, THEIR FINANCE



Soumitra Chatterjee, who plays the main part in *Shakha Prashakha*, and French superstar Gerard Depardieu: A meeting of minds

What do international cinema's sex symbol Gerard Depardieu and art filmmaker Satyajit Ray have in common? *Shakha Prashakha*, of course

The French superstar, along with Daniel Toscan du Plantier, the chairman of Unifrance Film International, will be producing Ray's next masterpiece, *Shakha Prashakha* (Family Meeting), the shooting of which started in mid-January

The French government doffed their hats at the Indian master last year, giving him the Legion d'Honeur, and it was at Cannes that Ray's first film, *Pather Panchali* (1955) got its maiden acknowledgement as a milestone in the history of world cinema This time, the French will be financing the Bengali film 'to honour one of the foremost filmmakers of our time" The currently playing *Ganashatru*, too, was distributed worldwide by Unifrance

Shakha Prashakha will be shot on Indian locations and have an all Indian cast The French, apart from financing the project, will offer the services of sound technicians from Paris While Soumitra Chatterjee plays the central character (as usual), it marks the entry of Ranjit Mullick in a Ray film Depardieu, who says he has been "lucky, very lucky to work with the best minds in the world," will however not be acting in the film as he does not know Bengali and prefers not to tread dangerous ground. ■



Satyajit Ray in animated discussion with the French producers of his latest film, Gerard Depardieu (centre) and Daniel Toscan du Plantier

The announcement of a Satyajit Ray film is always an event. *Shakha Prashakha*, which is being produced by a French company, is already making international waves

Photographs: Nemai Ghosh



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

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250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

Age limit 5 70 years * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium

NEW INDIA ASSURANCE

1919 1989

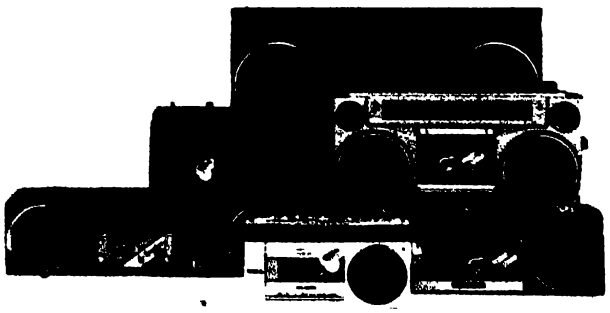
BORN TO LEAD

MEDICLAIM



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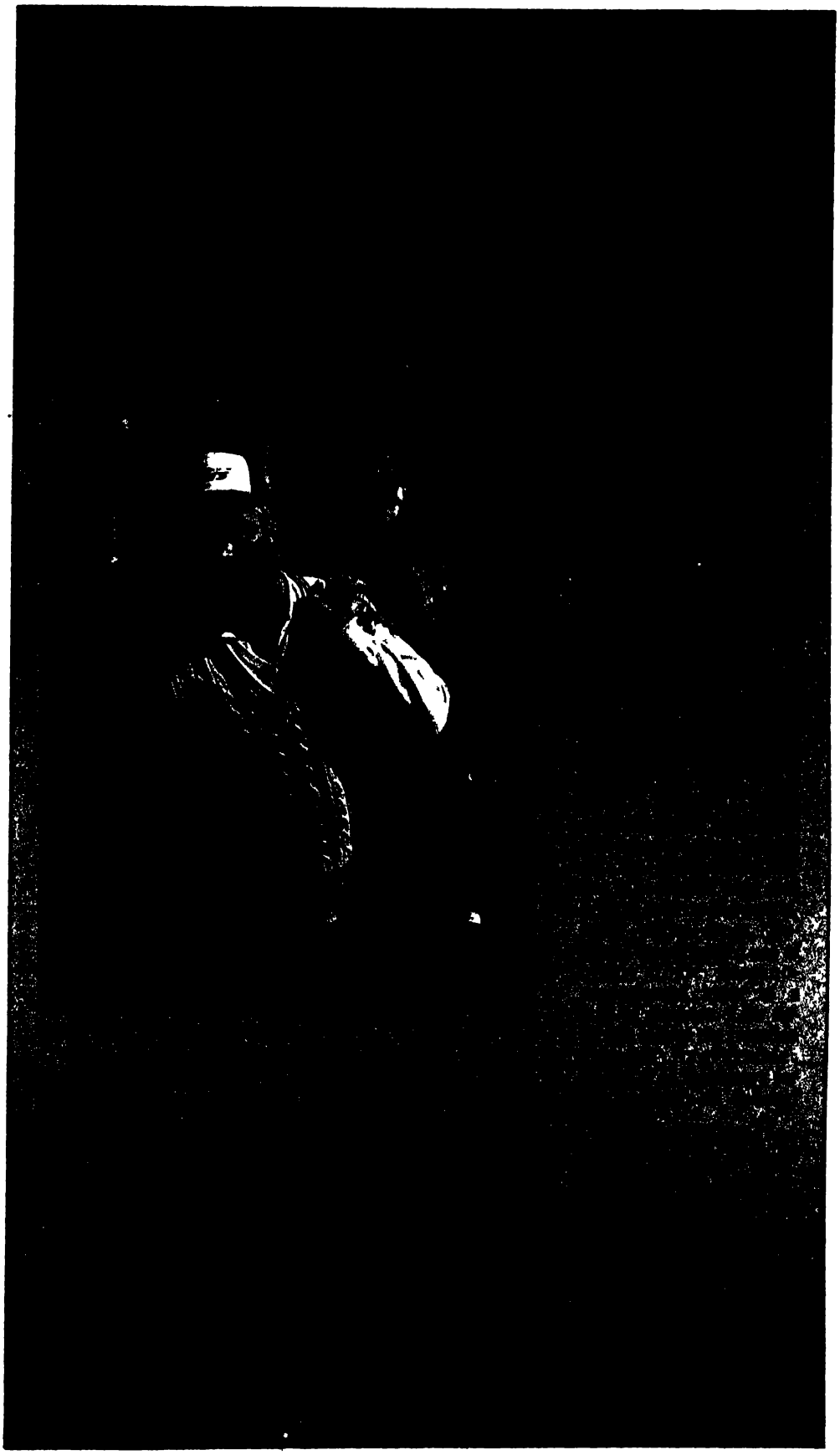


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The Telegraph

18 FEBRUARY 1990



4 Leander Paes is an ace in the making. A profile of the Calcuttan to make it to a Grand Slam final.

13 The Land of the Thunder Dragon retains its culture despite western influences.

16 We visited Calcutta's only animal market.

18 Continuing our series on Hindu temples in the Salt Range of Pakistan, this time on Kaalar.

SECTIONS

12 Quiz

20 7 Days

23 Junior Whirl

24 Inner Eye

25 Comics

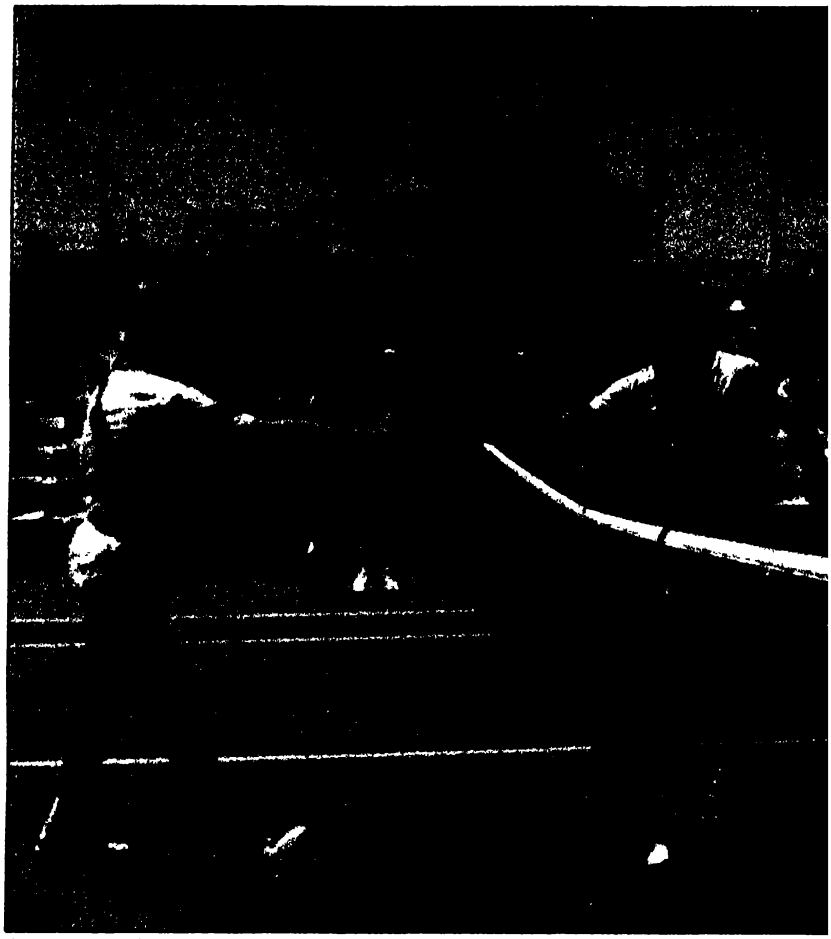
30 Candid Camera

Cover: Santosh Ghosh

MATCHLESS



A winner all the way; 1989



Congratulations: Paes wins another match in his march to the final; 1990



From his personal album: Leander (kneeling, second from left) in his first year with BAT; 1986



Rashbehari Das

With the Britannia-Amritraj team (1989): Come a long way



Rashbehari Das

Calcutta served an ace when Leander Paes reached the junior final of the Australian Open. ROHIT BRIJNATH profiles the teenage tennis sensation

In late January 1990, confusion reigned at the National Tennis Center at Flinders Park, Melbourne Quite simply, it was becoming increasingly difficult for the competition to figure out 16-year-old Leander Paes In the basement maze of corridors that link the press room, locker rooms and restaurants, he walked about quietly. He was in essence a non-entity, the unknown Indian

Five feet nine inches tall, comprehensively muscled, hair shorn as per Marine regulations, a highly personable fellow That schoolboy smile especially, perpetually etched across his face, enough to make the odd ballgirl's heart miss a beat or do a little leap "They're nice people," he explained in absolute innocence A feeling obviously reciprocated, for when I summoned him once from their midst, desperate bleats of 'No, let him stay" followed his departure A naive guy, a decent kid—but no serious threat, his opponents may have decided

Well, not exactly That was Dr Jekyll Mr Hyde emerged only on court

And here lay the confusion For Leander Paes seemed to undergo a metamorphosis during his journey from locker-room to court Oh yes, he was forever courteous and well-behaved, never forgetting though what he was there for—to win So the smile disappeared Replaced by a mirthless grin The laughing eyes now burnt, in intimidation almost The whole body language altered—from amiable and receptive, to brutal and aggressive And it was reflected in his game—a high-energy, fist-clenching, grunting, forceful serve and volley game Leander Paes had obviously got his priorities right He knew what he had to do and he did it well You don't reach the Grand Slam junior finals by being a wimp No wonder after seven days, locker-room coolness had changed to respect

Leander's performance at the Australian Open right through into the final was, simply, stunning There is no better word to describe it No doubt back home in Calcutta the usual lot of tennis pundits will be proclaiming, "I told you he was different I knew he would do it " Why, one such seer told me last week 'At 12 I knew this boy was going to be a champion " Incredible—the boy has taken his first major step towards possible greatness and already people are hopping onto the bandwagon

The truth is that despite being India's finest junior, such an accomplishment was not expected so quickly Because despite talent and athleticism, the impetuousness and immaturity in his game,especially from the backcourt, were flaws that only time it seemed could rectify. And this was evident, as recent as December last year.

But to Leander's eternal credit he overcame his weaknesses by injecting himself with a shot of discipline and harnessing his skills and temperament, constantly thinking positively. For 16, both unusual and remarkable

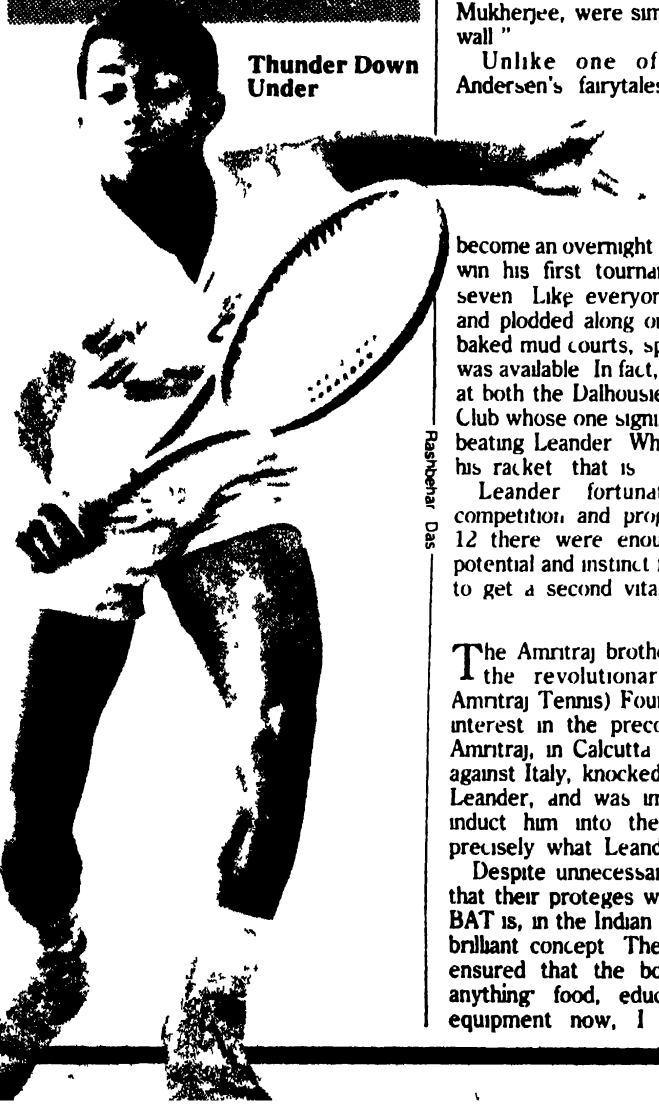
Let us backtrack to when it all began. July 17, 1973 to be exact, and Leander's first break was that he was born into a sporting family—father Vece Paes was a hockey Olympian and mother Jennifer, a basketball international

A genetic advantage one would say, but Vece, a doctor too, disagreed, when we first spoke of it three years ago "I think the more important factor is living and growing up in a sporting atmosphere, a sporting environment " It is difficult to argue with fathers And doctors Especially when they're rolled into one But, realistically, had such an environment not existed, it is doubtful whether Leander would have picked up his first racket when barely six years old It was a Korean wood racket, known as the Lobster, and the first words of advice and encouragement he received from former player Chiradip Mukherjee, were simple Hit against the wall "

Unlike one of Hans Christian Andersen's fairytales, Leander did not become an overnight sensation Nor did he win his first tournament at the age of seven Like everyone else, he pottered and plodded along on many of Calcutta's baked mud courts, sparring with whoever was available In fact, there are gentlemen at both the Dalhousie Institute and South Club whose one significant achievement is beating Leander When he was as tall as his racket that is

Leander fortunately outgrew such competition and progressed quickly—by 12 there were enough glimpses of his potential and instinct for the game for him to get a second vital break

Thunder Down Under



Rashbehar Das

The Amritraj brothers who had set up the revolutionary BAI (Britannia Amritraj Tennis) Foundation displayed an interest in the precocious Paes Anand Amritraj, in Calcutta for a Davis Cup tie against Italy, knocked around briefly with Leander, and was impressed enough to induct him into the academy It was precisely what Leander required

Despite unnecessary criticism, notably that their proteges were not succeeding BAT is, in the Indian context, a novel and brilliant concept The substantial funding ensured that the boys would not lack anything food, education, living (even equipment now, I gather) was free.



IT PAYS TO BE LEANDER



Jennifer Paes: On cloud nine

On the pedigree scale itself, wonderkid Leander scores a perfect 10. Father Vece is a hockey Olympian and Leander's mother, Jennifer, has captained the national basketball team. Even though they have separated, both Vece, a charismatic member of the city's medical fraternity, and Jennifer, who has been with ICI for years are on cloud nine today. And it is perfectly understandable. Vece conceded, "One is aware that the pressure will now really be on Leander. One isn't under any illusions, life is tough at the top. Even for juniors."

Asked why Leander did not step into his father's hockey shoes, Jennifer said: "Well, there's no future in team games—no, not even cricket—and when Leander started doing well in tennis we, especially Vece, whom he idolises, decided that Leander should concentrate wholly on tennis." She added, with palpable pride, "You know, Leander's a natural sportsman..."

This is what the proud papa had to say: "Look, a lot of effort goes into building up a sportsman. And there must be some returns for the kid who puts in so much. Where fame and money are concerned, tennis will offer Leander more opportunities than hockey. Leander was a keen soccer enthusiast, but a knee injury when he was eight ruled out his taking to that sport in a serious manner."

Both Jennifer and Vece agreed that Leander's enrolment in BAT in the summer of '86 proved to be a turning point for the effervescent youngster. "BAT has, among other things, injected plenty of discipline. Then, they have excellent coaches who hone the technical and tactical skills," remarked Vece. "They take care," added Jennifer. "When Leander injured himself during the recent East India Open in Calcutta, Mrs Maggie Amritraj called to say she wanted Leander back in Madras on the first available flight. Even though Vece was treating him, Leander's in good hands. I've seen it myself, both times that I've visited BAT."

Though Leander's mother would like to see him in the Davis Cup squad at the earliest, Vece feels Leander will only be ready (for the Davis Cup) after a year. "There's talk he'll figure in the Indian squad this year...but I don't think he's ready right now." He quickly added, "Leander, of course, is mentally very tough. And if there's a chink, it's only his impatience."

Vece agreed that some teenaged prodigies tend to burn out around the time they normally should peak. "That danger is there, but I don't visualise it happening to Leander because his schedules are well-planned by BAT (with whom he has a contract till he's 20) and also because we're laying emphasis on post-stress (match) recovery. But what Leander has to watch out for is that people's expectations will now be sky-high. He has to pace himself so that he peaks around 23. Not before."

Asked if his presence would have inspired Leander on the occasion of court for the final in Melbourne, Vece smiled and said: "I would have [illegible]

would have made a difference...tennis is a lonely sport and it helps to have the family around. My companionship would have helped. But Leander's reached a stage where he can run his own show. Actually, he's independent."

Vece confessed he was both thrilled and apprehensive as Leander stormed through the rounds in Melbourne. "Initially it was disappointing when he didn't win the title. But disappointment took the back seat when one realised he had felled four seeds. It was marvellous," beamed Jennifer.

Well, where does Leander go from here? "For the next year or so he's got to consolidate his position, consistently figure in the world's top 10. Once he achieves this he'll be well placed to break into the seniors' ranks," answered Vece, who is much more than a father to Leander.



Vece Paes: Cautious optimism

Both Jennifer and Vece are looking forward to this year's Wimbledon. And Vece will be at hand to offer Leander moral support in abundance...

Interestingly, Vece wanted to present Leander with a blazer—he's "outgrown" the current one—and a PC after he returned from Melbourne. But he could meet him only briefly (in Delhi) and so the presentation has been deferred. Perhaps, there will be occasion for a grand presentation after Wimbledon...

Lekendra Pratap Sahi

Coaching was supervised by three professionals, one Indian and two from Peter Burwash International, an American tennis conglomerate, renowned for its coaches. In addition, the three Amritraj brothers would fly down for occasional assessments, and sometimes Grand Slammer Rod Laver, too.

It was wonderful, for these young men were given the enviable freedom to let their game grow, their skills develop, in an environment where they were nurtured carefully. Under such able guidance, especially of the astute and erudite Dave O'Meara, Leander and his game slowly began to assume an identity. The talent was there, raw and rough hewn—now it was a question of sandpapering the edges, without actually altering his style. Leander's physical development into a long-legged, strong-upper-bodied loose-limbed athlete almost automatically meant a preference for the hard and fast moving serve and volley style. A method that was sensibly not tampered with.

He was fortunate again that BAT's financial strength allowed him to tour both in India and abroad, granting him the exposure he required. Not surprisingly, by early 1989 his achievement graph showed a steady upward curve. Nothing spectacular, but improving just the same.

It was at this juncture that a third vital break would come. The only difference was that he engineered it himself. Through the previous year (1988) Leander's consistent hurdle had been the free-stroking Gaurav Natekar, son of badminton great Nandu Natekar. But in 1989 Natekar's slight slump in form coincided with a corresponding rise in Leander's form. He beat Gaurav at the Chandigarh ITF tournament, and again, quite comprehensively, at the junior nationals.

By now, of course, Leander's exploits were being noticed and rewarded. The International Tennis Federation (ITF) selected him as part of their Asian junior team to tour Europe (French Open and Wimbledon included). Although he lost in the early rounds there, the ITF persevered with him, including him in their shortlist of four players from the original group, for a trip to Australia in 1989-1990.

And it was then, in early December 1989, that Leander would begin his, both painful and spectacular, journey, that would culminate in history Down Under.

In Calcutta for the East India and National Championships, Leander, now labelled India's finest junior, paid homage to his city by turning in an electrifying performance. All but a handful of those who had faithfully followed his career were mesmerised by this introduction. More than anything else, he displayed a wonderful spirit, a desire to win, a fortitude in adversity—it was a side to his character that amused, irritated and riveted.

Amused, because he seemed so boyishly keen, so eager, so excited on winning a point—call it youthful exuberance. Irritated, because his opponents appeared unsettled by his sounds, his fist clenching, perhaps even envious of his intensity levels—call it inadvertent intimidation. And lastly, riveted, because his hunger, his energy, were infectious. He was almost willing himself to win—call it a competitive edge, a trait most Indian sportsmen seem to lack. So, by the time, he came from a set and 1-3 down to beat Enrico Piperno in the semi-finals, the crowd was buzzing in approval.

But a strained stomach muscle that day was to be needlessly aggravated in an ensuing doubles match, incapacitating him in the final against Zeeshan Ali, a match he would have lost anyway, I think.

Two days later teenage joy had turned into despair. Despite acupuncture and everything else, the stomach refused to heal, and Leander was forced to forfeit the Nationals. I found him at the South Club, slumped high up in the rickety stands, and all he could initially say was, "I wish I was out there playing." But again he displayed great maturity, emphasising that now he would concentrate on his trip Down Under. There was a need to absolve himself—not necessary really, for it was no fault of his—by proving himself capable in Australia.

He almost didn't make it. Back in Madras, the healing process was frustratingly slow, each successive postponment meant missing yet another warm-up tournament in Australia. He arrived eventually, in time for the Victoria Open, lost in the second round, the only advantage he had going into the Australian Open being that his opponents had not had a good look at him.

They would pay dearly for that.

Except for a brief show of nerves and tentativeness in his first round against Alistair McDonald, the rejuvenated Leander dominated completely by conceiving an intelligent game plan, strictly adhering to it, disciplining his often wild ground strokes and above all, thinking positively. It was an astonishingly mature display.

If you take a quick journey back into time, you will find that no two tennis greats were ever similarly gifted, whether in shotmaking ability, temperament, physical strength or otherwise. They however did share one common factor - an edge, the ability to play that one particular big point better when it mattered, a driving force, that little bit extra, a greater desire. In tennis journalese it is known as championship class. This is what

THE GREAT BROWN HOPE

Indian tennis is in a period of transition. The Amritraj era is over. Ramesh Krishnan is the only Indian ranked in the top 100, National champion Zeeshan Ali hovers around the 300-mark. In 1988, India lost in the first round of the Davis Cup world group and in 1989, again, in the first round of the Asia-Oceania group. Indian tennis is desperately on the lookout for talented youngsters. Given this depressing scenario, Leander Paes' achievement assumes special significance.

Over a decade has lapsed since an Indian junior made it to the final of a Grand Slam event. Ramesh Krishnan, in fact, went one better. He won the title at the 1979 junior Wimbledon emulating his father who did it in 1954. In between, Premjit Lall reached the Junior Wimbledon final in 1968 and Jaideep Mukherjea made the final two years later. And now comes Leander's feat when it seemed that India was falling way behind the rest of the tennis world each year. His achievement has given fresh hope even to the most cynical tennis follower in the land, a fresh lease of life to the BAT programme when it was being virtually written off, and has brought a lot of joy to the Amritraj family. "It is a moment of great happiness for us," a beaming Mrs Maggie Amritraj told us. "I have not experienced such happiness for nearly 20 years, since my sons won the national title. After all, the BAT boys are my boys, almost like my sons."

At least one person was not entirely surprised by Leander's performance and that was BAT chief coach, Dave O'Meara. Two months ago, he had said, "Leander's going to go far. He is playing great tennis and you can expect great things from him. I'm willing to stick my neck out where he is concerned."

After the Australian Open, a beaming O'Meara said, "His performance is the single biggest achievement by a BAT boy and has given a tremendous fillip to the programme." Given this record, O'Meara is confident that Leander, who turns 17 in June, will be seeded, and seeded high, in both the French and Wimbledon junior championships. "The 150 ATP" points he picked up in reaching the final of the Australian Open has virtually guaranteed him a place among the top five juniors in the world." He is also convinced that Leander should walk into the Davis Cup squad. "He has earned his spot and on his favourite surface—grass—he cannot be kept out of the team, if it is picked on merit."

And yet, mild-mannered Leander is only slightly surprised at his great showing. "At the start of the competition I was certain of one thing—that I would give 100 per cent. And when I won my first round match it gave me a lot of confidence." Excerpts from the interview:

Q: When did it occur to you that you could go far in the competition?

A: When I beat Jan Kodes (the top seed) in the second round. I was playing well and moreover I knew that beating the top seed would mean that the rest of the draw would be fairly easy.

Q: What was the standard of competition like?

A: I had thought that a Grand Slam tournament would see a lot of tough players. But my opponents simply succumbed to pressure the moment I took an early lead. In fact, I did not drop a set till the semi-final and was generally pleased with my performance, especially my volleying and generally aggressive play.

Q: About your defeat in the final to West Germany's Dier, the second seed?

A: I peaked too early. This happened during the match against Kodes when I played really well. I hardly did anything wrong that day.

Q: What about playing conditions?

A: The rebound ace surface suited my style of play. It's a surface that gives hope to both the baseliner and the net rusher. I did a little of both, depending upon the situation and had no trouble adjusting to the court. But both Vijay and my father (Dr Vece Paes, the former hockey international) were pleased with my performance. But both told me that the pressure would now be on me, the expectations that much higher and that I should not relax but continue the good work.

Q: People will now expect you to beat all the other players, except perhaps Zeeshan Ali.

A: Why not Zeeshan Ali also?

Patrick Rameshkumar

distinguishes the best from the rest. And although it is yet to be seen whether Leander will make the grade, in Australia he indicated that he possesses that vital factor. I have seen him produce one ace and two service winners when 0-40 down. I have seen him grunt back from 6-4, 6-7, 2-5, 0-30 to victory. I have seen examples of this class.

Before we go further, Leander's game plan deserves further mention. Although the ITF did provide a coach, with no disrespect to the gentleman involved, the job required more organisation of the team's movements than time for expert, individual advice.

So Leander, only 16, was left to innovate, improvise and evolve tactics on his own. Each evening prior to a match, he would pore over a specially designed chart where he would list his opponent's strengths, weaknesses and then accordingly devise a mode of play.

Leander's decision then to attack the net constantly, even when not serving, was no surprise and was surely influenced by all his opponents' (without exception) preference for baseline play. It was simply a case of one idea (attack), one motion (forward) and one result (success).

In fact, it was quite beautiful, so much so that it merits description. First, the serve. Almost a violent explosion, as the mouth spat the grunt and the racket spat the ball in unison. Second, the acceleration. A rush of raw energy to the net. Third, the volley. Nice instinct, nice anticipation, one hand put the ball out of reach, the other clenched in admiration.

On his opponents' serves, he would watch and think and take the ball early, chip it to the corner and take up a familiar position at the net. Shades of Vijay Amritraj, some journalists muttered. Others mentioned Ramesh Krishnan. Never—this was Leander Paes, unique, individual.

But so unbalanced were Leander's rivals by his frenetic play, that through their ineptness they hid some of Leander's flaws. He has a fine first serve but suffers from erraticism. His second kicks sweetly but is not dangerous enough to follow to the net. His low volleys, especially on the backhand, require improvement. And while having a nice easy topspin and a neat slice from the baseline, he requires control, patience and far better footwork.

His game must undergo an all-round growth for, in his next international tournament itself, he will find that opponents, aware of his style, will have worked out better answers to combat it. Yet these flaws are not crippling and can be ironed out—Lender has an enviable work ethic and at 16, the advantage of time.

The vital aspect here, in my opinion, is that since he has proved he possesses fine

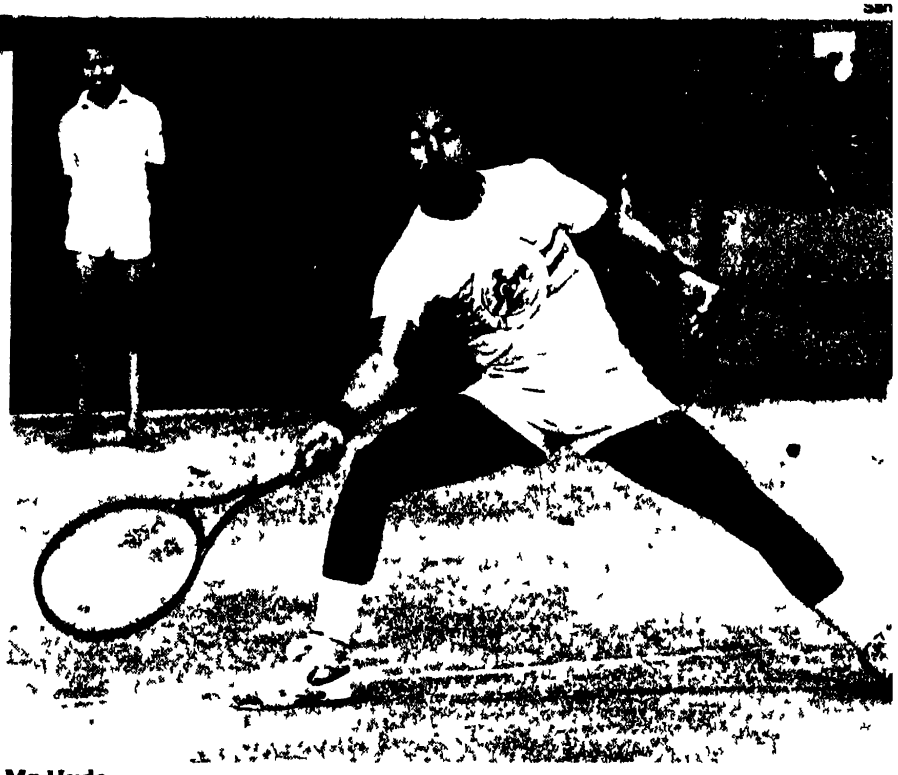
potential, he commands special privileges And one of them must be shortly, a private coach

On tour he requires the presence of a mentor a guide for that is one of the prerequisites of being a champion Since he shares such a fine rapport with Dave O'Meara, that combination would not be a bad start

Leander requires support in another sphere too a sphere in which the people of Calcutta for instance who no doubt are proud of him can play a role too And that is pressure One of the dangers of Leander's early achievement could easily be unreasonable demands and wild expectations It is a reality he must eventually live with but his coach and advisers and the public should ensure that this is minimised to a great extent Leander must be given the freedom to flower without the weight of a nation s expectations on his shoulders

The boy himself is not overawed by his achievement Both the Krishnans before him won Grand Slam junior titles and if anything he is slightly miffed he was not the third

He now probably has a top 10 junior ranking He is an automatic selection for the Indian Davis Cup team since two



Mr Hyde

juniors are to be included He has also created a reputation for himself and must now defend it Yet by the end of the Open he was shrugging off the week s heroics and focusing on the season before him The wonderful thing about Leander Paes is that he knows only too well how much is left to be done

One small step has been taken The Kid from Calcutta is on the move ■

THE 3rd VINEET GUPTA MEMORIAL PRIZE

FOR SHORT STORIES AND POETRY

Entries are invited for short stories in **English, Hindi** and **Urdu**.

English entries must reach **The Telegraph,** 6 Prafulla Sarkar Street, Calcutta 700 001, by April 4, 1990.

Vernacular entries must be sent direct to **Mr B.N. Gupta,** 4/131 Mathura Refinery Township, Mathura 281 006.

The prize winning English entries will be published in the Colour Magazine. The vernacular entries may be published anywhere at the discretion of Mr B.N. Gupta. Two prizes of Rs 1,500 and Rs 1,000 respectively will be given in each category on July 14, Vineet's birth anniversary.

Any number of entries may be sent. The entries must not have been published anywhere before and must be the author's original work. A signed statement must accompany each entry. The English entries must be typewritten, in double space, on one side of the paper and each entry must have the full name and address of the entrant. Carbon copies or photocopies will be rejected. Please superscribe the envelopes, 'Poetry' or 'Short story'. No entries will be returned and the decision of the judges will be final.

WRITE UP

A cub reporter's recall of 'those' days

Al Jolson was singing *There's A Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder* in a new talkie called *The Singing Fool*, and that was exactly the mood I was in. I was twenty. I had just passed out of college. I had found myself a job. I was on top of the world.

This was in Lahore in the early thirties. After tennis, Mr Garrett had told me: "Mr Hardy is looking for someone like you. Why don't you go and see him? I'll give you a chit." He went into the house and came back with a sealed envelope which he gave me. H.L.O. Garrett was the principal of Government College and E.H. Hardy the editor of the *Civil & Military Gazette*.

A week later they started me off on Rs 50 per month, which they doubled after three months and agreed to raise by Rs 50 every year thereafter. It doesn't sound like an awful lot of money, but in my second year with the C&M (nobody called it *The Gazette*), I had my own two-bedroomed flat close to the Mall, owned a two-seater Chevrolet convertible (bought second-hand for Rs 600), and was being exceedingly well looked after by the gem of a cook-bearer the likes of whom they don't make any more.

Just for the heck of it, I peeked into the editorial cheques on the first of the following month. The editor's was for Rs 1,000 and that of the No 2, F.W. Bustin, was for Rs 800. Others went further down the line. There were no perks, as far as I know, and this gives an idea of the salary scales of those days. But no one complained. On such largesse, they maintained enormous bungalows with acres of garden and stables and syces for their horses and they went hunting every weekend and lived like lords of the manor.

They called me a cub reporter, but in reality I was a general dogsbody. Any odd job the *burra sahibs* didn't want to do themselves, they passed on to me. "Give it to the new bloke," they said, and thus I went through the whole gamut, ending up every evening at the long subs' table until one of them said to me, around midnight: "You push off now, lad."

I was the only non-Englishman on the editorial side (others came later, among them Prem Bhatia and Pran Chopra) but they never made me feel like an outsider or discriminated against in any way. I was just the most junior member of the team. It's the same in all newspaper offices—it's the next edition that matters, all else comes after.

There were no staff cars then, nor expense accounts, and I still wipe a perspiring brow when I think of the day they sent me out to the airport to cover the crash of the Punjab Flying Club's Piper Cub. On a hot June afternoon I pushed my bike the long, dusty miles to Walton, and when I returned, exhausted and dead beat, no one even offered to send for a chilled Vimto from Stiffles restaurant across the street. To add insult to injury, they hacked my masterpiece to just about a stick and shoved it into the sports page at the foot of the column.

But it was lots of fun and I wouldn't have had it any other way. In due time Bill Bustin became editor and I moved into his room, outside which a brass plate proudly proclaimed: "Rudyard Kipling Worked Here". It took an awful amount of willpower to prevent me from laughing at the American tourists and others who came long distances to photograph this hallowed spot, including little me bent over my typewriter, when I knew full well that this was as great a fiction as any of Kipling's stories and that the place where he actually sat was the pokey records room at the end of the verandah.

There were diversions—for example, the time I was asked to write up the Gymkhana Lawn Tennis Championships in Lawrence Gardens. There I met a girl who I followed around until she got knocked out in the semifinals of the ladies' singles. She was sitting dejectedly in a corner of the stands when I went up to her and asked: "Care to cool off with a squash?"

Much to my surprise, she accepted. Young English ladies weren't supposed to be hob-nobbing with young native gentlemen in those days, and to this extent I scored a mighty ace. She was a High Court judge's daughter and going back to Cambridge after the winter hols.

Suddenly she put down her glass and glared at me "Hey!" she said, "you've been trailing me all week. Who do you think I am—Helen Wills or Alive Marble?" They were the Steffi Graf and Gabriela Sabatini of that era.

I was equal to the occasion. "You're prettier," I shot back, and she blushed to the roots of her golden blonde hair.

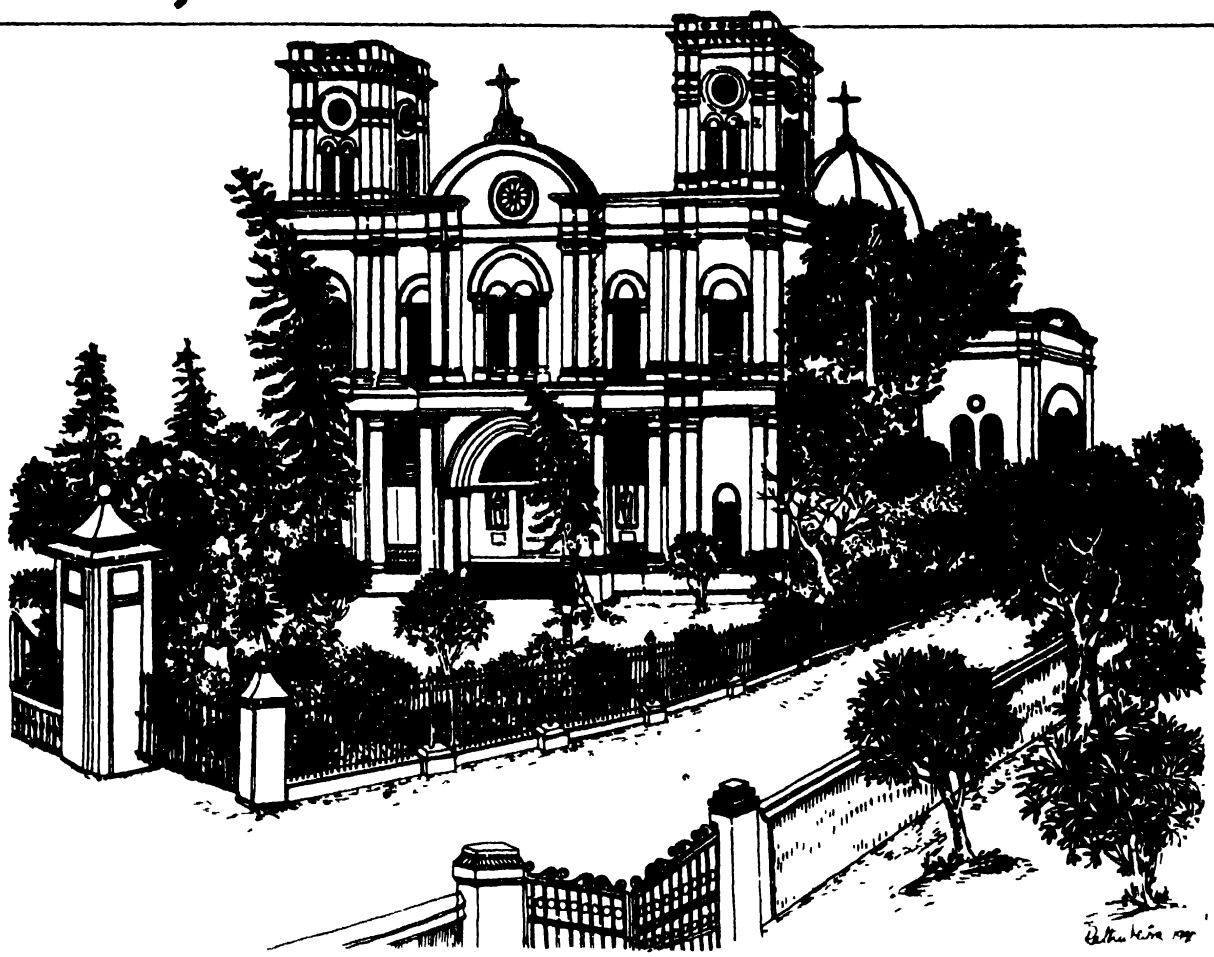
In the middle part of the war, towards the end of 1942, I decided that I too should go out and see what it was all about. So I went to Bill Bustin and told him about my intention. It couldn't have been easy for him, because already he was short-handed, most of the Englishmen having been called up, but he put on a big smile, rattled the ash out of his pipe and said to me: "Go on, get it out of your system, lad. Remember, your place will always be waiting for you."

But I never went back.

P. L. Bhandari



CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS, CHANDERNAGORE



Chandernagore, which formed part of Nawab Saista Khan's territory, came into French hands in 1673-4 when Mons Duplessis bought it for Rs 401. It was placed on the ecclesiastical map with the arrival of the Augustian monks (probably from Bandel) in 1688. A chapel was built around that time. The Jesuit Fathers arrived a few years later, but were banned by an edict in 1699.

In 1706, the year after the Augustian monks left, the Capuchin Fathers came to Chandernagore. The Fathers built a monastery and an orphanage at the site of the present St Joseph's Convent of the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny, and gave shelter to a number of Tibetan orphans.

They used Chandernagore as the missionary and educational base from which they spread across the greater part of north India. Then called the Capuchin-Hindustan-Tibet Mission, they were active in Varanasi, Lucknow, Agra, Rawalpindi and even in Lhasa.

In 1863, Mgr. Pere Corbet of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit and Sacred Heart of Mary and Prefect Apostolic of Pondicherry, appointed one of his confreres, Rev. Pere Barthet, as Parish priest of Chandernagore. As the number of Catholics swelled in Chandernagore, the chapel built in 1688 was considered to be insufficient. Hence, the Parish priest laid the foundation stone of the presentday church and supervised its construction along with Brother Joachim of the same congregation.

This church took about nine years to be completed till it was finally blessed and dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus (the previous chapel was dedicated to St Louis, King of France) on January 27, 1884 by Rev. Dr Paul Goethals, SJ, in the presence of Rev. Pere Corbet.



Vikas Singh has sent us this "Who am I" from Rourkela.

I was born of a Scottish father, Andrew of Glencoe, and a Swiss mother, Monique Delacroix from the Canton de Vand. My father was a foreign representative of the Vickers armaments firm. When I was 11, I lost both my parents, who were killed in a climbing accident in the Aiguilles Rouges above Chamonix. I then started living with my aunt at the quaintly named hamlet of Pett Bottom near Canterbury in Kent. Though I was solitary by nature, yet I established some firm friendships among the traditionally well-known athletic circles in my school.

By the time I left school at early 17, I had twice fought for the school as a lightweight. I then joined the ministry of defence in 1938 and was accorded the rank of lieutenant in the special branch of RNVR and was later given the rank of commander. I was married in 1962 to Teresa, only daughter of Marc-Ange Draco of Marseilles who was murdered soon after marriage.

I have a dark clean cut face with a three-inch scar. My eyes are wide and level under straight rather long black eyebrows. The line of my jaw is straight and firm. My height is 183 cm. and weight 76 kg. I smoke heavily and use special cigarettes with three gold bands. I am almost always armed with a .25 Beretta automatic carried in a holster under my left arm. I also carry a knife strapped to my left forearm and use steel capped shoes. I also know the basic holds of Judo.

I am privileged to kill on active service. I was decorated with the CMG in 1953. The only paper I read is *The Times*. I employ an elderly Scottish maid servant called May.

The KGB files describe me as "a dangerous professional terrorist and spy, a womaniser and an all-round athlete." Death with dishonour was Smiert Spionam's (SMRESH) sentence for me. An obituary appeared in *The Times* for my "supposed" death but it was soon discovered that my friends were mistaken and that I had escaped from KGB.

Breakfast is my favourite meal of the day. When I am stationed in London, it is always the same. It consists of a very strong coffee from De Bry in New Oxford Street, brewed in an American chemix of which I drink two large cups black and without sugar. The other items of my breakfast include a single egg, boiled for exactly three and one-third minute, two thick slices of whole wheat toast, a large pat of yellow Jersey butter and three quart glass jars containing Tiptree "Little Scarlet strawberry jam marmalade and Norwegian Heather honey from Fortnum's".

Who am I?

If you haven't worked out by now "Who am I?" you must be Rip Van Winkle.

The name is Bond—James Bond.

CBS

11th Question: **Who was the witness in the assassination trials of three Presidents of the U.S.A? (Ashish Kumar Sahu, At/P.O. Bargarh W.N. 15, Dist. Sambalpur, Orissa 768028)**

Ans: **Robert Todd Lincoln (son of Abraham Lincoln), who made statements regarding the assassination of his father in 1865, James A. Garfield in 1881 and William McKinley in 1901. He was Secretary of War in Garfield's cabinet.**

QUESTIONS

1. Which Moghul Empress was allowed to strike coins in her own name? (Aditya Kr Padhi, Rourkela 7)
2. What was the original name of 'Sevagram' and who gave it to Gandhiji as a gift? (Radhakanta Hota, Titilagarh)
3. Which is the only men's doubles pair to achieve a Grand Slam in tennis? (Mohan Kr Agrawal, Sindri)
4. What is 'Bonk Journalism'? (Manoj Singh, Sindri)
5. Who is the General in Graham Greene's book *Getting to know the General*? (Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
6. He was President of the United States. His election led to charges of dishonesty which hurt his reputation, but he gave the nation an honest and well-run administration. After he left office, one of his bitterest enemies said that there had never been a period "...more productive or good to the welfare of an entire country". Who was he? (Dipankar Dasgupta, Rourkela 3)
7. What is androphobia? (Ashok Kr Jena, Sambalpur 4)
8. Which fast bowler was nicknamed 'The Whisper'? (Ashok Kr Jena, Sambalpur 4)
9. Which artist said, "One does not love Venus, one loves a woman"? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3)
10. Who is the patron saint of television? (Sumeet Budhraja, Chandigarh)

ANSWERS

10. Saint Clare. (She was ill and could not attend Christmas midnight mass, in a vision she witnessed from her sick bed a mass celebrated far away—G.B.)
9. Pablo Picasso.
8. Brian Statham of England, though he preferred to be called George.
7. Morbid fear of the male sex.
6. Rutherford B. Hayes, 19th President of the United States.
5. Omar Torrijos, the former Panamanian leader, a personal friend of the author.
4. Salacious coverage of the sex lives of the rich and famous.
3. Maureen Connolly and Margaret Court in 1961.
2. Rajkot, Mahatma Gandhi.
1. Nur Jahan, 1611.

S.A. Ahmed, Calcutta 16, tells us that the world's largest monolith is the Ayers Rock.

In the vast and rugged Australian heartland, tucked in between the Macdonnell and Musgrave mountain ranges, sits the massive Ayers Rock. Rising aloofly from the flat brown plain which surrounds it, the giant rounded rock is the world's largest monolith. Its vital statistics (for a single rock) stagger the imagination: length: 2¼ mi.; circumference: 5½ mi.; height: 1,100 ft; estimated weight: 4 million tonnes. Throughout the day, the Ayers Rock puts on a fascinating show of changing coloration. Naturally a profound red, it becomes a vivid ball of flame when touched by a crimson dawn or sunset. Tiny facets of micalike fledspar, reflecting the sun's rays, create the illusion of a surface studded with mirrors. In the midday sun, however, the rock appears whitish yellow, while deep shadows turn it a purplish hue. Aborigines have affixed paintings of mythical lizard-men and other antiffopoid figures on the walls of the Ayers Rock's shallow caves. Hardy visitors may climb to the rock's summit.

The Thunder Dragon Still Lives Here

When the young Bhutanese enters his home, he is wearing a *gho*, the elaborate robelike national dress of Bhutanese men.

When he emerges a few minutes later the *gho* has been replaced by blue jeans. He is guiding a Western visitor on a trek to a monastery in this devout Tibetan Buddhist kingdom in the eastern crescent of the Himalaya. Trekking is easier in jeans.

But after climbing over narrow trails to the monastery near the kingdom's 8,500-foot-high capital city, Thimphu, both guide and guest are refused admittance by the monks, who seem to focus on the guide's 'improper' dress. Under a policy announced last spring all Bhutanese are required to wear in public the knee-length *gho* or the *kira*, an embroidered full-length dress.

The guide, had he been seen by authorities, could have faced a fine and a jail sentence of up to a week. More than a simple conflict over a dress code, the incident illustrates the extraordinary place of tradition in Bhutanese society today.

For the Westerner, just being here is a rare privilege. All monasteries, temples and dzongs—the religious and administrative fortresses that are the centre of local government in Bhutan—have been closed to foreigners for nearly two years

In a world where other nations have rushed toward what author Pico Iyer has called "the Coca-Colonising forces"—and have paid the price culturally—Bhutan is an anomaly.

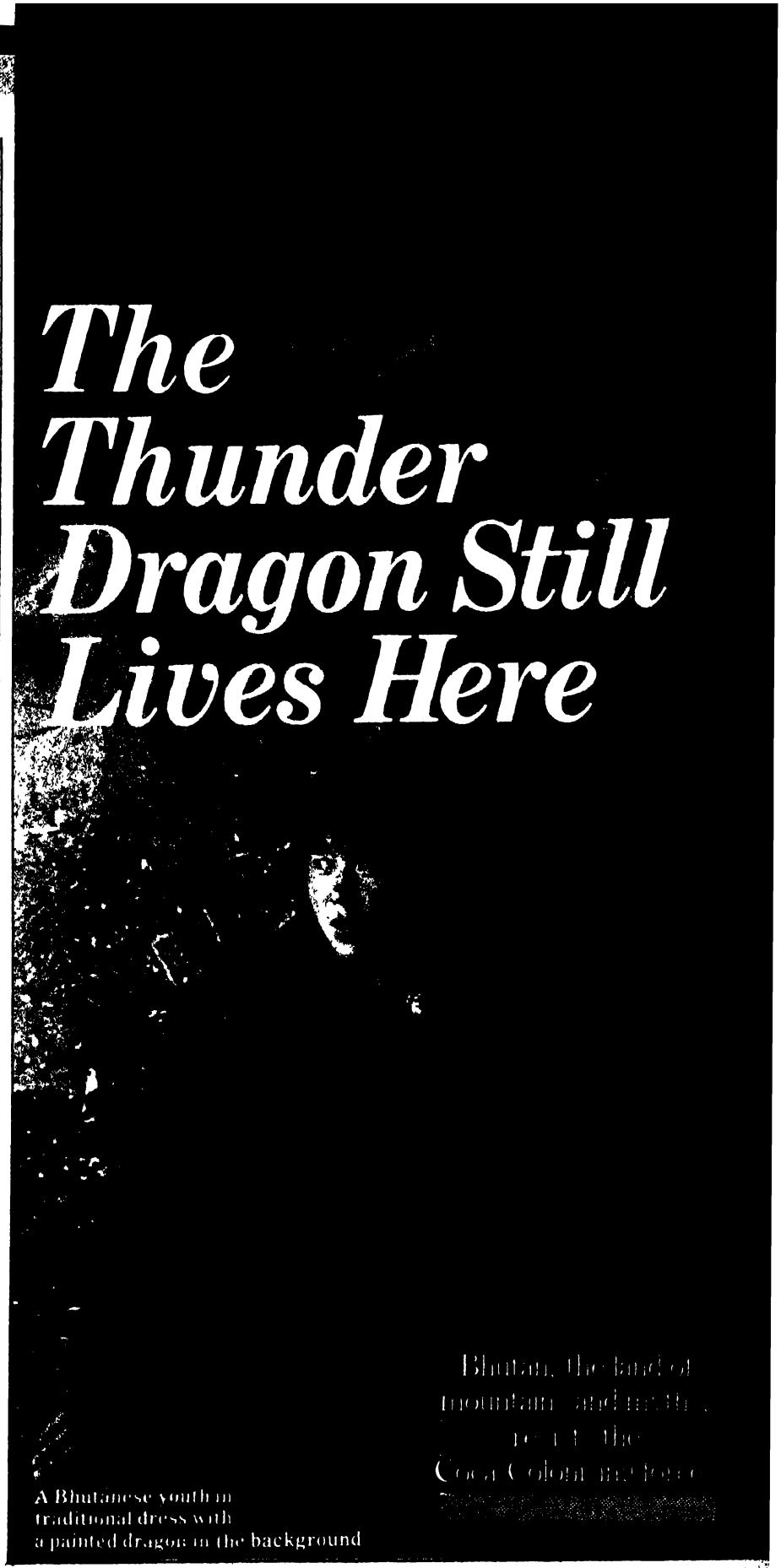
A heavily forested and uncommonly prosperous land, it is proceeding cautiously. Its passionate commitment to its unique heritage takes precedence over modernisation.

The country "does not aspire to either Western standards of development or Western culture," reports the World Wildlife Fund, which has supported a number of projects here. "In Bhutan the priorities seen elsewhere in the developing world have been inverted."

Indeed, the "preservation and promotion of national identity" is one of the objectives of Bhutan's sixth five-year plan, adopted in 1987. In addition to its solid Buddhist base, the Land of the Thunder Dragon, as the country is often called, already possesses world-renowned weavers and distinctive architectural styles

Although Bhutan is geographically isolated, landlocked and was never colonised, "it's not as if they were culturally isolated, because they weren't," says Diana K. Myers of Washington, DC, a development specialist who has spent many years working in the Himalaya.

"They were part of this very, very rich northern Himalayan cultural area that was heavily influenced by Tibet," explains Myers, who has focused on the impact of



Bhutan, the land of mountain and myth, is part of the Coca-Colonising forces

A Bhutanese youth in traditional dress with a painted dragon in the background

development on traditional culture "But they were fortunate in their geography that Westerners were kept out for a long time."

Besides Bhutan's extreme remoteness, small size is another underlying reason for the renewed emphasis on tradition says Lhatu Wangchuk, the country's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations. Barely 100 miles wide and 200 miles long, Bhutan has a population of only 1.5 million and faces an unusual shortage of trained manpower as a result.

"We are a very small society," says Wangchuk. "Our only identity is the culture. Culture is something that loses its value if you don't take care of it. We want to be known as (traditional) Bhutanese although we do subscribe to modern values too."

Leading the nation in cultural conservation is King Jigme Singye Wanchuk (cq), the dynamic young monarch who has ruled since 1974. By all accounts the king has never been seen wearing anything other than a *gho*, even when playing basketball on an autumn afternoon at the sports stadium in Thimphu.

Particularly in the past quarter century, the present ruler and his late father King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck have expanded the economy, tapping the nation's huge reserves of hydroelectric power and encouraging limited manufacturing.

They have also been instrumental in Bhutan's joining the United Nations and other global organisations, and this has strengthened key international ties and resulted in an unusual degree of political stability.

Perhaps Bhutan's most significant move to conserve tradition has been to severely restrict entry to foreigners. The government controls all tourism, prohibiting individual travel and charging tourist fees of some $200 a day. In 1987 it closed all but one of its tourist offices in other nations. About 2,300 visitors arrived last year.

Brent Olson, department manager for Inner Asia, a San Francisco-based travel company that is among the leading US organsations to send tour groups to Bhutan, says the government has decided that promotion of traditional values is "a very important component of what being Bhutanese is.

"They've seen what's happened to Nepal (which has strongly encouraged tourism), and they've realised that Western materialism doesn't necessarily bring happiness."

In closing the monasteries to foreigners on January 1, 1988, the government was responding to pressure from the Central Monk Body, the nation's premier religious institution, Myers says. The monk body, she says, had been receiving complaints from more remote villages about tourists taking photographs in temples and handling artifacts, both are prohibited.

Besides restricting tourism and mandating national dress, the government has taken these steps:

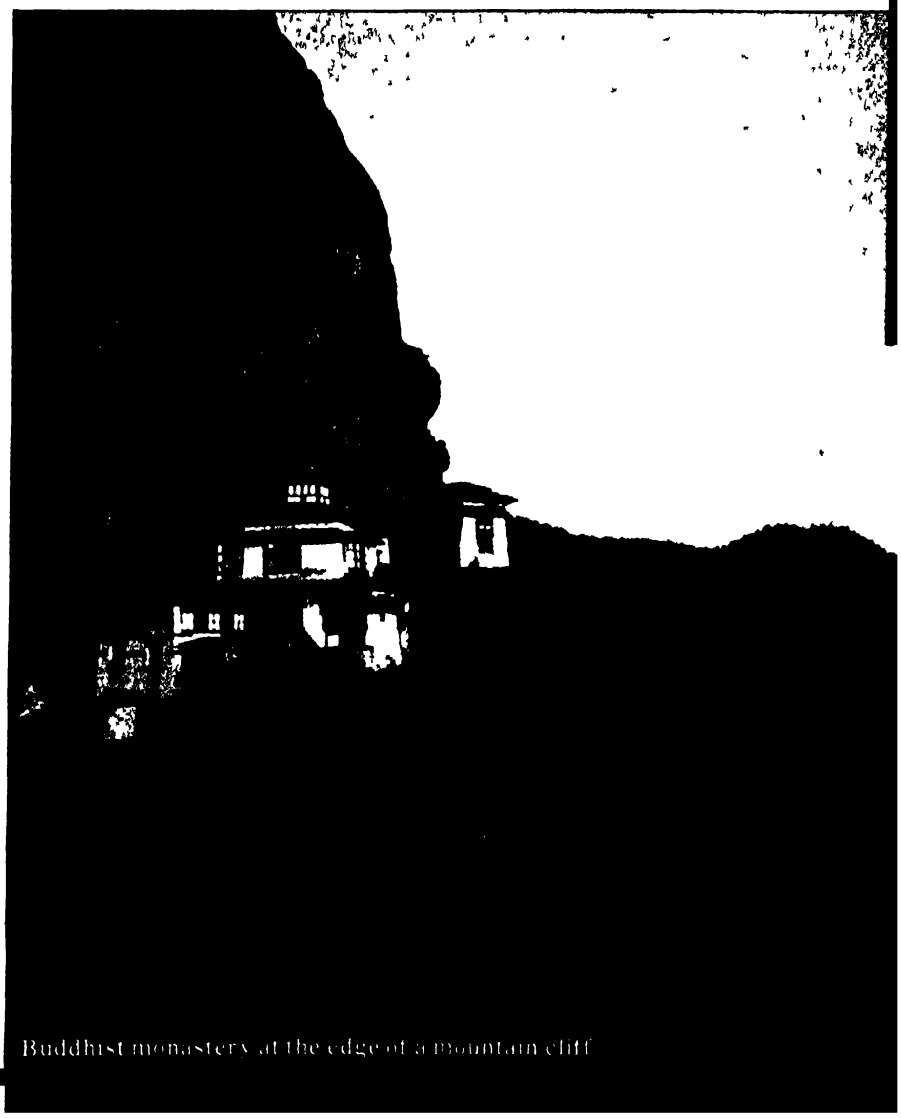
- Training is offered for virtually all Bhutanese in "driglam namzha" traditional etiquette—a key element in the nation's social hierarchy. Beginning in school Bhutanese learn proper forms of address and presentation, table etiquette and other social refinements. Refresher courses are given periodically for government workers, armed forces personnel and the business community.
- Training is also stressed in the national language of Dzongkha, a relative of Tibetan that binds a society in which there are many dialects.
- A vigorous anti smoking campaign has been launched in accordance with Buddhist ethics, under which smoking is considered offensive to the gods.

During a rare interview with Western media the king summed up his philosophy this way. "What we want to achieve," he told *Newsweek* magazine in 1980, "is a balance between gross national product and gross national happiness."

In keeping with that approach, in 1986 the government rejected a World Bank project to build a dam on the Manas River in southern Bhutan, because it would have flooded an important wildlife area. The king also halted construction of a major cement plant because it was "visually polluting."

"I think our people do realise the importance of having such policy decisions by the government," says Lhatu Wangchuk (cq), the UN representative. "We have the consent and support of the people. It's not just out of the blue that the government takes these decisions." He notes that the king toured the country recently to explain the policies to his subjects.

In the case of the national dress requirement the government also has undertaken to show that wearing *ghos* and *kiras* can be fashionable. In June, in what was billed as "a taste of Paris glamour," the ministry of trade and industries organised a three-day



Buddhist monastery at the edge of a mountain cliff

fashion show—a first for the nation More significantly, the government has offered to buy *ghos* and *kuras* for all Bhutanese who cannot afford them, including many southern Bhutanese of Nepalese origin, who generally have not worn the hand-woven garments. It is the kind of personal interaction that Bhutanese have come to expect from their monarch

"I really believe the king has the common people's interest at heart," Brent Olson says "He's much more concerned with the local people than with hobnobbing with dignitaries "

Bruce Bunting, director of the World Wildlife Fund's Asia programme agrees "One thing that sets Bhutan aside from everywhere else is the leadership," says Bunting, who has made 10 trips to the Himalayan kingdom

"I wish that His Majesty and other senior government officers would come out on the world stage They are very enlightened leaders Everybody always talks about Bhutan being this remote isolated country But they're very current and there is a quality of life that goes way beyond anything we've experienced in the West "

Nonetheless, the lifestyle of at least part of the population has been influenced by the West as the number of foreigners in Bhutan -especially development aid workers -has soared in recent years Still, most foreigners are in Bhutan temporarily, Thimphu's permanent Western community numbers fewer than 100

But Myers cautions, "I don t think Bhutan's policies are necessarily against outsiders, they are also an effort to educate Bhutanese in their traditional culture I think it's a very intelligent and well-conceived effort on their part to achieve a balance "

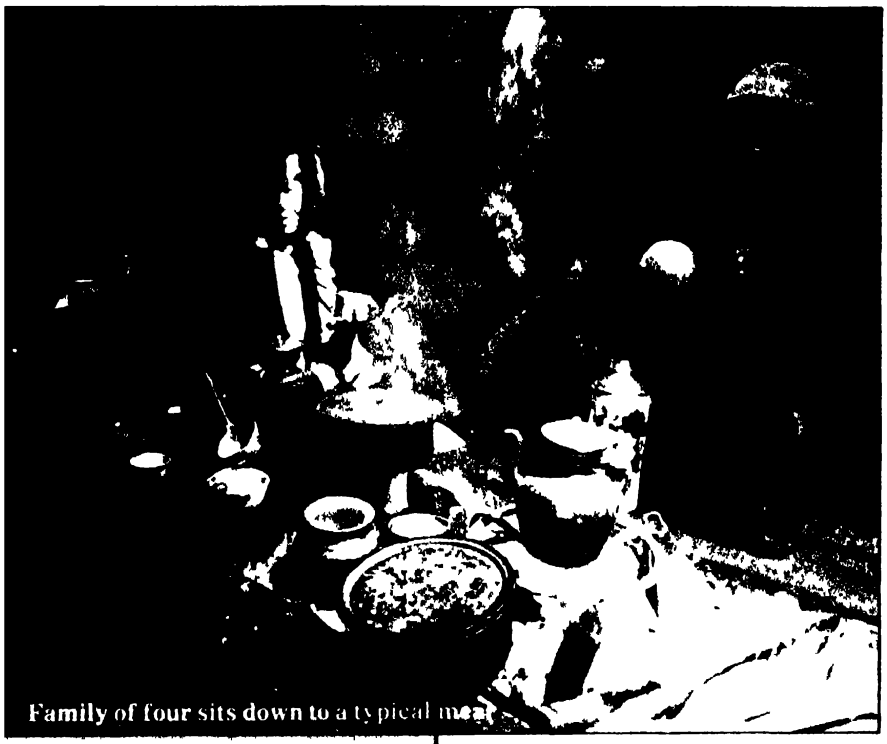
Although some observers express scepticism about whether a conservative cultural attitude can succeed in a country where at least part of the population is familiar with Western clothing and electronics, Myers says she is optimistic

What you see in Thimphu is so different from what you see in an average village in eastern Bhutan she says I don t think most Bhutanese have been exposed to the video culture What may be tougher is among those who have been educated outside and already have Western clothes and videos '

Citing Buddhism as 'one of the important glues that holds together the traditional culture," she notes Particularly if the Monk Body in the future holds the same power as now the forces of cultural conservatism will remain strong It's important to recognise that the government, especially His Majesty, wants to encourage development and a cautious opening of the door

"But perhaps the door was opened a little too wide and they're closing it a bit again I see Bhutan being able to take the best of both worlds "■

(National Geographic Society)



Family of four sits down to a typical meal



Masked *rakshas* dancer at a festival



Waiting for a buyer

THE ANIMAL BAZAR

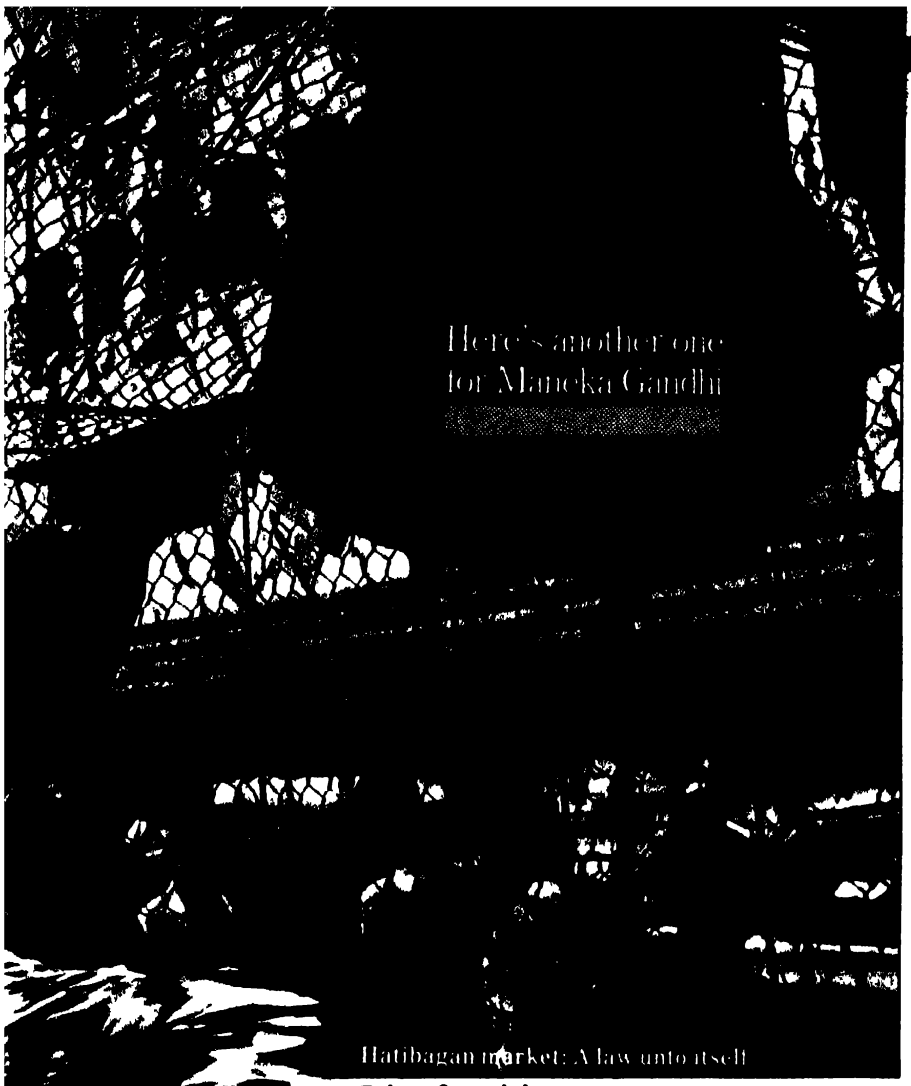
At Hatibagan, Sunday is *hatbar*. Hours before the city of Charnock awakes from fitful slumber to the roar of traffic and rattle of trams, Hatibagan comes alive with the arrival of hundreds of men carrying different varieties of birds in cages, colourful fish in jars, rabbits and guinea pigs in boxes, puppies and monkeys in chains, and numerous other creatures.

The bazar is an exotic menagerie, a riot of colours, a cacophany of animal and human noises, a buyer's paradise for those who want pets at bargain prices. The weekly market is believed to be older than the adjoining vegetable and garment markets. The present market premises on Bidhan Sarani (erstwhile Cornwallis Street) are said to have once stabled the elephants of the Sovabazar *rajbari*—and hence, the sobriquet Hatibagan. The place was acquired in 1875 by Mahatapa Chandra Mallick, who turned it into a market. Till today, it is the only one of its kind in the city.

Every Sunday brings forth small boys and girls, clutching on to their parents as they look expectantly at the birds and animals on display. One can buy a pair of lovebirds for Rs 3,000 and watch them spend most of their time kissing each other. A pair of rose ringed parakeets or a pair of finches sell for Rs 60, while an 'export variety' myna with its ability to mimic human voices goes for Rs 85 to 250, depending on the species. A pair of



Watched with eagle eyes



Hatibagan market: A law unto itself

Price of captivity



Australian cockatoos costs over Rs 3,0[illegible] tawny eagle around Rs 1,000, capercailzie, the largest member of the grouse family, Rs 80 a pair. Pigeons like the Bluerock pigeon and Jacobin pigeon are sold for anything between Rs 20 and Rs 400. Birds like the Blue Jay or Indian Roller, grey partridge and yellow wagtail are also common 'commodities,' having been bred in captivity

Till a few years ago, monkeys were openly sold for Rs 50 to 60, but now they



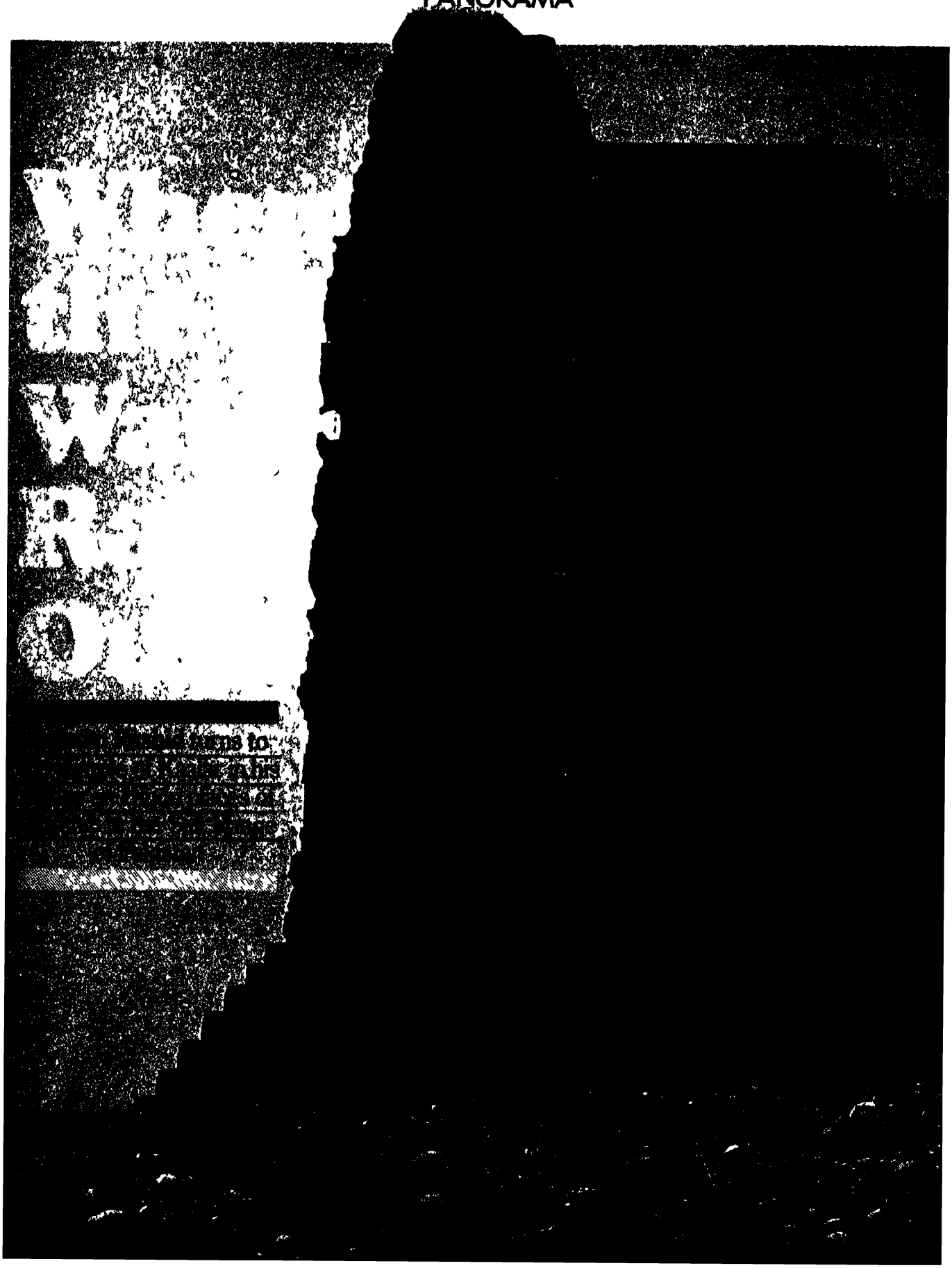
Caged existence

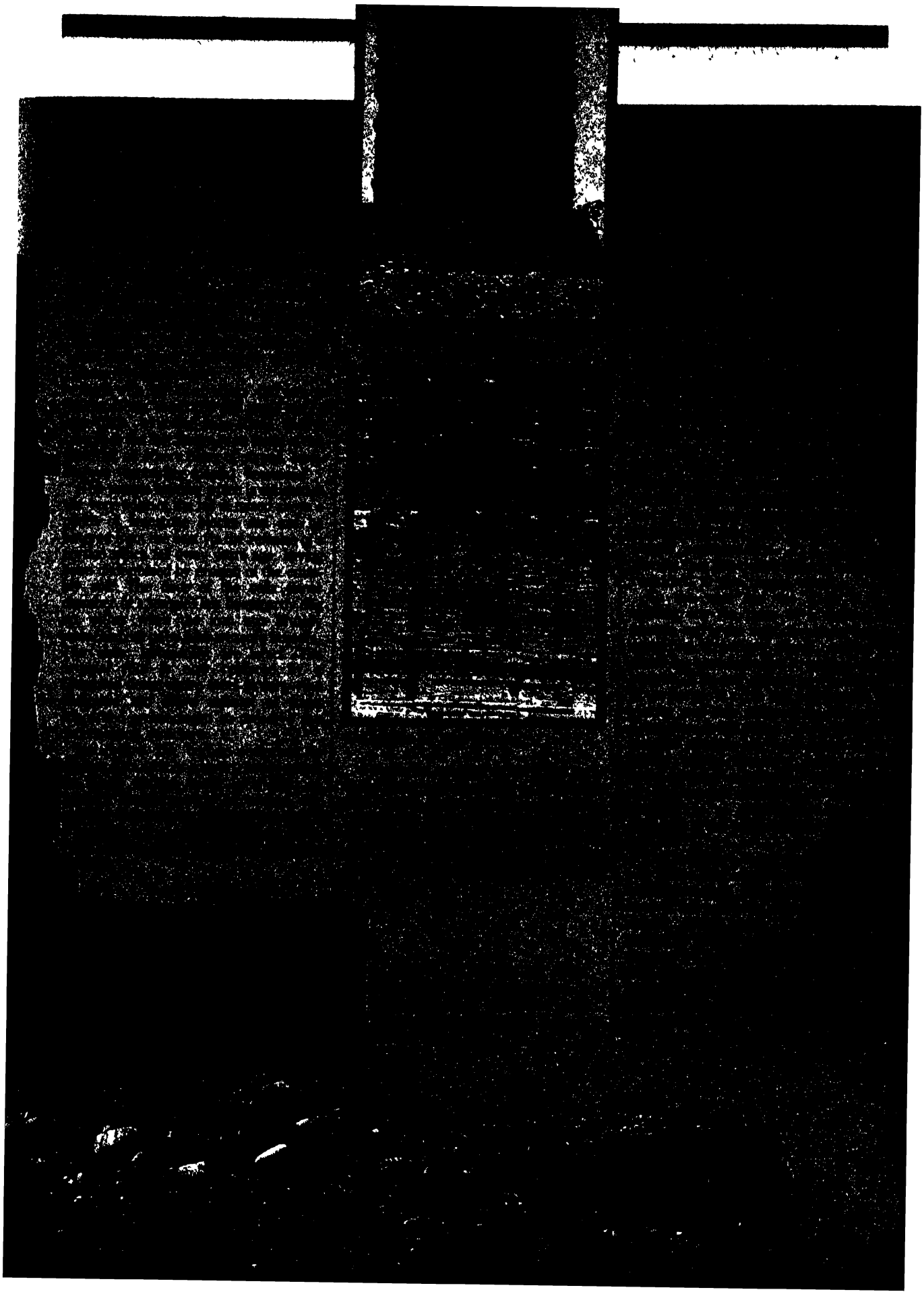
are traded more surreptitiously A mongoose can still be had for Rs 50 or so only and rabbits for Rs 30 to 50 a pair Mongrel puppies are also in great demand. Spitz and Lhasa Apso puppies are sold for Rs 500 each, German Shepherd and Dobermann Pincher pups fetch Rs 1500 to Rs 2000 each, and a smooth-haired Dachsund around Rs 1200 Deliberate cross-breeding by the original owners and breeders to develop certain characteristics has resulted in many types and such pups are available at incredibly low prices.

Yet, the saddest part of it all is that most of the animals that are up for sale will never cherish the freedom of their natural habitat. They are traded in blatant violation of the wildlife protection laws and without any regard to the ban on such transactions. Interesting though the market is, the fact is that it flourishes on the basis of the usual "understanding" that exists with the law enforcement authorities.

One wonders what Mrs Maneka Gandhi would have had to say had she been here on a Sunday and had got a chance to see the appalling conditions in which the captive animals are kept. The only recompense perhaps is that many of them find owners who can give them love and affection if not total freedom.

Photographs: Pathik Deb Mallik
Text: Prabhat Deb Mallik







Rohini Hattangady and Amitabh Bachchan in *Agneepath*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Awaargi (A):** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442)—12, 3, 6, 9.

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Anil Kapoor, Govinda and Meenakshi Seshadri. The music is by Annu Malik.

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—4 shows.

Directed by Aziz Sajawal and with music by Nadeem Shravan, the film stars Jackie Shroff, Farha, Aditya Pancholi, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road, 241383), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)—4 shows.

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya. The music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Rihaee (A):** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473)—4 shows; Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808) & Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—noon show.

A film by Arunaraje, starring Hema Malini, Vinod Khanna and Naseeruddin Shah. Also in the cast are Neena Gupta, Mohan Agashe, Rima Lagoo, Ila Arun and others The music is by Sharang Dev.

• **Souten Ki Beti:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

Jeetendra, Rekha and Jaya Prada are the chief attractions. The film is directed by Saawan Kumar and the music is by Vedpaal.

• **Zahreelay:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440)—4 shows.

A film by Jyotin Goel, the cast includes Jeetendra, Sunjay Dutt, Chunkey Panday, Bhanupriya and Juhi Chawla. The music is by Anand Milind.

Joy Banerjee and Chumki Choudhury in *Hirak Jayanti*



Bengali Films

• **Bhagyalipi:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680),. Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Sujit Kumar's first Bengali film which stars Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy, Aparajita, Aruna Irani, Paintal and the director himself. The music is by Sumitra Lahiri.

• **Bybadhan:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

Directed by Dilip Mukherjee and with music by Ajoy Das, the film stars Victor Banerjee, Moon Moon Sen, Indrani Dutta, Kali Banerjee, Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury and Tapas Paul.

• **Ganashatru:** Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133)—2.30, 5, 7.30; Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Prachi (AJC Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Satyajit Ray's adaptation of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, whose cast includes Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Subhendu Chatterjee, Vishma Guha Thakurta, Dhritiman Chatterjee, Mamata Shankar and Ruma Guhathakurta, An added attraction is a documentary on Sukumar Ray.

• **Hirak Jayanti:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561)—1.30, 4.15, 7.

Ranjit Mullick, Chumki Choudhury and Joy Banerjee star in this Anjan Choudhury film whose music is by Goutam Basu.

Special Events

18-22 February

Eight Days of Ganapati -An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Gosto Kumar

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Gariahat Road 755314)

19 February: 6.15 pm

The Bharata Natyam *aranget ram* of Priya Haran disciple of Rajalakshmi Venkateswar



Priya Haran

At Rabindra Sarobar Stadium (Pavilion Hall)

21 February onwards

Jadavpur University Photographic Club will hold a week long exhibition of photographs in the North Gallery

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road 284302)

23 February: 6 pm

Bharati Tamil Sangham and Washington Carnatic Music Society, USA present Bharata Natyam recitals by Tomiko Furumoto and Stewart Carerra and a Mohini Attam recital by Radha Dutta



Radha Dutta

At Birla Academy of Art & Culture (Southern Avenue 467843/9802)

24 February: 6 pm

Mysore Association presents a Bharata Natyam recital by Stewart Carerra

At Mysore Association Hall (Southern Avenue)

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0250, Dep (6) AI-309/AI-101 at 0215

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI 165 at 0500

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI 135 at 0500

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr (5) AI 306 at 1910, Dep (5) AI 306 at 2020

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI 309 at 1915 Dep (6) AI 309 at 2015

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI 112 AI 1122 at 0330

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI 162/AI 1320 at 1340

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI 132 AI 1320 at 1340

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4) SU 537 at 1625

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4) SU 538 at 1825

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr (1, 4) RJ-184 at 0730, Dep (1 4) RJ 181 at 0830

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr (1) JU 492 at 0955, Dep (1) JU 492 at 1055

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr (1) JU-493 at 2325, Dep (2) JU-493 at 0025

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep (2) SQ 416 at 1120 and Dep (7) SQ 413 at 1530, Arr (2) SQ-416 at 1020, Arr (4) SQ-414 at 0920

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6) TG-313 at 1240, Dep (2, 4 7) IC 231 at 1050, Dep (1, 3, 6) TG-314 at 1355

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6) IC 843 at 0755 Dep (6) IC 843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC 844 at 1115, Dep (6) IC 844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep (2, 3, 4, 6, 7) IC-247 at 1740, Dep (1, 5) RA-214 at 1650, Arr (2, 3, 4, 6, 7) IC-248 at 2055, Arr (1 5) RA-213 at 1550

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep (daily) IC-223 at 1640, BG-092 at 1200, Dep (2, 3) BG-094 at 1730, Dep (1, 4, 5, 6, 7) BG-094 at 1900, Arr (daily) IC-224 at 1840, BG-091 at 1115, Arr (2, 3) BG-093 at 1645, Arr (1, 4, 5, 6, 7) BG-093 at 1745.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (3, 6) IC-225 at 1030, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245; Arr. (3, 6). IC-226 at 1250, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1[illegible]5.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. Passengers may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633 for assistance.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2, 5) KB-106 at 1430, Arr (2, 5) KB 105 at 1330

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0250, Dep (6) AI 309 at 2015

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr (5) AI 306 at 1910

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI 1320 at 1340 Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0330

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC 263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710, Arr (daily) IC 401 at 1205, IC 764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2225

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily) IC-176 at 0845 and IC 273 at 1915, Arr (daily) IC-175 at 0755 and IC-274 at 1825

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-765 at 1640, Arr (daily) IC 766 at 2140

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (daily) IC-771 at 0705, Arr (daily) IC-772 at 1240

Calcutta-Varanasi-Jaipur: Dep (3, 5) IC-215 at 1610, Arr (3, 5) IC-216 at 2240

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep (4, 6) IC-281 at 1700, Arr (4 6) IC-281 at 2030

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep (daily) IC-205 at 1330, Arr (daily) IC 206 at 1530

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep (1, 2, 5, 7) IC-235 at 1400, Arr (1, 2, 5, 7) IC 236 at 1900

Calcutta-Vishakhapatnam-Madras: Dep (daily) IC 542 at 0555, Arr (daily) IC-541 at 0945

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar: Dep (1, 2, 4, 7) IC-269 at 1710, Arr (1, 2, 4, 7) IC 270 at 1930

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep (3, 5 6) IC 269 at 1710, Arr (3, 5, 6) IC-270 at 1950

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow-Ahmedabad-Bombay: Dep (3, 6) IC-295 at 1400, Arr. (3, 6) IC-296 at 1855.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep (1, 2, 4, 7) IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0920

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep (2, 4, 6) IC-237 at 0610; Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep (1) IC-287 at 0545, Arr (1) IC 288 at 1235

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 5) IC-285 at 0545, Arr (2, 4, 6) IC 286 at 1015

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep (daily) IC-221 at 1100, Arr (daily) IC 222 at 1320

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep (daily). IC-255 at 0600 Arr (daily) IC-256 at 1030

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-743 at 1300 and IC-741 at 0945, Dep (1, 3, 5, 7) IC-243 at 0610, Arr (daily) IC 744 at 1520 and IC 742 at 1205, Arr (1, 3, 5, 7) IC-244 at 1030

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep (3, 5, 7) IC 213 at 1130, Arr (3, 5, 7) IC 213 at 1640

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep (1, 2, 4, 6) IC 213 at 1130, Arr (1, 2, 4, 6) IC-213 at 1620

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep (daily) IC-201 at 1025, Arr (daily) IC-202 at 1245

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep (daily) IC-219 at 1110, Arr (daily) IC 220 at 1550

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily) IC-229 at 1320 and IC-703 at 0605, Arr (daily) IC-230 at 1610 and IC 704 at 0855

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep (daily) PF-701 at 0940, Arr (daily) PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7). PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6). PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6). PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5); PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6). PF-721 at 0930; Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-722 at 1805
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-723 at 1045, Arr. (1, 3, 5)· PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6)· PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

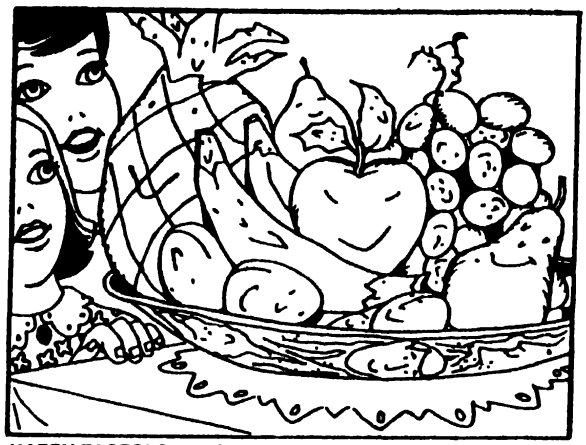
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep --Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4 15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15 45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7 30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	21 00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14,15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromondal (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6 20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6 45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11 30	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



HAPPY FACES! Our artist says there are 32 happy faces in this holiday fruit bowl. See if you can find at least 30.

• FORE-WORD! A certain three-letter word may be placed before all five of these words to form other words
AGE BID EGO GET MAT What word is it?

The word FOR will do it



CREATURES OF HABIT? If you're familiar with such terms as "going batty" "monkey business," "lion's share" etc the following creature quotes should not buffalo you Just replace the 'creature" in each appropriately

1 I often taken a "creature" nap

2 The winning team went "creature" wild

3 At day's end we were "creature" tired

4 Hungry diners "creatured" down lunch

5 Party-goers "creatured" out on sweets

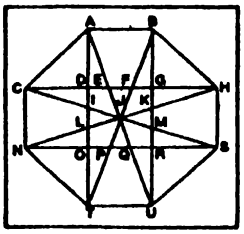
6 Costumed jokesters are *creaturing"* around above

1 Cat 2 Hog 3 Dog 4 Worked 5 Pigged 6 Horsing

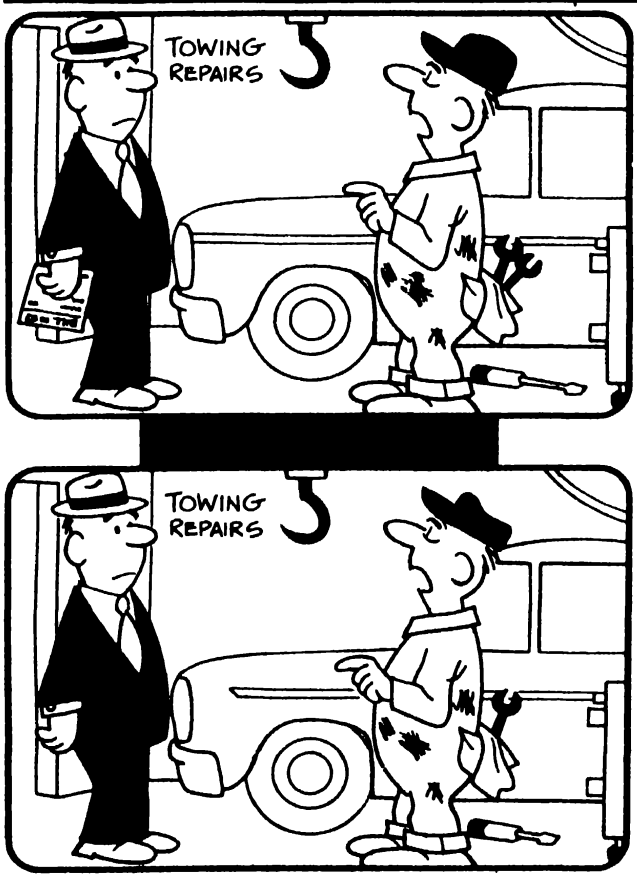
• RUSH COPY! It is possible to start at the letter R, proceed to U, move to S, then to H, and continue onward line by line to duplicate the intricate figure below without removing pencil from paper or going over any line twice.

Yes, it's pissible to start with a RUSH, but solution may take time.

One way RUSHBACKNTUOP TOPJLONLICDIJEDAE FBGFJKGHKMSRMJOR



HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences. 1 Bill is missing. 2 Tail strip is shorter. 3. Arm is moved 4. Cap is different 5 Wrench is missing 6 Screwdriver is shorter.

FUNSPOT



ON, PARADE! Balloons, clowns, bands, crowds — they're all part of the big holiday parade. Code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Lt. purple.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

SPACEMAN

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram: Came, span.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Expenses will be heavy but you will get your work done It is also travel time Visits to hospitals and clinics are not ruled out Secret attachments and liaison are probable Financially, the overheads will be killing But you will certainly manage to keep your head above the water It is just possible that you could feel a bit low or under the weather Children and hobbies will certainly take your time and energy

TAURUS

April 21 - May 20

You will sing like a nightingale and bellow like a bull Yes, your work will be done Romance and marriage are destined So also are collaborations Your financial graph will show an upward trend Health improves, and so does your performance A journey for pleasure and profit is likely A good time for house moving or renovation and decoration

GEMINI

May 21 -June 20

You will be very busy building your financial muscles Rest assured that new openings and assignments will be yours First finish your work and then go for the affairs of your heart. Because of pressures, you must learn to rest and relax Travel only if your occupation requires you to do so Children give satisfaction and home has the necessary tranquility

CANCER

June 21 July 20

News and views, children and hobbies, work and finances will all be there in a fine mix As far as romance goes, you will be ardent and successful Money will pour in but it will also leap out again with equal agility Health will improve and so will your temper The next 21 days are definitely favourable for a trip and an emotional tie You might feel like neglecting your home for new pastures.

LEO

July 21- August 21

The home front is completely activated and revitalised A journey at short notice is probable. You will love with half your heart and count your cash with the other Loans and funds, buying and selling are the favourable indications An extra care of health will be necessary. Mid-week is for a



journey or a letter or a call

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The week indicates messages and calls, love and laughter, socialising and group activity and possibly an important proposal for marriage and business Deals will be closed and offers will be received Your health holds up to pulls and pressures Yes, you will be mobile and active Get your travel-kit ready A round of renovation and decoration, holidaying and a home away from home are foretold

LIBRA

Sept 23— Oct 22

This is the time to close deals, invest and go in for major transactions and important settlements, be they professional or personal Take extra care of your health during the next 24 days A shift or a sudden trip is probable Devote more time to the affairs of home and childen

SCORPIO

Oct 23 - Nov 22

Your enemies will be willing to wound but afraid to strike because you will sting them to death Success in enterprise and romance is destined Money in the kitty and in the bank You will be as radiant as the sun Travel is a distinct possibility Visitors will come from far away places to meet you

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23— Dec 20

You will be loved and hated in equal measures Also it is travel time Expenses will sky-rocket You will carry on your romantic affairs with gusto and zeal Take care of expenses and outgoings A journey around February 21 or 26 is probable Property transactions and painting the house or erecting a fence are probable

CAPRICORN

Dec 21 Jan 19

Good news by mail calls, journeys or word of mouth You will be happy and thus spread good cheer all around Expect visitors lovers and friends to drop in Romance will be sweet and lovely Your purse and wallet will be bulging You will be as strong and active as the mountain goat Travel will give you pleasure and profit You will be the perfect husband or housewife

AQUARIUS

Jan 20 Feb 18

A new position of power and responsibility or a promotion or tremendous social status will be yours Your heart will twang like a guitar played by an expert Money will be showered upon you Healthwise, be just a wee bit careful as there is a danger of accidents or operations Travel would be a good way to reach out You will overhaul your home in a strange manner

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Journeys and ceremonies, functions and meetings, publicity and success are in store for you. You will be valued and trusted as never before Assignments, proposals and offers make you prosperous You may have to travel for important work. Children and grandchildren, parents and in-laws look up to you

BIRTHDAYS

February 18

Moon sextile Mercury: This sextile will help salesmen, teachers, editors, writers, poets, musicians and those in publicity and advertisements. Expect a successful journey and a happy marriage.

February 19

Moon sextile Lode: You will be ambitious and diplomatic. Therefore success is certain. It would be best to take periodic rest because pressures to perform will be truly tremendous. Expect a promotion.

February 20

Sun trine Jupiter: This trine will push you to the top provided you are willing to give it your best shot. Do not be lazy and dreamy. Just remember that this is action time and happy rewards as well as rich tributes await you.

February 21

Moon conjuction Saturn: This conjunction will give you nobility and depth. But you must take care not to court your enemies by

fore they are hatched. Architects and musicians, actors and dramatists, managers and executives will do wonderfully well

February 22

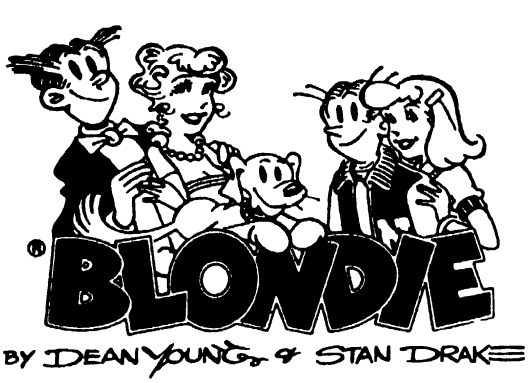
Moon conjuction Venus: You will be successful in science, research, technology, fashions and designing. A marriage proposal or a business offer, including a foreign connection, will come your way. It would be to your advatage to take it.

February 23

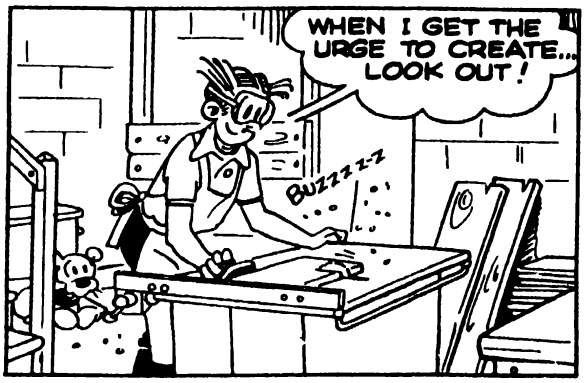
Moon conjuction Mercury: Journey and communication are the twin trends which dominate the year. Children and home also have their important say. In your job expect a hefty high. It is absolutely certain that you will emerge victorious. Expenses will soar.

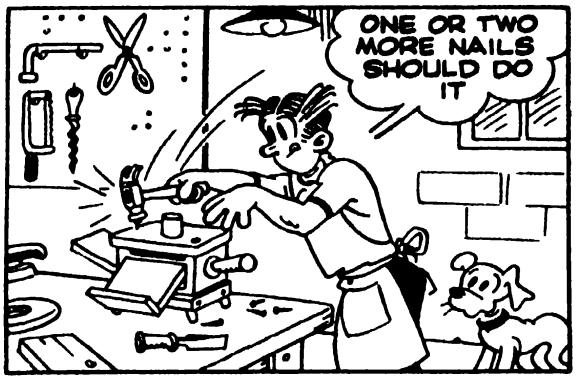
February 24

Mercury square Pluto: This square only means that you should be careful of your honour and good name, as jealous eyes and idle tongues will be apt to malign you. On the positive side you will climb to the top. Property matters are definitely favourable

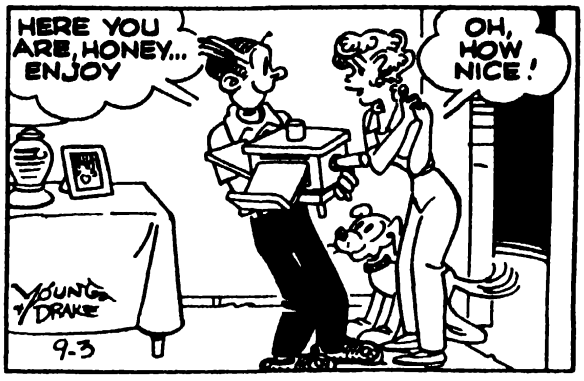


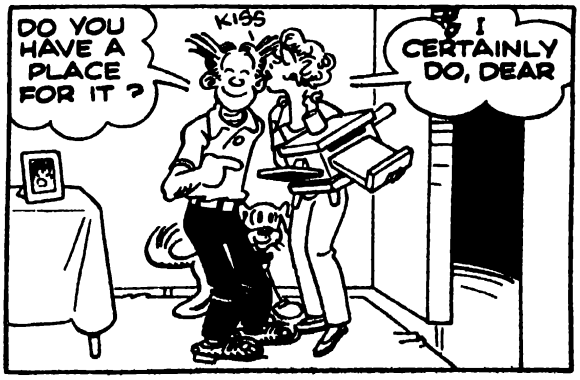






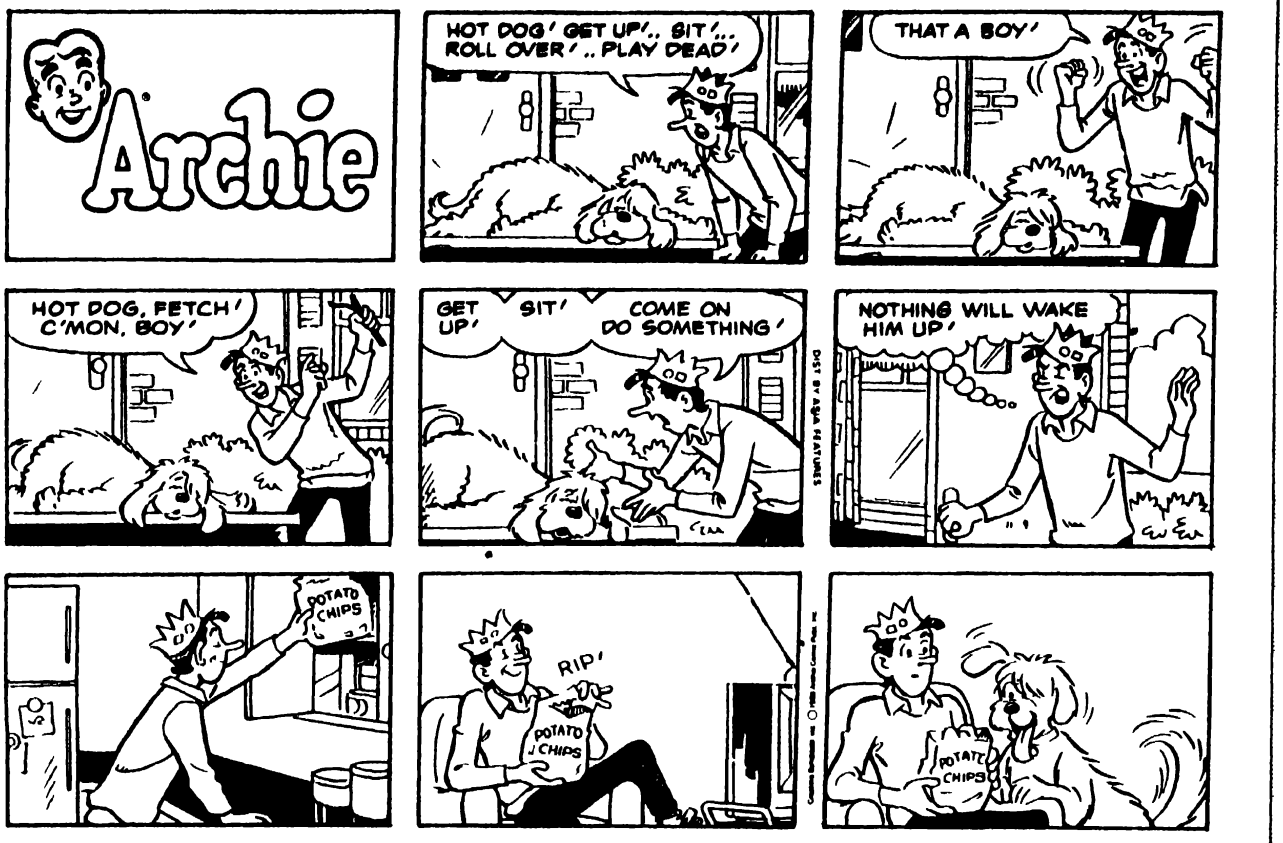


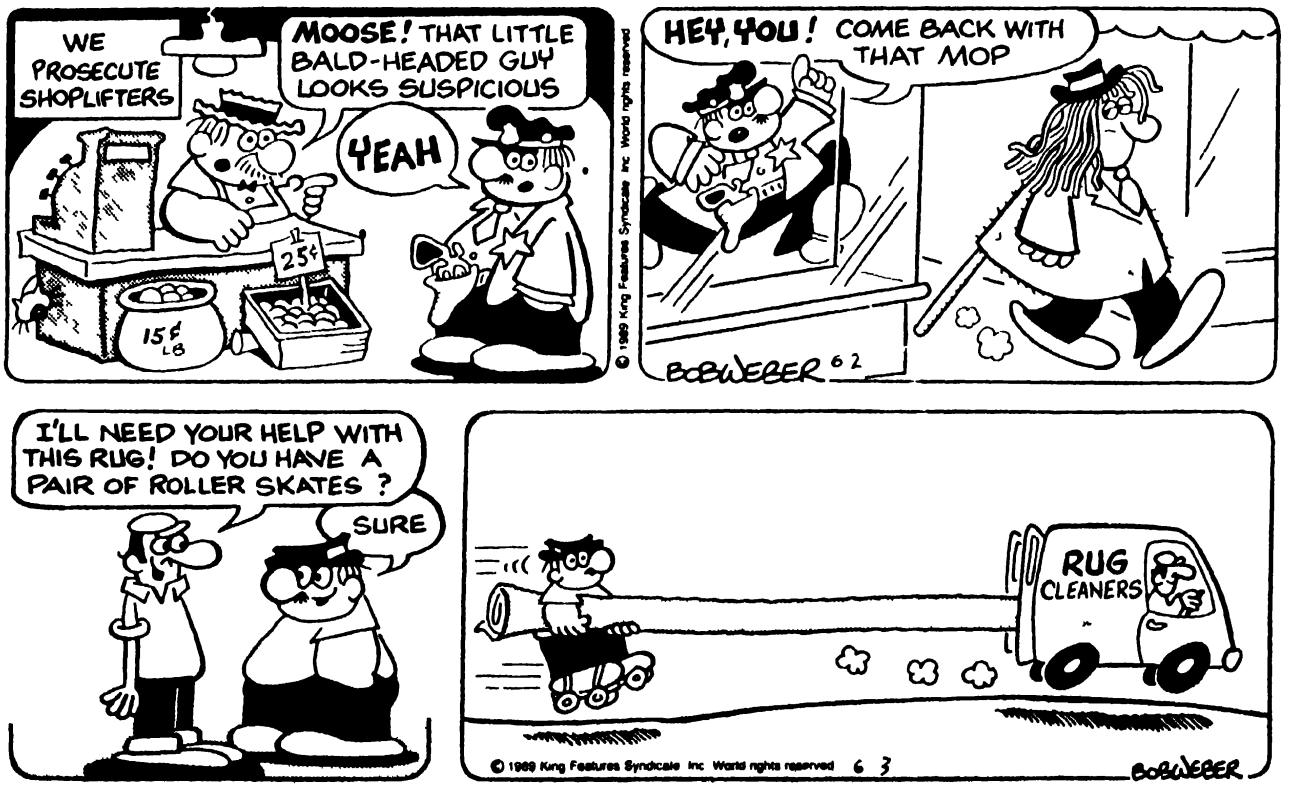


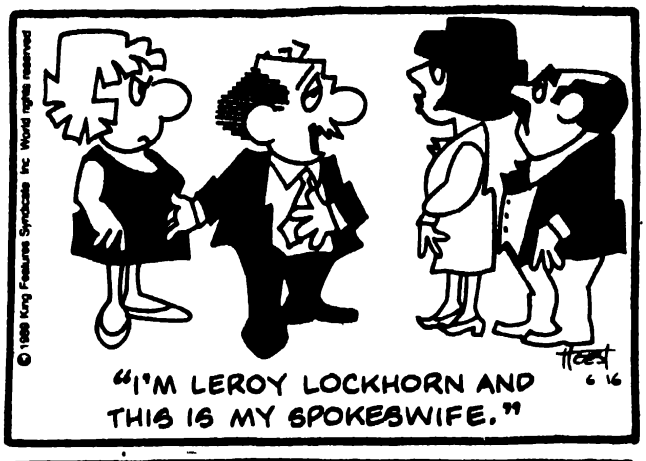


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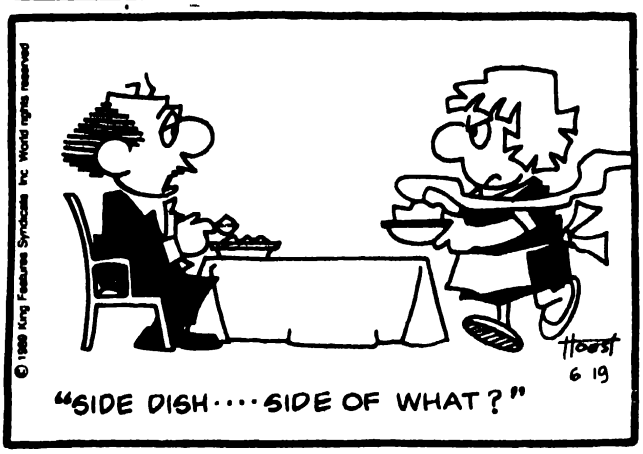


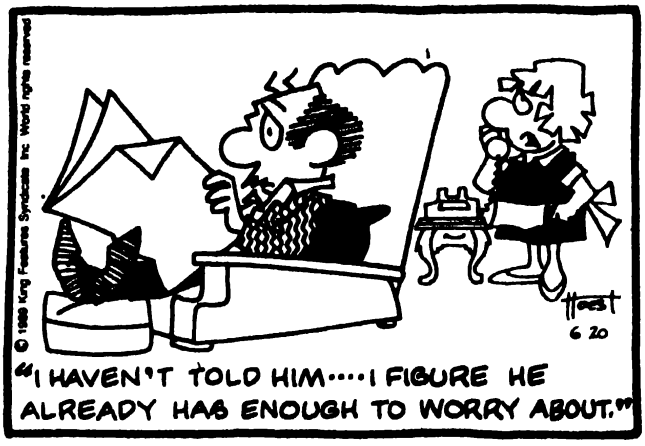

Archie
HOT DOG! GET UP!.. SIT!... ROLL OVER!.. PLAY DEAD!
THAT A BOY!
HOT DOG, FETCH! C'MON, BOY!
GET UP!
SIT!
COME ON DO SOMETHING!
NOTHING WILL WAKE HIM UP!
POTATO CHIPS
RIP!
POTATO CHIPS
POTATO CHIPS


WE PROSECUTE SHOPLIFTERS
MOOSE! THAT LITTLE BALD-HEADED GUY LOOKS SUSPICIOUS
YEAH
25¢
15¢ LB
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HEY, YOU! COME BACK WITH THAT MOP
BOBWEBER 62
I'LL NEED YOUR HELP WITH THIS RUG! DO YOU HAVE A PAIR OF ROLLER SKATES ?
SURE
RUG CLEANERS
© 1969 King Features Syndicate Inc. World rights reserved 6 3
BOBWEBER





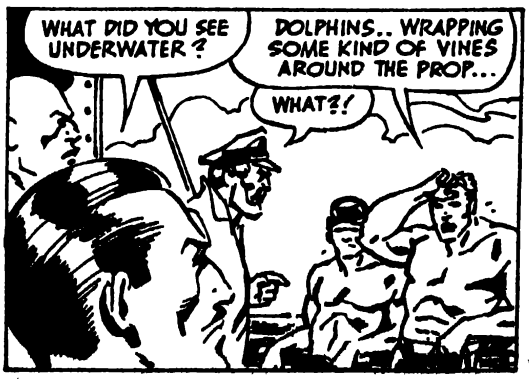


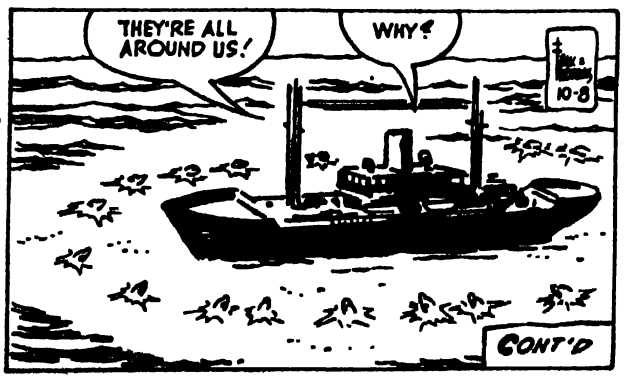


MANDRAKE By Lee Falk





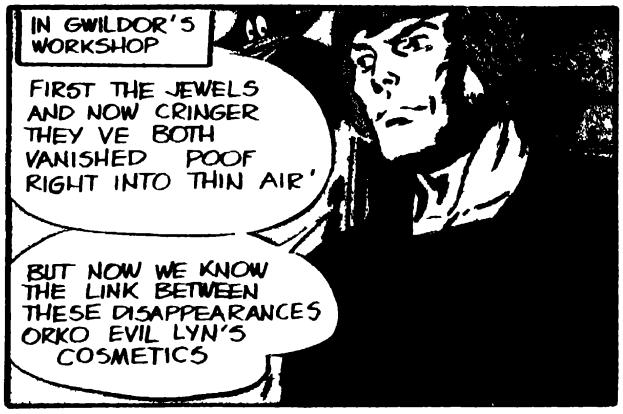





OH, BE STILL, FOOLISH HEART!
LOOK AT HER! THE-ONE-THEY-CALL-DORIS SO GRACEFUL AS SHE WADES IN THE OASIS
WATER NYMPH! COME JOIN ME IN YONDER TENT!
THAT'S MY DORIS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, SQUIRT!
THE-ONE-THEY-CALL-DORIS IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN I'VE EVER SEEN!
THE ELEGANCE OF HER NECK! THE SUPPLENESS OF HER CHINS!
LISTEN YOU LITTLE CREEP, I'M GETTING OUT OF THIS WATER SO TURN YOUR BACK OR YOU'LL BE EATING KNUCKLES!
AND MODEST, WITH IT!
ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU SOLD YOUR DORIS TO THAT NOMAD FOR A POUND?
YES
THAT'S THE MOST OBSCENE THING I'VE EVER HEARD!
OH, ALL RIGHT! I'LL GIVE HIM SOME CHANGE!
THE ANGEL THAT YOU SOLD ME — THE-ONE-YOU-CALL-DORIS HAS GONE SWIFT!
REALLY?
SHE HAS EYES ONLY FOR YOU AND SAYS SHE COULD NEVER LOVE ME. MY HEART IS HEAVY SOB!
SIR, LOOK, I'M REALLY SORRY. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
GIVE ME MY QUID BACK
SO MY DORIS HAS REALLY GONE?
AWE, YES
SHE HAS GONE TO LOOK FOR WORK ON THE COAST SO SHE CAN FIND ME A PROPER HAREM FOR YOU.
SWIFT! THAT SUCH DELICATE HANDS SHOULD BE PUT TO WORK!
DON'T WORRY BULLDOZER SERVICES WILL BE LOVING THOSE DAYS.

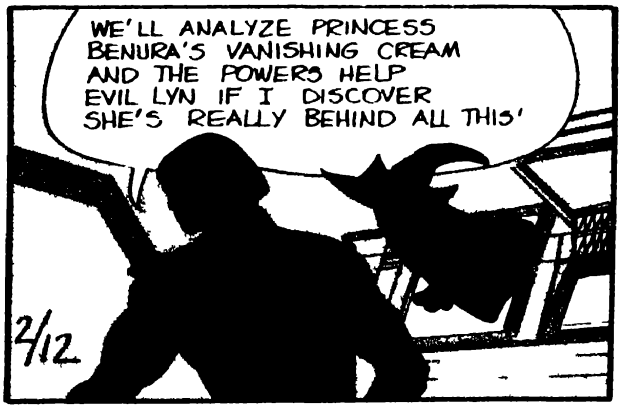
The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special







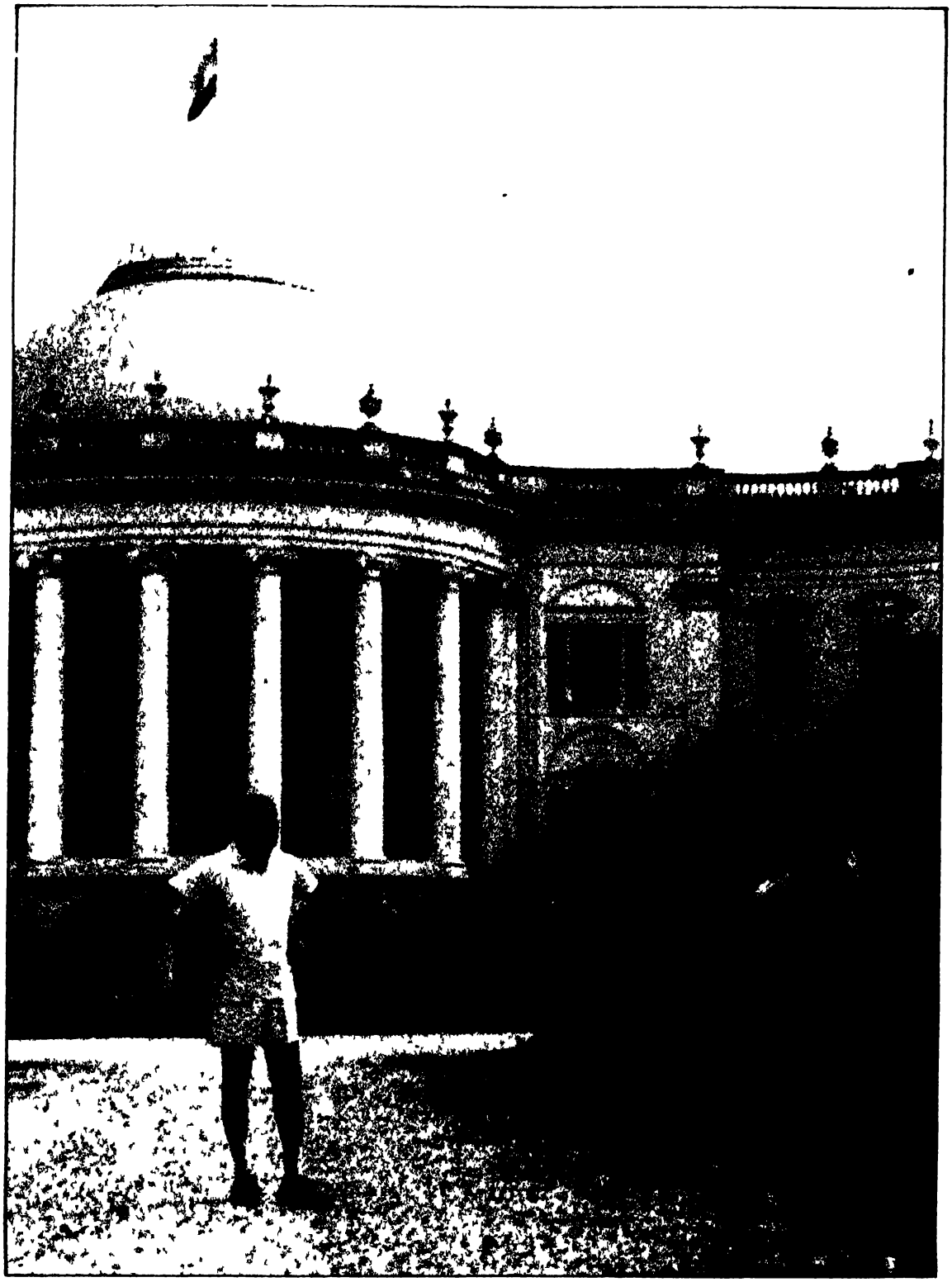






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To put it in short, **T.V. Rajeswar** may have posed some problems for Jyoti Basu as his governor, but he can still see eye to eye with his wife.
Photograph by SANTIMOY SANYAL

"My wife loves doing things in style.
When she wanted a refrigerator
to match the kitchen tiles,
I laughed. But she had her way."

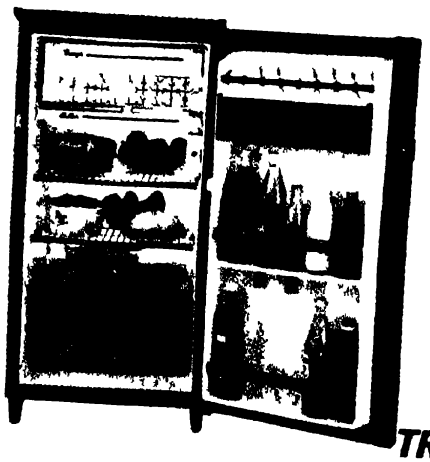


Whatever the reason, make sure it's a Godrej.

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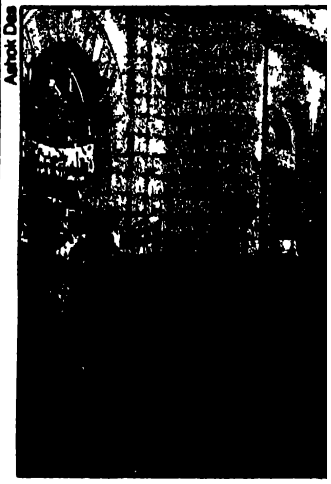
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The Telegraph
25 FEBRUARY 1990


Ashok Das

6 CPI(M) is under siege as power struggles within the party threaten to break it up.

4 Western classical cellist Anup Biswas' attempt to promote Indian musicians abroad.

13 Saheb Bagan in Chandpara is 100 years old.

18 *Kat* chewing is a $1 billion addiction in Yemen.

SECTIONS

12 Quiz
16 Rainbow
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Bedi-Raj

The cover story by Ashok Kamath ('Manager', January 14) was a rigmarole. It was not clear why he was so sceptical about Bedi's appointment as cricket manager.

By criticising some cricketers for breaking rules, Bedi proved that he had the guts to call a spade a spade. That does not mean that he is pro-BCCI or anti-ICA.

Bedi was always a great fighter and a man of firm character. He also possesses a shrewd cricketing brain. His appointment was perfectly in order.

Syed Lutfullah,
Birbhum (W.B.)

■ Indian cricket is now being run by a band of despotic selectors led by a Hitler in the Board called Raj Singh Dungarpur, for whom the members of the Indian Cricketers Association are like Jews to be annihilated. Thank God we don't have private gas chambers.

Dungarpur's position compels me to quote from *Julius Caesar* in this manner: "Upon what meat doth this our Raj Singh feed,/ That he is grown so great? Age thou art sham'd."

Rinku Sengupta,
Calcutta

Dangerous Man?

It is shocking that THE TELEGRAPH, which had labelled L.K. Advani and his party as communal and dangerous to the nation, has also declared him its Man of the Year (December 31).

That honour, in fact, should have gone to Mikhail Gorbachev, who transformed himself into a mighty figure from his humble beginnings in 1985, so mighty that *Time* magazine found it fit to declare him Man of the Decade.

Ashok Kumar Sharma,
Cuttack

Was It?

The wedding of Gopichand Hinduja's daughter ('This was a Wedding,' January 21), has caused widespread disgust. In a country where half the population goes to bed on an empty stomach, it only shows that there are some people who have plenty of money to squander.

Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

■ It is amazing that the Colour Magazine should glorify a wedding for its "sheer style and grandeur" just because huge sums of money were spent on it!

My friends, family members, neighbours and I were all appalled at the vulgar display of wealth. Maybe, Hinduja wanted to better the pageantry of B.R. Chopra's *Mahabharat*.

Since the inception of the newspaper, this feature was the nadir. Hail the Indian Republic.

E. Venkatesam,
Calcutta


The groom arrives

Stop It!

In spite of repeated requests, you continue to publish obscene pictures in the Colour Magazine (January 14 and 28). Don't you realise the impact of such 'ventures' on the teenage readers of the magazine?

Abhik Dasgupta,
Kharagpur

■ The magazine seems to have become an album of nude pictures. As a young student and pure Indian, I feel it my duty to protest.

Gautam Bhattacharjee,
Agartala

■ The comics section and the Junior Whirl page prove that the magazine has young readers, too. So, it is not proper to publish articles and photographs related to sex. Please avoid such obscenity in 7 Days, too.

Anil Singhal,
Siliguri

■ The whole family goes through THE TELEGRAPH and it was shameful to see dirty photographs in the Colour Magazine. If this happens in our daily life, there will be no respect left between elders and youngsters.

Khalid Hasan,
Calcutta

Too Much

Your cover story on 'Poll Stars' (December 17), gave too much publicity to M.J. Akbar. Akbar was highly respected as a journalist, but having joined politics he has gone down in our esteem.

S. Rashadath Ali,
Calcutta



Biswas: Giving new talent a chance

WHERE THE TWAIN MEET

There is something appealing in the story of an artist born in humble circumstances being discovered, and finally impressing the world with his prowess. There is an added attraction when the artiste decides to discover and promote younger talents under simular circumstances.

The charismatic virtuoso cellist and composer Anup Kumar Biswas, who was born in Nadia in West Bengal and trained under the Rev. Theodore Mathieson at the Oxford Mission School in Calcutta, is an innovative and committed inter-culturalist, working on projects which seek to offer new directions and better platforms for collaborations between the music and dance of the East and West.

He moved to England at the age of 16 and studied cello with Thomas Igloi, Pierre Fournier and Jacqueline du Pre and performed as a cellist at major venues throughout Great Britain and before royalty. He

World-renowned cellist Anup Biswas tries to bridge two cultures

made his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in March last year as a soloist playing the Dvorak Cello Concerto to a capacity audience.

Having "lived with uncertainty year by year," his commitment to the performing arts is a project designed to bring brilliant but little known artistes into the public eye. In

1978, he formed the East West Arts Limited, which is primarily aimed at promoting young talents from Europe and India as well as fusing the two cultures. "My job was to pick up young talents and expose them. Being in the big league of concert cellists, I can demand good fees and instead of squandering all my money, I decided to promote new talents. The bigger organisations promote the same old talents in the same old tours. None of them really do their jobs well. There is so much discrimination that my blood boils. So I decided to give the young, struggling artiste a hand."

Biswas' efforts have been worthwhile. He first brought pianist Nigel Kennedy, who is a big name in Europe today, to India. Similarly, Christopher Cox. On his current tour he is promoting the young painist, Stephen Gutman.

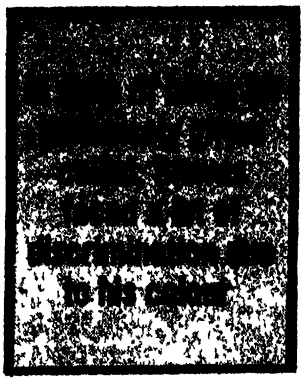
East West Arts introduced the talented Indian sitarist Dipak Chowdhury to the British audience way back in 1983. From his *alma mater*, he took 24 young musicians and conducted them in a major tour of UK, where in 35 days they gave 56 performances. He often combines music with dance and likes to think of them as a single art.

Under the aegis of this organisation, several Kathakali dancers from the Calcutta Kalamandalam depicted the story of the Creation from the Genesis in the Kathakali tradition to a Western audience. The music was composed by Anup Biswas and he even played Indian classical music on the cello.

Apart from promoting Indian performing artistes in Britain and vice versa, he also promotes Indian composers of the Western idiom, one such being Naresh Sohal. "His work may not always be good. But it is contemporary. One cannot always play Bach and Beethoven."

The established artistes like Ravi Shankar, he says, "do nothing for brilliant Indian musicians." He cites the instance of Shankar's *Ghanashyam*, where the idea was to collaborate between Indian musicians in both Britain and India. But a number of talented young musicians and dancers in Britain were ignored; one being Dharamvir Singh, a sitarist and a student of Vilayat Khan. So East West Arts has taken him under its wing. "I'm an old-time impressario," he jokes. "Agents are not very good."

An offshoot of the East West Arts is the 52-piece Dante Alighieri Orchestra, the first multiracial orchestra in Britain, which Anup Biswas founded in April last year. It was formed as a means of employing professional young musicians, soloists and conductors of all nationalities. Inspite of being an immensely gifted cellist, Biswas faced a lot of discrimination due to his colour. "Why haven't I been booked by the major orchestras in Britain?" asks Biswas. "Simply because the middle and upper middle class there do not like to see a coloured soloist on stage." Therefore he decided to "create" his own orchestra which has West Indian, Chinese, Koreans, Indians and even a white South African musician, because Biswas doesn't want to discriminate and like Gandhi is "trying to go one step further". The Dante Alighieri Orchestra gave its first major performance in December 1989 at St. Smith Square, London.



Britain has Britten, France has Debussy, Hungary has Bartok to wave as a flag of testimony to the Western classical tradition. India now has Anup Biswas, albeit on a more modest scale thus far. The latest ambitious project of the East West dance and music encounter series is the autobiographical ballet suite, *Ten Guineas under the Banyan Tree*, composed by Biswas and premiered in Leicester last September. A cast of four dancers of Bharatanatyam classical ballet and contemporary style, join forces with musicians playing cello, flute, violin, tabla, sitar, keyboards and conch shells to tell moving and enchanting scenes from the composer's life.

"The *Ten Guineas* are the ten important events in my life. Beginning with a homage to Om or God to whom I feel very close it moves on to my native place, a village called Chapra in Bengal. It then describes the unfortunate separation from my mother at the age of six, when I joined the Oxford Mission School which was a kind of Tom Brown's schooldays. Then it moves on to show the impact of Rev. Mathieson on me and my music and that of the two great cities, Calcutta and London. After some reflection, the work concludes with a vibrant celebration of creative artistic life."



The multiracial Dante Alighieri Orchestra: Biswas' creation

Ten Guineas will be touring exclusively throughout Britain this year and Biswas would like to bring it to India sometime later. For even after 15 years in London, Anup Kumar Biswas is firmly rooted to Indian tradition and keeps coming back every year to perform for his home audience.

Nandita Chaudhuri

CLASS STRUGGLE

Saroj Mukherjee saw the best. He was fortunate to have missed the worst, though he must have had an idea of the shape of things to come. For, today, the CPI(M) is a party under siege, both internally and externally.

The developments in East Europe have left communism worldwide on the brink of a total collapse. And although the CPI(M) still continues to flaunt its faith in Stalin in its usual insular manner, it can no longer dismiss the sweeping changes abroad as yet another handiwork of imperialist manipulators. The result is that the party now faces an identity crisis. What is it going to tell all those college and university students who thought communism was the answer to all the ills of a bourgeois capitalist society and now find the one-time bastions of this 20th century religion beginning to believe in just the opposite?



Tapan Das

CPI(M) headquarters: Under siege

Of course, public rhetoric aside, the CPI(M) has over the years become a party of pinks, not reds. The taste of electoral success and resultant power have virtually turned it into just another bourgeois party. And it is this very transformation which has left the party vulnerable from within, particularly in West Bengal. Slowly but surely, indications of an internal power struggle are beginning to emerge.

The forces of change, broadly represented by the younger crop of leaders like Biman Bose and Buddhadev Bhattacharya, are growing increasingly impatient with the old guard led by Jyoti Basu and Benoy Chowdhury, who stand for status quo. The death of Saroj Mukherjee, who was state secretary and Left Front chairman, is likely to further sharpen the conflict. Of course, those who want change do so because *they* want the power and not necessarily because they wish to set things right.

For the moment though, the power struggle is unlikely to spill out into the open. After all, the CPI(M) is a homegrown product of Bengal, a state with a long history of secret societies. The first batch of communist leaders came from the freedom movement and the Congress. The CPI(M) was formed in 1964 following the split in the united Communist Party of India. The late Promode Dasgupta, who held the reins in West Bengal, joined the communist movement via a secret terrorist society, Anusilan Samity, and therefore moulded the new party according to his old beliefs. So, from the very beginning, secrecy became an obsession with the party and dissenters were shown the door.

The first major conflict in the party erupted with the formation of the United Front government in the late sixties when a section of party idealogues dismissed electoral politics as a farce and prescribed an agrarian revolt through armed insurrection. The CPI(M) leadership of Promode Dasgupta, Jyoti Basu, Samar Mukherjee, Saroj Mukherjee and others had just tasted success in the elections and were in no mood to support the "adventurist" insurrection. This led to an exodus, which saw almost all the second-ranking leaders like Charu Majumdar, Kanu Sanyal, Sushital Roychowdhury and Saroj Datta forming the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist).

It was then that the present young guard emerged. The exodus had resulted in a situation where the party was left with the heavyweights on one hand and a handful of student leaders on the other. Promodebabu in his eagerness to build a second rung of leaders brought in men like Biman Bose, Buddhadev Bhattacharya, Anil Biswas, Subhas Chakraborty, Shyamal Chak-

Biman Bose: Leaning too hard?



Dilip Banerjee

Riven by dissension and faced with an identity crisis, the CPI(M) is passing through a traumatic phase. Can it survive the pressures? Tarun Ganguly provides a glimpse of the personalities and issues that will shape the party's future

Cover: Illustration by Anup Ray; Jyoti Basu by Tarun Chakravarti; Sailen Dasgupta by Asoke Majumder; Benoy Chowdhury and Biman Bose by Ashok Das; Buddhadev Bhattacharya by Gautam Ray; Shyamal Chakraborty by Dilip Banerjee



Jyoti Basu and Buddhadev Bhattacharya: Age before ambition

raborty and a few others to fill up the positions left vacant by the newly-turned Naxalites.

Buddhadev, who is still in his early forties, was a student leader before he was promoted and naturally, has no experience with the trade union or peasants' movement. Nephew of poet Sukanta Bhattacharya, he is considered an intellectual in the party and logically heads the information and cultural affairs department. But despite his credentials, he has completely failed to frame the government's 'cultural policy' The state government has not been able to successfully promote even a single professionally competent cultural group. So far as information is concerned, the less said the better, a good example being the recent film festival in the city. Similarly, Buddhadev's performance in the urban development and local self-government departments, of which he holds additional charge, has been miserable One look at Calcutta and the towns is ample evidence not only of a total lack of planning but worse still, the sheer apathy of the official agencies. Even basic civic amenities can no longer be taken for granted As minister for local self-government Buddhadev was also responsible for the rash and misguided move to order the supercession of the Congress-controlled Berhampore municipality. He went against expert legal advice and,last year, had to face the embarrassment of having the order reversed by the court.

The growing importance of finance minister Asim Dasgupta has not been taken too well by Buddhadev Since the exit of Ashok Mitra from the Cabinet, Jyoti Basu has become increasingly dependent on Dasgupta, who is otherwise considered a lightweight within the party Besides looking after finance, Dasgupta is virtually in charge of industry too, although officially the portfolio is with the chief minister Very often, he accompanies Basu on his official visits to Delhi and briefs the press on his behalf

Dasgupta, who comes from an old CPI(M) family, did his doctorate in economics at Harvard before returning to Calcutta University to teach He later joined the state planning board, from where he was inducted into the Cabinet by Jyoti Basu Although he keeps himself aloof from political controversies and makes it clear every time he meets newsmen that he has a specific job to do, his sudden prominence has also irked Shyamal Chakraborty, who heads the transport ministry. Chakraborty was annoyed by the tremendous energy and enthusiasm with which Dasgupta looked after his (Chakraborty's) department while he was abroad Everyday, he would be out on the roads, goading the police into action, hauling up



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

errant drivers, clearing up traffic bottlenecks

Quick on the offensive, Dasgupta's critics in the party accused him of trying to build up his public image through such high profile exercises, and upstaging Chakraborty on his home ground "Why doesn't he look after his own department with the same energy instead of poaching like this?' was a common refrain Well, going by the state government's claim of a near 100 per cent utilisation of available financial resources and prudent fiscal management Dasgupta seems to be taking care of his own backyard too

Well, almost Buddhadev and Shyamal Chakraborty managed to strike back and planted one of their own men on Dasgupta The finance minister was not given his own confidential assistant and instead had Buddhadev s man, Prashanta Banerjee, who is also a party member, doubling up for him Things came to such a pass at one point that Banerjee was spending more time in Dasgupta's ante-chamber than with Buddhadev

Shyamal Chakraborty, who tries to maintain cordial relations with Biman and Buddhadev as well as the old guard is happiest issuing statements on just about everything under the sun, from Mandela to the quality of fish in China Transport is an incidental responsibility, although all those who use public transport would have liked him to take a little more interest in his department He has done next to nothing to improve the flow of city traffic, or to set up the proposed transport depots in and around the city

In contrast, the other Chakraborty in the Cabinet, Subhas, is a man of action As sports minister, he has played a major role in the construction of the Salt Lake Stadium Stadiums have sprung up in other district towns too and although these may not be major achievements, they at least show that the department is not a state of constant paralysis The odd man out among the young hopefuls Subhas has no Marxist hang-ups and has no hesitation in inviting Bombay filmstars for all night cultural shows or arranging football match es in far-off Siliguri In fact, his fixatioi with Hindi filmstars has made mockery of the party's obsession with *'apasanskriti'* (cultural degeneration)

An able organiser and crowd-collector, Subhas put Buddhadev in the shade during Prime Minister V P Singh's recent visit to the city by drawing a much larger crowd for the function at the Salt Lake Stadium than the Buddhadev-organised meeting at the Netaji Stadium In fact, he has been a thorn in Buddhadev's side on more than one occasion He appears to be happy with what he is doing and shows little interest in weightier political issues Nevertheless, his organisational abilities have won him

Aloke Mitra





Asim Dasgupta: Hitting the road

the grudging admiration of the CM.

If Bhattacharya considers himself the automatic choice for succeeding Jyoti Basu, then his camp followers see Biman Bose as the prime aspirant for the party leadership once the old guard is out of the way. Bose has tried to model himself after Promode Dasgupta. A bachelor, he shifted into Promodebabu's dingy little living quarters in central Calcutta after his mentor died. Compared to Buddhadev's cool, correct behaviour, Biman's abrasiveness and tactlessness have earned him the reputation of being the *enfant terrible* of the party even at 50, and despite being a member of the state secretariat and the state and central committees of the CPI(M). His inability to keep his likes and dislikes to himself has often landed in trouble.

Chain-smoking Bose, who always made it a point to sit behind Saroj Mukherjee whenever he briefed the press at the CPI(M)'s headquarters in Alimuddin Street, got into one his worst spots recently when he alleged that stalls were being allotted in the rebuilt New Market in an irregular manner, to which the mayor Kamal Basu took great umbrage.

But many within the party see some "method behind the madness". They believe Biman's outburst was actually aimed against the chief minister, who shares an old friendship with the mayor. According to this line of argument, Biman was actually testing the waters before launching a more daring attack.

But for all his sharp-shooting, Biman has had little to show in real terms. In the last panchayat polls in the state, he and his pride of young lions created considerable tension within the Front by their abrasive conduct. In most college elections, the party's student wing, the SFI, has come a cropper. Unnecessary meddling by a section of Biman's supporters has also affected trade union activity.

Among the younger guard, another Promode Dasgupta protege who has come a long way up the party hierarchy is Anil Biswas, the diminutive editor of the party mouthpiece, *Ganashakti*. A member of the central committee, Biswas has assiduously cultivated a neutral image for himself, successfully maintaining links with both camps.

If the young guard belongs to the class of sixties, then the older leaders come from the class of thirties and forties. With the death of Saroj Mukherjee, their ranks have thinned down still further. Jyoti Basu, who joined the communist movement in 1940, the same year as Mukherjee, today straddles both the government and the party like a colossus. At 80, he is at the pinnacle of his power and glory, not just within the state, but even at the national level. He is now a kingmaker; since the survival of the present government at the Centre depends on the continued support of the CPI(M) and the Bengal chief minister has a major say in the party's policy in Delhi.

Basu's no. 2 in the Cabinet, Benoy Chowdhury, who officiates as chief minister when the former is away, commands respect from virtually every quarter. Like his old friend Sarojbabu, Chowdhury came to the communist movement via the Con-



Dilip Banerjee

Sailen Dasgupta (with Saroj Mukherjee Has he the personality?

gress. In his usual quiet and unassuming manner, Chowdhury has as land reforms minister helped in creating a new support base for the party in the rural areas by successfully implementing Operation Barga in most parts of the state. The scheme, by which the share croppers' right to the land they till has been officially recognised, is perhaps the most important administrative measure the Left Front government has taken in the past decade. Such a scheme has not been introduced anywhere else in the country and Chowdhury had to face opposition from even some of his Left Front colleagues. Despite his responsibilities as a senior minister, the party remains very dear to him and he has never hesitated to midlly but firmly rebuke the 'Young Turks' whenever they have gone overboard.

Samar Mukherjee, a contemporary of Chowdhury, continues to have a say in state party matters although for a long time he has been based in Delhi and looks after the parliamentary wing of the party. Others like Monoranjan Roy and Abdullah Rasul, who have been associated with the trade union and peasant wings of the

party, have ceased to influence decision-making.

That leaves us with Sailen Dasgupta, the new state secretary and Left Front chairman, who at 67 is the youngest member of the old guard. Brought into the party by Promode Dasgupta he had been running the day-to-day affairs of the party since Sarojbabu fell ill. Dasgupta is the quintessential party *apparatchik*. Thickly eyebrowed and poker faced, he has been a constant feature at the party's headquarters in Alimuddin Street. The occassional statement aside, he has never been known to strike ideological postures or get into polemical discussions.

And therein lies Dasgupta's utility. In his new role he will continue to act as a neutral link between Jyoti Basu and the party. His promotion is seen as a victory for Jyoti Basu. To begin with, his and Benoy Chowdhury's names were mentioned as possible successors to Sarojbabu. It even appeared that the party might break with its tradition of giving the same person the dual responsibility of state secretaryship and Front chairmanship, and split it up between the two leaders. But by having Dasgupta in both positions, Jyoti Basu has killed two birds with one stone. Benoybabu remains in the Cabinet and deprives Buddhadev of the chance of becoming no. 2 and official heir apparent to the chief ministership. On the party front, the younger elements have been put in their place.

But the question is: For how long? Although Dasgupta has just assumed control, indications are that Biman Bose will try to manipulate him to the maximum extent possible. Unlike his two illustrious predecessors, Promode Dasgupta, who talked tough and acted tough, and Saroj Mukherjee, who could be firm in spite of his mild demeanour, Dasgupta may not possess the kind of personality needed to exercise unquestioned authority over all sections of the party.

In his first press conference after taking over, Dasgupta said the mayor, Kamal Basu, should not have reacted publicly to Biman Bose's allegation of irregular allotment of stalls in the rebuilt New Market. This undoubtedly marks a small victory for Biman.

But all said and done, Jyoti Basu is not likely to let things go out of control so long as he is there. Without in any way lowering his own prestige, he has made it quite clear as to who the boss is. After the Berhampore municipality judgment, he ticked off Buddhadev very subtly and shot down the suggestion that the government should appeal against the court's decision.

Basu can afford to be dismissive of the young guard. Because, despite various allegations of nepotism and corruption against him, he continues to be the party's main crowd-puller and vote-catcher. There are many who vote for the CPI(M) only because Jyoti Basu is there. Since ideology has taken the backseat, he has become the main difference between the Congress and the Left Front during election time.

Although the young elements in the party may carp at him in private, not one of them has his mass appeal. Even performance-wise, they have created more problems than they have solved. On the other hand, men like Benoy Chowdhury and Basu have shown they can still deliver the goods, even at this age. Clearly, old is still gold where the CPI(M) is concerned.

While the old guard has reached the top through many trials and hardships—having had to go to jail and fight for an ideology—the younger leaders were catapulted into positions of power early in their lives through sheer luck. By the time they were 35, most of them were part of the elite within the party, and this easily-acquired power made some of them very arrogant. The growing indiscipline among the middle and low level cadres is but a manifestation of this.

Much as the old guard might want to hang on to power for as long as possible, the inevitable cannot be postponed indefinitely. But do the younger elements have the calibre and conviction to carry the party on their shoulders?

Born and brought up in the Stalinist tradition, the younger leaders have yet to suggest any alternative means by which communism can continue to be attractive to the next generation. Faced with the far-reaching changes across the world, they now have little choice but to survive in a bourgeois democratic polity through the electoral process. And they cannot depend on the old masters to bring in the votes for much longer. Solid action, and not just rhetoric, booth capturing and manipulation of electoral rolls will the needed to win the mandate of the masses.

The question uppermost in everybody's mind must be: After Jyoti Basu, what? Will the party be able to retain its stranglehold on the state? The real test will come in the 1992 Assembly elections, by which time the old guard will be too old to be effective.

But, meanwhile, the chances are that the party, without its pole stars in Moscow and Beijing, will be reduced to being just another chauvinistic, regional party in the mould of the DMK and AGP. If that does indeed happen, even the remaining whiff of communism will disappear forever. ■

Benoy Chowdhury: Widening the party base with Operation Barga



Tapas Banerjee



BHISMADEV CHATTOPADHYAY (1909-77)



Born on November 8, 1909 at Bansberia in Hooghly district, West Bengal, Bhismadev Chattopadhyay was a musician of unparalleled versatility. One of the greatest vocalists of the Agra *gharana*, he promoted an attractive blend of classical and lighter music in films.

Bhismadev showed a natural flair for music right from childhood. He picked up the compositions of Lalchand Boral and K. Mullick from discs with incredible speed. Starting his music lessons under Nagen Dutta, he became a favourite disciple of Ustad Badal Khan, besides training for some time with Ustad Faiz Khan. His mother was a constant source of encouragement.

Due to ill-health Bhismadev could not complete the IA course. As a student of Vidyasagar College, he won the inter-collegiate competition in *khayal, tappa* and *thumri*. For some time he was associated with the Megaphone record company. Begum Akhtar cut a disc on *thumri* under his direction. At the Varanasi music conference in 1934, he held the audience, which included Omkarnath Thakur and Ratanjankar, spellbound with a *khayal* rendition to the accompaniment of a harmonium.

In 1937, Bhismadev joined the Film Corporation of India. Some of the popular films for which he composed the music were *Dil Hi To Hai, Kayedi* and *Hari Kirtan* (all Hindi), while the list of Bengali films included *Rajgir, Muktisnan, Tatinir Bichar* and *Amar Geeti;* in the last named venture he was assisted by his illustrious pupil, Sachin Dev Burman.

In 1940, while at the height of his popularity, he left for Pondicherry. He returned after eight years and since then, led a secluded life and gave few public recitals. He died on August 8, 1977.

The sketch above shows his residence at 30, Sarkar Lane in north Calcutta.



R P Chatterjee, Calcutta-17 would like to "know more about the book *The Travels of Marco Polo*"

Originally titled *Il Milone* (translated in English as *The Travels of Marco Polo*), the book was dedicated to a fellow prisoner in Genoa named Rusticiano or Rustichello The amanuensis, a writer of romantic tales, is thought to have added a few embellishments of his own Where the work rests on Marco Polo s direct observations (as opposed to what he related as having heard) the account has proved remarkably accurate

On his deathbed, asked to recount his Asian stories, Polo responded 'I have told only half the marvels I have seen " The work remains an informative glimpse of an early bridge between East and West

Here s an interesting anecdote on David Ogilvy s memorable 1950s headline for Rolls Royce cars

Remember the headline? 'At 60 m p h the loudest noise in the new Rolls Royce comes from the electric clock This wasn t a new thought Ogilvy, it is said, drew inspiration from *Autocar* magazine s review of the Rolls Royce Silver Ghost in 1907 'At whatever speed the car is driven, the auditory nerves when driving are troubled by no fuller sound than emanates from an 8 day clock

So much for headlines Here s another piece of fascinating Rolls Royce trivia

When Rolls Royce cars were first exported to America they were so quiet that the licensing authorities refused to believe that they were petrol driven cars, thinking that they must be electrically powered

Benjamin Zachariah reports

"The Annual Amal Ghatak Quiz, one of the oldest inter-college quizzes in the city, was held at Loreto College in the first week of February The quiz was conducted by Derek O Brien before a fairly large crowd—larger than usual for a college quiz

CBS

11th Question: **Julius Caesar was the first government official to order a traffic control act. What was the major law he passed? (Subrata Haldar, B. C. Mukherjee Road, Tribeni, Hooghly)**
Ans: **Women should not drive chariots.**

The early rounds saw Presidency College off to a good start, with NRS Medical College running them close In the second half, Presidency seemed to run out of steam, and were overhauled by Jadavpur University, the eventual winners who began their late acceleration from the 'live' round, which has come to be a fairly regular routine nowadays Presidency finished second, with NRS a close third

"An interesting sidelight of this quiz was the presence of 'recruitment squads in the audience, reminiscent of football transfer scouts "

Indrani Mahapatra reports on two inter-school quizzes

"The 16th Percy Baptiste Quiz, one of the oldest school quizzes in the city, was held at the Dalhousie Institute Two young quiz masters, Debabrata Mukherjee and Benjamin Zachariah made their debut, and it must be stated that their questions were varied, interesting and brain-testing The winners were St Xavier's who edged away only by half a point from their rivals,La Martiniere Boys

"To mark their 125th year St Anthony's School organised a quiz The occasion began with a prayer which lent a solemnity to the atmosphere The Quiz Master was Barry O'Brien St Xavier's won the quiz while St Lawrence bagged second place "

"What was the affair of the queen's necklace?" asks Priya Pandey, Calcutta 6

The affair of the queen's (Marie Antoinette's) diamond necklace, was the point from which Napoleon dated the downfall of the monarchy Two confidence tricksters induced the wealthy, gullible Cardinal de Rohan, hungry for advancement at court, to purchase a $500,000 diamond necklace for Marie Antoinette, who he believed would favour him if he concealed the business from the king The conspirators hired a girl to impersonate the queen by moonlight and forged her signature They expected that even when the cardinal realised he had been duped, he would keep quiet to avoid scandal Meanwhile they obtained the necklace on credit, separated the stones, and sold them

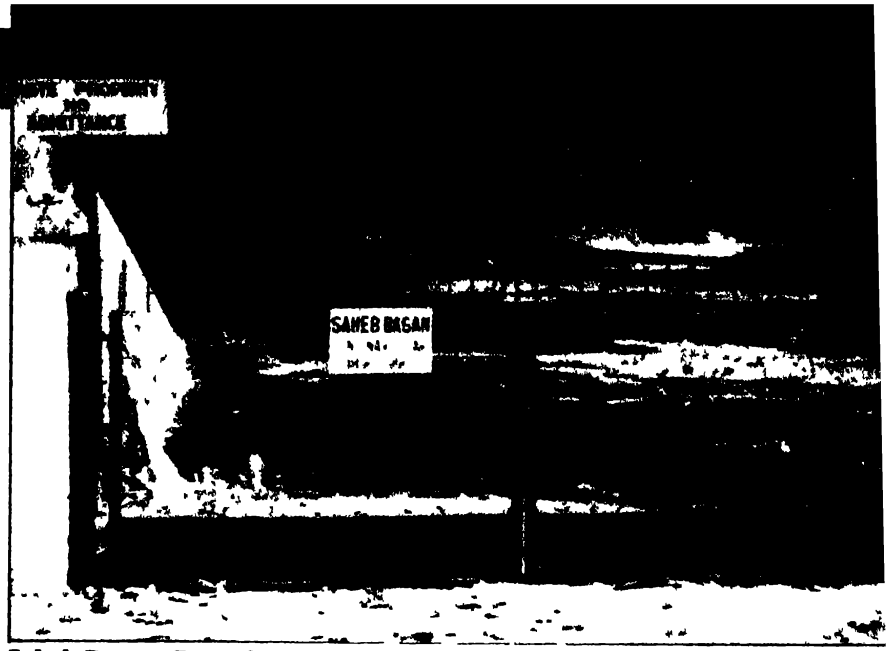
The turning point came when the jewellers unexpectedly went to the queen for payment instead of to the cardinal Furious at Rohan for apparently involving her in a scheme to defraud the jewellers, she had him tried before the Parliament of Paris to clear her name But everyone believed the queen was in league with the conspirators (who were given harsh punishment), and Rohan was found innocent, a stunning blow to the monarchy. These bizarre events, which inspired a Dumas novel and a Goethe play, could not have transpired without Marie Antoinette's reputation for frivolity, extravagance and duplicity.

QUESTIONS

1. Who said, "Connors is the last true tennis dinosaur" (Suman Chaudhuri, Howrah)
2. What is the first film in which Amitabh Bachchan and Jaya Bhaduri acted together? (Pintu Das, Champdani, Hooghly)
3. What was Operation Just Cause? (Sheikh Abdur Rab, Burdwan)
4. Who was the first lady music director of Indian cinema? (Roy George, Dimapur)
5. Who are the only two unlucky batsman to be out for 99 runs on their Test debut? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Bhubaneswar)
6. What mineral is known as "rock cotton"? (Akshaya Kumar Pati, Jharsuguda)
7. What is an "ice-cream headache"? (Arindam Roy, Medical College Hostel, Calcutta)
8. Who said, "The saddest thing I can imagine is to get used to luxury"? (Sk. Fakhazur Rahman, Park Street, Calcutta)
9. What did the Russian Lazarus Zamenohf devise? (Aruna Chandraraju, Calcutta-29)
10. What examples did Dada Thakur often cite as "the three intricacies of the English Language"? (Anupam Ganguly, Sundergarh, Orissa)

ANSWERS

1. John Pierpont Morgan.
2. Bansi Bhiju.
3. The US military invasion of Panama in December 1989 to arrest General Noriega.
4. Saraswati Rani (Jahnavi) in *Nirmala, Achhut Kanya).*
5. A. G. Chippenfield of Australia and P. G. Chatterjee of West Indies.
6. Asbestos.
7. A cold stimulus on the soft palate in some people evokes a dull, frontal headache
8. Charlie Chaplin
9. The international language Esperanto.
10. Book, door and poor All three words have double O's and yet are pronounced differently



Saheb Bagan: Passed through many hands

Hundred Years and Still Game

Pearson Surita writes about Saheb Bagan

Amid the bustle and excitement of Calcutta's 300th birthday, it is perhaps natural to have lost sight of the fact that Saheb Bagan is now 100 years old.

But what and where is Saheb Bagan? Well might you ask Well, if you set off out of the city in a roughly north-easterly direction, working your way across what were once the extensive marshlands bordering Dum Dum, now a useful metropolitan bypass, and swing past the largely deserted airport, picking up the old Jessore Road, you will arrive first at the important and busy district headquarters town of Barasat, bearing left as you prepare to leave Barasat you are now on the road to the border town of Bongaon and starting your run to the next important town of Habra

Habra, you will find to be the only real bottleneck in your 85-km journey along the well-maintained road to the village of Chandpara Regrettably, you have to go through it and Sunday, unfortunately, is *hat* day But *hat* is also a moveable feast, particularly in the winter months when there are masses of fruits and vegetables available and the vendors will spill on to the carriageway at the drop of a pumpkin to be followed virtually by the total population.

Habra is also growing in importance as a centre of education and its Chaitanya College is co educational and prepares for degrees in arts and the sciences while another institution will ready you for a career in business

Emerging from Habra, the traveller begins to pass along avenues of giant saman trees that give the appearance of a low range of hills if you are approaching along one of the several branch highways It is believed that these great sentinels, known as "rain trees" to some, their branches occasionally swathed in sprays of orchid, were planted in the time of those early pioneers who were exploring further and further afield in their search for snipe and other delectable gamebirds

Sadly, in the wake of refugees pouring over the settling from across the Bangladesh border areas, several of these lovely specimens of nature are now being used, with disastrous consequences, for drying out cow-dung cakes which are sapping the trees' vitality and turning them into gaunt skeletons It is hoped that environmental experts will turn their attention to these ravaged areas of the beautiful Bengal countryside

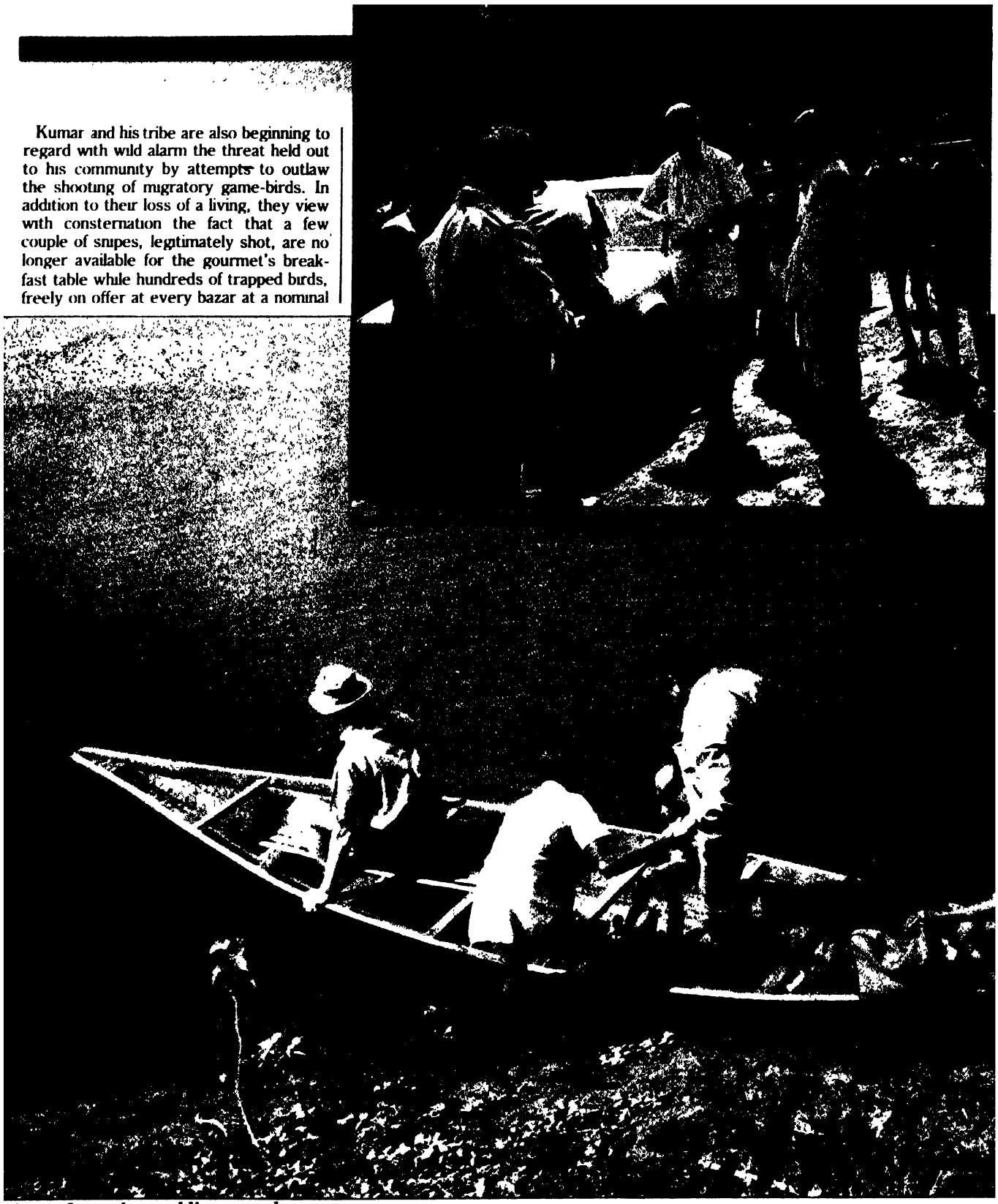
We now arrive at Gaighata where the Bengal Police have a subdivisional office and where a sturdy bridge takes us across the Jamuna This is not to be confused with the major tributary of the Ganga which flows past Delhi and Agra This Jamuna meanders across the northern parts of the 24 Parganas as it debouches, at times, into large *bhils* where the local fisherfolk make a worthwhile living and whose banks provide a marshy haven for the hundreds of snipe that make their way here every winter, their numbers, nowadays, being steadily depleted by the rampant netting by poachers which continues unchecked

The end of our journey draws near as we cross the Jamuna and six km or so further on we come to Chandpara where we take a sharp righthanded U-turn which leads us past the local school and to the gate of Saheb Bagan where the smiling janitor of the camp, Bikhari Swain, awaits us

One hundred years ago, W K Dodds, of the Peninsular and Oriental Banking Corporation found his way out to this vast area of rice paddies and *bhils*, all teeming with that tastiest of table birds which the Bengali calls "kadakcoha", its acquisition calling for great marksmanship and providing wonderful exercise Among the main snipe grounds were Bhoomra Bhil and Chandani Bhil, both allowing for a whole day s walking after the bird and yielding, research indicates, on a good day up to anything like a hundred couple Country craft, the dinghy could be hired at both, from which the elderly or the less mobile addict could enjoy a less enervating day

Regrettably, I have never been able to find any records of any nature at Saheb Bagan, no game registers, no reminiscences by previous owners, no staff records, nothing at all

But *shikaris* are a breed and they come down from one generation to another, serving generally one master and his descendants Fortunately, I have been able to glean little snippets of information from Kumar who, man and boy, has searched, found and led guns to snipe for nearly 40 years now and has risen to be head *shikari* of Saheb Bagan, a title he wears with pride if not the same effectiveness he used to display in years gone by But, for that, the diminishing species is to be blamed just as when in attempting to hand down information about the past, a simple intelligence can hardly make up for the written word



Kumar and his tribe are also beginning to regard with wild alarm the threat held out to his community by attempts to outlaw the shooting of migratory game-birds. In addition to their loss of a living, they view with consternation the fact that a few couple of snipes, legitimately shot, are no longer available for the gourmet's breakfast table while hundreds of trapped birds, freely on offer at every bazar at a nominal

Away from the madding crowd

price, are finding their way daily into hundreds of cookhouses all over the countryside.

But reverting to Dodds and his companions, how they travelled out to Chandpara is a matter of conjecture. We find that the Barasat-Basirhat railway line was constructed some time between 1896 and 1905, during Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty; presumably, therefore, transport had to be found, in 1890, by some other means which has not been recorded.

However, when Dodds stumbled on Saheb Bagan he must have been attracted sufficiently to decide that this was to be his headquarters. It was (and still remains) a lovely plot measuring a little over two acres and it lay about 400 yards from and parallel to the main road. It carried a fair sprinkling of coconut trees, ranti, lichees, banyan, mango, kadam and a magnificient bodh as also great groves of bamboo, green and yellow along its boundaries.

Here, Dodds set up his weekend camp

consisting of a *basha* and made provision for tents to be pitched if required by guests. The camp appears to have remained in his possession or members of his family or friends for a number of years, certainly until the end of the War. Since then it has passed through several hands without changing its character of a weekend resort for sportsmen and their families and primarily for the benefit and



recreation of the "owner" for the time being, his guests and friends both in India and from abroad who stayed there and shot snipe within a radius of 15 or 20 miles.

In his excellent book, *Merchant Prince*, Sir Owain Jenkins—Oscar to his friends—who had inherited Saheb Bagan with his companion, Ian Macpherson, has left us a splendid description of life and sport at Chandpara. The village was served by the railways and it was possible to send out staff and provisions overnight and life in camp assumed a more princely nature

At about this time Bikhari Swain arrived on the scene Partition, in its wake, had introduced many problems, the one that affected Saheb Bagan most being the influx of refugees from East Pakistan, the border being but a few miles away As Sir Owain writes. "Imagine some two acres of ground, well above flood-level, planted with trees and enclosed in a neat hedge of duranta—to the untutored eye not unlike a privet—and picture the feelings of a foot-sore fugitive seeking a place to rest There were tents too and huts, empty all through the week. That the place was not immediately overrun and occupied was due to the personality of the gardener who was then in charge." This was Bikhari Swain, a tall square-shouldered Oriya who spoke little Bengali, but he saw off wave after wave of prospecting arrivals, a task in which he was given the wholehearted assistance of the locals who, no doubt, appreciated the ever-present threat to their own homesteads

Since those far-off days, the camp has continued to flourish. Relations with the neighbours, a most important consideration, have always remained most cordial and when Jenkins and his contemporaries retired from India leaving the property to the Sinclairs, the Thomas', Ian Morriss, the Haywards and others of that ilk, status quo continued.

During Sir Anthony Hayward's tenure, Saheb Bagan was used on more weekends through the year than not Tony Hayward and his family were held in great esteem, indeed affection, by the villagers, helping out with the hospital, providing books for the school, holding small classes for the teaching of English and so on

Bikhari continued to thrive By this time he had set up a saw-mill in the township and a furniture-making establishment in a corner of Saheb Bagan He had also achieved the signal distinction of keeping a cow!

When, in their turn, the Haywards left India, Saheb Bagan passed into the own ership of Richard Magor, the well-known tea baron. Well, not all of Saheb Bagan, for Hayward gifted all that part of the property which lay to the right of the central drive-way to Bikhari. But Bikhari's business acumen was shortly brought to bear for he passed the news around that he was planning to retire to his native Orissa and would, therefore, like to dispose of his part of the land. Natually, for a number of logical reasons, it was in Richard Magor's interest to acquire it.

The Magor ownership has proved to be a popular state of affairs. Employment has been found for one or two of the locals and when a tornado swept through the village a few years ago cutting a 50-yard wide swath through the countryside, destroying dwellings, slicing away half a school building, a generous donation was sent up to help out those who had suffered

At the camp itself, one or two primitive buildings which had survived the ravages of time, termites and tempests have been modernised as far as possible with tiled roofs, mosquito-proof windows, comfortable furniture, lights and sanitary fittings and with the running water made available



Caretaker and part-owner Bikhari Swain: A man for all seasons

by the installation of an overhead tank and an electric pump, the luxury of a long bath after a tiring trudge is a great joy

The whole place presents a picture-postcard appearance with flowering shurbs and well-trimmed hedges Shortly after Saheb Bagan changed hands it was surrounded by deep-laid standard garden fencing and this contrived to keep out specimens of most known species

Well, most of them with the exception of Bikhari who finally decided to stay on after all and continues as caretaker of the property as well as caretaker of his own fortunes. Good for Saheb Bagan and good for Bikhari Swain.

Verily, a man for all seasons. ■


SHOV

VPIECES

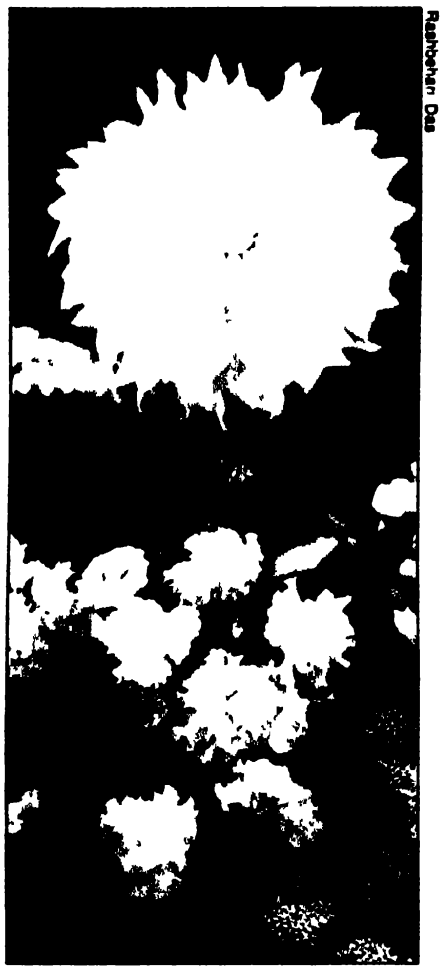


A photofeature on the Agri-Horticultural Society's annual flower show

Rashbehari Das



Rashbehari Das







At fiery high noon in the ancient marketplace of Sanaa the southwest Arabian capital of Yemen peddler Khalad al Hussein reaches into the burlap bag on his donkey and pulls out a stack of banana stems, each about two feet long

Inside the stems are fist sized bunches of a chewable narcotic shrub called *kat* "Ten riyals ($1)," shouts Khalad, handing out some of his product for inspection Prospective buyers veiled women wearing all-enveloping black *chadors* and men wearing turbans, plaid skirts and wicked daggers—gather closer

Kat (pronounced gaht), a mild stimulant, is to the Yemenis what wine is to the French For every class, from beggars and housewives to merchants and government leaders, *kat* chewing is a way of life among the seven million citizens of Yemen, also know as North Yemen or the Yemen Arab Republic

It's also big business One quarter of the country's $4 billion gross national product can be attributed to its sales according to published reports

Yemenis choose their *kat* carefully They scrutinize leaves for size and tenderness Young plants, although they're more expensive are preferred Some *kat* is sold by brand according to the region in which it is grown Khalad is selling Soodi, a relatively inexpensive type Nearby another peddler is selling Baladi for 100 riyals ($10) a bunch "The best," says one buyer

By 2 pm the marketplace closes At the rear of a pastry shop a typical *kat*—chewing session begins Several men, sitting cross legged on foam cushions, pluck the best leaves and stuff them into their mouths

Kat is chewed much like tobacco The leaves are masticated into pulp and stored in the cheek The juice is savoured, it produces a sensation that one Western user says "gives you a pleasant sense of well being " Another, possibly exaggerating, says "It's like drinking 20 cups of strong coffee "

As with most other narcotic drugs, after a period of euphoria *kat* leaves a significant letdown That's why, if you're working on a deal in Sanaa, the word is, 'Get it done before noon "

After two convivial hours at the *kat* chew, water pipes loaded with black tobacco are passed around, along with earthen jugs filled with cool water These enhance the *kat* high, participants say

A Western visitor is asked to chew He tries a few leaves, but spits them out almost immediately Their taste is too bitter for him The men laugh

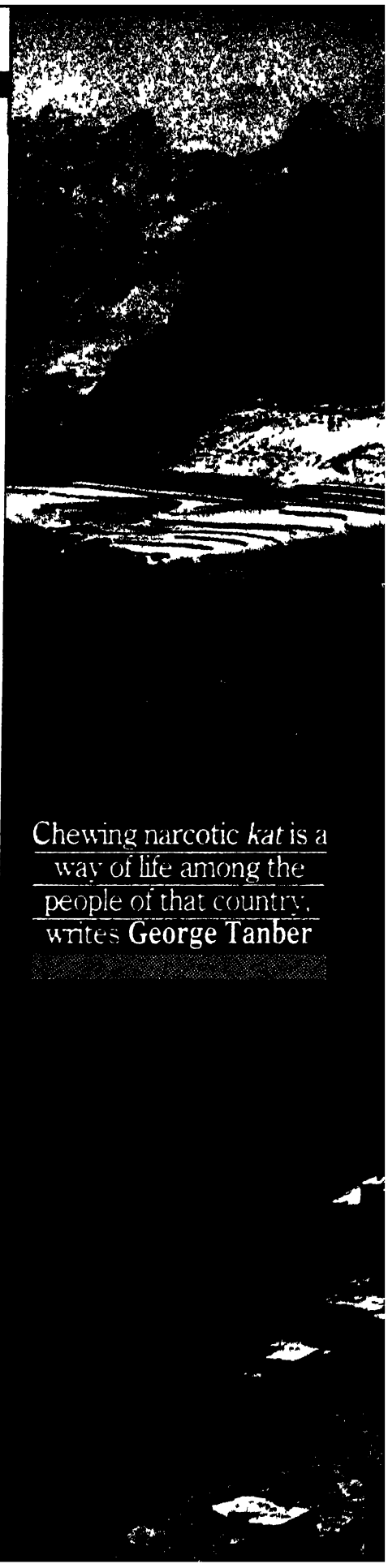




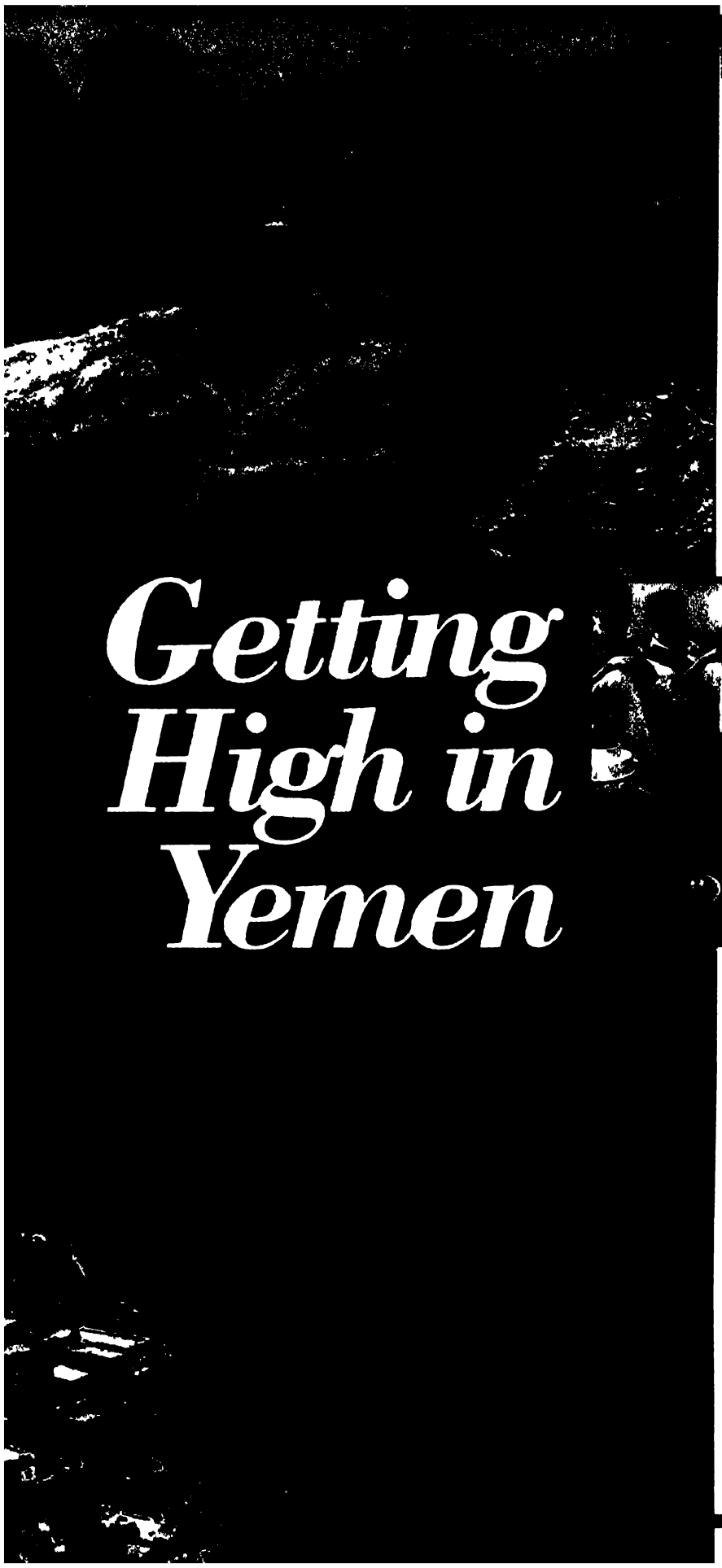
Kat has been enjoyed in southwestern Arabia and northeastern Africa for about 500 years Ethiopia is considered its birthplace In Yemen it began as an elitist drug, and its widespread use here has proliferated only in the past decade, since several million Yemenis working in Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf countries have begun sending money home Even Yemeni women have become *kat* lovers, but they are more discreet than men in their use of it

As the demand for *kat* has increased, so has its production In the terraced countryside of Yemen, *kat* fields are replacing other, less profitable crops such as grain and coffee

Another plus for the slender, green-leafed shrub, which is related to the coffee plant, is its ability to thrive with little water or maintenance in a harsh climate. It



Chewing narcotic *kat* is a way of life among the people of that country, writes George Tanber



Getting High in Yemen

grows best at high altitudes, Sanaa's elevation is 7,250 feet

Some *kat* farmers sell directly to their customers, while others deal with middlemen such as Khalad al Hussein Unlike the immensely profitable, cartel controlled drug crops of some other countries, Yemen's *kat* industry is run primarily by small farmers Land, a sacred possession, is rarely sold Moreover, *kat* can't be hoarded and is rarely exported because it loses its potency 36 hours after harvesting Banana stems have become a lucrative support industry, because they keep the bundles fresh

Although *kat* is a significant source of income for some Yemenis, it is a money drainer for many others, particularly the poor The average chewer spends $5 to $40 a day on his habit, an alarming figure in a country with a per-capita annual income of about $500



Government efforts to curb *kat* use through fines have been unsuccessful and an outright ban is never discussed *Kat* is prohibited in neighbouring Democratic Yemen—South Yemen, or the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen—and Saudi Arabia

"It's impossible to stop it," says Said Wakim, an anti *kat* official in the Yemeni ministry of tourism "It's their entertainment, their social recreation They have nothing else to do"

But support for abstinence has reached high places Yemeni President Sali Abdullah Saleh, a longtime *kat* user, has substituted tennis for chewing

It may be difficult, though, for some Yemenis to follow Saleh's example A case in point is taxi driver Mohammed Khatoum. "I'll never stop chewing," he says "If I did, I'd fall asleep in the afternoon"

(National Geographic News Service)

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road; 280141), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue; 390762), Rahini (Beliaghata Main Road; 363264), Madhuban (Regent Park).

Directed by Mukul S. Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi, Neelam, Danny, Goga Kapoor, Archana Puran Singh, Alok Nath, Rohini Hattangady and Tinu Anand. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Awaargi (A):** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442)– 12, 3, 6, 9.

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Anil Kapoor, Govinda and Meenakshi Seshadri. The music is by Annu Malik.

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—4 shows.



A scene from *Lover on Hire*

Directed by Aziz Sajawal and with music by Nadeem Shravan, the film stars Jackie Shroff, Farha, Aditya Pancholi, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan.

•**Majboor:** Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road; 474403), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033).

A film by T. Rama Rao whose principal attractions are Jeetendra, Sunny Deol, Jaya Prada, Farha, Pran, Asrani, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956).

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya. The music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Rihaee (A):** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473)—4 shows

A film by Arunaraje, starring Hema Malini, Vinod Khanna and Naseeruddin Shah. Also in the cast are Neena Gupta, Mohan Agashe, Rima Lagoo, Ila Arun and others. The music is by Sharang Dev.

• **Souten Ki Beti:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

Jeetendra, Rekha and Jaya Prada are the chief attractions. The film is directed by Saawan Kumar and the music is by Vedpaal.

• **Zahreelay:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200 –4 shows.

A film by Jyotin Goel, the cast includes Jeetendra, Sunjay Dutt, Chunkey Panday, Bhanupriya and Juhi Chawla. The music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

•**Bhagyalipi:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Sujit Kumar's first Bengali film which stars Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy, Uttam Mohanty, Aparajita, Aruna Irani, Paintal and the director himself. The music is by Sumitra Lahiri.

• **Byabodhan:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686) – 1, 4, 7.

Directed by Dilip Mukherjee and with music by Ajoy Das, the film stars Victor Banerjee, Moon Moon Sen, Indrani Dutta, Kali Banerjee, Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury and Tapas Paul.

• **Hirak Jayanti:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)– 1.30, 4.15, 7.

Ranjit Mullick, Chumki Choudhury, Joy Banerjee, Dilip Roy, Kali Banerjee and Sumitra Mukherjee star in this Anjan Choudhury film whose music is by Goutam Basu.

•**Kalanka:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080), Purna (S.P Mukherjee Road; 474567), Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road; 355059)—3 shows.

Directed by Shanti Ranjan Ghosh Dastidar and with music by Neeta Sen, the cast includes, Satabdi Roy, Subhendu Chatterjee, Pradip Ghosh, Soma Dey, Geeta Dey and debutante Pallabi.



Pallabi and Geeta Dey in *Kalanka*

• **Mandanda:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Alok Nath, Benjamin, Subhendu Chatterjee, Biplab Chatterjee, and newcomer Urmi star in this film, directed by Pinaki Choudhury and with music by Swapan Chakrabotty.

Foreign Films

• **Howling II (A):** Lighthouse (Humayun Place: 291299)— 12, 3, 6, 8.30.

• **Lover on Hire (A):** Jamuna (Marquis Street; 243715)—4 shows.

Special Events

25 February onwards

Jadavpur University Photographic Club will hold an exhibition of photographs in the North Gallery till February 27.

• An exhibition of Monish Sen's paintings in the West Gallery till February 27.

• Chhayapath will hold an exhibition of photographs in the New South, South and New galleries till March 4.

• Satyen Halder will hold an exhibition of paintings in the Central Gallery till February 28.

28 February onwards

Barun Modak will hold a weeklong exhibition of paintings in the West Gallery.

• Proscenium will hold a weeklong exhibition of photgraphs in the North Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road, 284302).

28 February: 6.30 pm

A Kathak dance recital by Arjun Mishra, organised by Padatik Dance Circle.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

1 March: 6.30 pm; 2 March: 6 pm

Chandril's ninth annual festival of classical dance and music features Arundhati Roy (Odissi) and Abhijit Roy (Kathak) on the 1st; and Naba Kumar Sarkar (vocal), Dipak Chakraborty (sitar) and Arundhati Roy and Abhijit Roy in an Odissi-Kathak *jugalbandi*, on the 2nd

At Sisir Manch (AJC Bose Road) on 1st; at Gyan Manch (Pretoria Street) on 2nd.

2 March: 6 pm

Youth Guild and the Cultural Department of the USSR Consulate present a Mohini Attam recital by Radha Dutta of Kerala Kalalayam.

At Gorky Sadan (Victoria Terrace).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325; Dep. (2): JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 2055, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): IC-223 at 1640, BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730. Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900; Arr. (daily): IC-224 at 1840, BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1030, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1250, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. Passengers may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633 for assistance.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1205, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0845 and IC-273 at 1915; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0755 and IC-274 at 1825.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1640; Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2140.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (daily): IC-771 at 0705; Arr. (daily): IC-772 at 1240.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Jaipur: Dep. (3, 5): IC-215 at 1610; Arr. (3, 5): IC-216 at 2240.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2030.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily): IC-205 at 1330; Arr. (daily): IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 2, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1400; Arr. (1, 2, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1900.

Calcutta-Vishakhapatnam-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-542 at 0555; Arr. (daily): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 1950.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow-Ahmedabad-Bombay: Dep. (3, 6): IC-295 at 1400; Arr. (3, 6): IC-296 at 1855.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0920.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 5): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-743 at 1300 and IC-741 at 0945, Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-243 at 0610; Arr. (daily): IC-744 at 1520 and IC-742 at 1205, Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-244 at 1030.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1130; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1640.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1130; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1620.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (daily): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (daily): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320 and IC-703 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610 and IC-704 at 0855.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

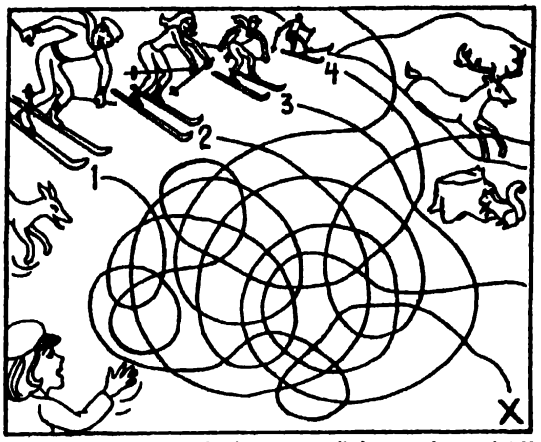
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed, Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp.** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

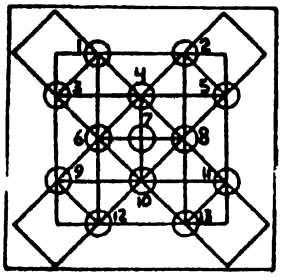
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromondal (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



WAY TO GO? Which skier blazes a trail that reaches point X, above? Is it number 1, 2, 3, or 4? We'll let you decide.

• SUM FUN! I doubled my age, subtracted six, and multiplied by one and one-half From the result, I subtracted an amount four more than my age, and presto, that left my age How old am I? I am thirteen



SQUARE DEAL IN CIRCLES! The intricate geometric figure above contains some 27 squares of various sizes and 13 small numbered circles Six of these circles when filled in or checked with a pencil will either occupy at least one corner or interrupt at least one border of each of these squares

You are asked to find six such circles

One possibe answer is given below You may find another

Remember the idea is to find six circles that will affect the figure s squares as described

Circles 1 2 4 10 12 and 13 will do it for instance

KEY WORD! A theme that many men have echoed through the ages was given expression thusly by Albert Einstein. "Everything that is great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labour in—"

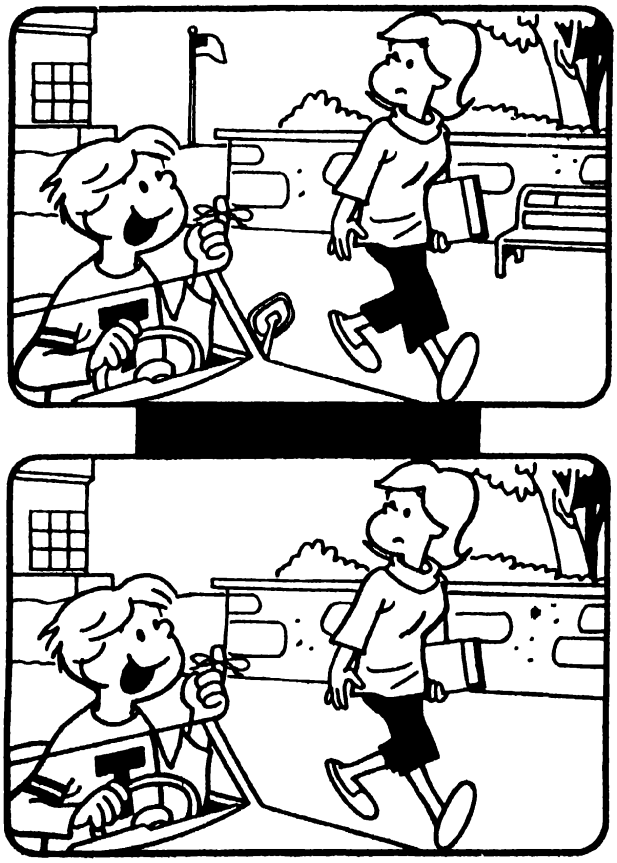
Letters of the missing six-letter words are shown scrambled below

What is that key word?

The word is freedom



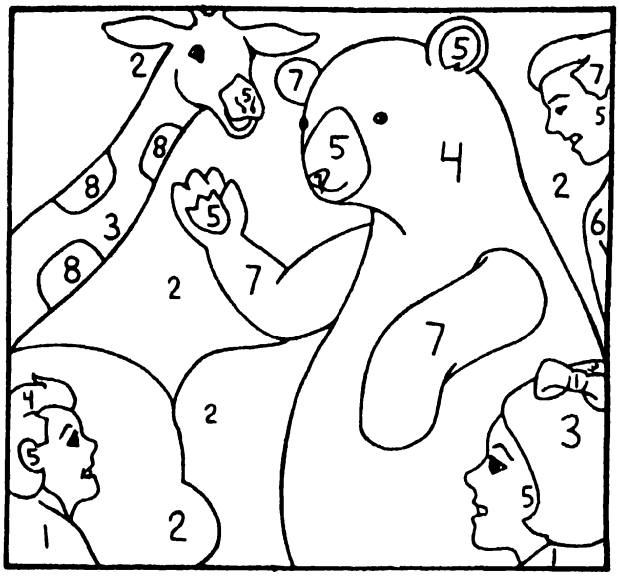
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Difference 1 Flagpole is missing 2 Arm is moved 3 Mirror is missing 4 Book is smaller 5 Blocks are shorter 6 Bench is missing

FUNSPOT



BIG STUFF! Many stuffed animals are small and cuddly, but some are bigger than people Code 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Orange

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

VELOCITY

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Love city

ARIES

March 21—April 20

The week signifies journeys and collaborations, visits to clinics and hospitals, time for introspection and revaluation, stock-taking and assessment Secret ties, rendezvous and visits 'are likely The name of the game is expansion, investment, transactions and trading, say, on March 1 and 2 Your health remains suspect Renovation and decoration, children and hobbies, give a safety-valve to your conflicts and tensions

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

A wish fulfilment, a job well done romance, socialising, business deals and transactions are the salient features of the week Romance will be terrific and exciting Excellent prospects of clinching a major deal Travel gives pleasure and profit Nothing serious as far as health is concerned Make your home comfortable as well as beautiful

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Hard work, buying/selling, journeys, negotiations, settlements, property, legacy, funds and joint-finance, insurance and mortgage are well signified Work first, play afterwards Communications and visits are emphasised Regular habits ensure good health Accidents are, however, not impossible Home and children will give plenty of excitement

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Creativity, journey, publicity, money and power are assured Be bold Your heart will hum and thrum Health will remain fine A house move and joy through kids, pastime and games are also signified Travel is likely towards the middle of the week There may be an addition to the family soon Renovation decoration alteration and refurbishing are highlighted

LEO

July 21—August 21

Deals and investments, a home away from home, change of office, taking over of industry/factory, loans and funds, intimacies in personal relationships are the main trends of the week You will have to undertake a journey Your health, on the whole, remains fine Home and children will bring joy and happiness



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

An official engagement, marriage, business connections and ties despite oppositions and cancellations, and a journey with a possible stop-over are likely Links and trading, commission and agency are also signified Extra health precautions are necessary Travel is probable You will excel in the affairs of home and children

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Job opportunities new openings in professions and business, relationship with subordinates and colleagues of extreme importance are the main trends of the week Be amiable and savvy Love and work will make you travel Expect visitors to drop in There will not be any appreciable change in the affairs of home and children

BIRTHDAYS

February 25

Moon trine Jupiter: This trine means success in journey, collaboration and enterprise, joy through children, home and creative pursuits, and a great burst of self-confidence.

February 26

Moon trine Pluto: Time to achieve and thus get ample satisfaction. Your enemies will bite the dust, your friends will rejoice, and you will be on cloud nine. Pleasure and profit will pour in.

February 27

Moon square Jupiter: Travel is blocked, speculation will not be rewarding, and you are advised to stay away from family squabbles and financial muddles. Take proper advice before buying or selling.

February 28

Moon square Saturn: Do not trust others implicitly. Safeguard your health in matters of the heart, be cautious and discreet.

March 1

Mars conjunction Saturn: There is a danger of accidents and deceit. But those in [illegible] transport, communications, wholesale business, chemicals and printing will do well. Insure your house, office, factory and goods as a safety measure.

March 2

Moon trine Saturn: Those in profession and business will do well. Artists, filmmakers, musicians, painters, editors, photographers and actors [illegible] thunder. A meeting of [illegible] or [illegible]

March 3

[illegible] You will [illegible] decide [illegible] or enterprise or a new business will be auspicious. After August, a brighter 1980 for you.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Matters move your way in romance, speculation, children and delivery, entertainment and the arts Romance flourishes Finances multiply thanks to new openings and past contacts Travel for leisure, pleasure and gains Health shows a marked improvement Home and children are pleasantly highlighted

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

This week the accent is on property, be it house, office, real estate, industrial site, warehouse or vehicles Monetary transactions are certain Romance takes a backseat Finance is the most important pointer now A major move or shift or transfer is in the offing Home and children deserve and demand your attention

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Contracts, assignments, communications journeys meetings and conferences are on the cards You will have your share of romance Splendid opportunities and good news to increase your finances Travel proves lucky You will be energetic and bubbling with activity Home and children give tremendous satisfaction

AQUARIUS

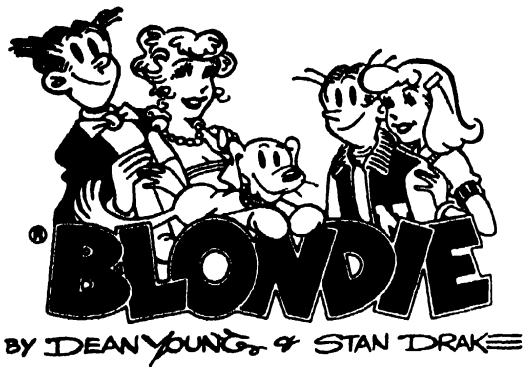
Jan 20—Feb 18

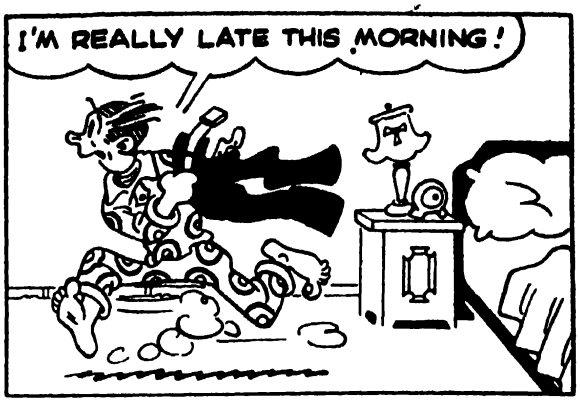
Both romance and finance, in just the right measure, lie in store for you A family get-together is predicted There will be enough romantic activities to keep you happy Traders, manufacturers, distributors and agents will be in their element Be careful of your health towards the mid-week News, views messages, buying and selling will compel you to undertake a journey Be ready for heavy expenses and shopping

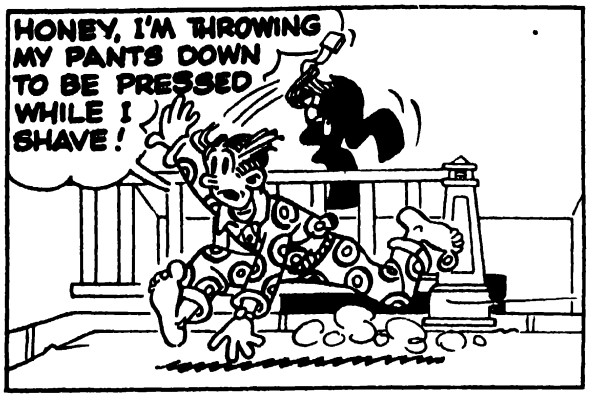
PISCES

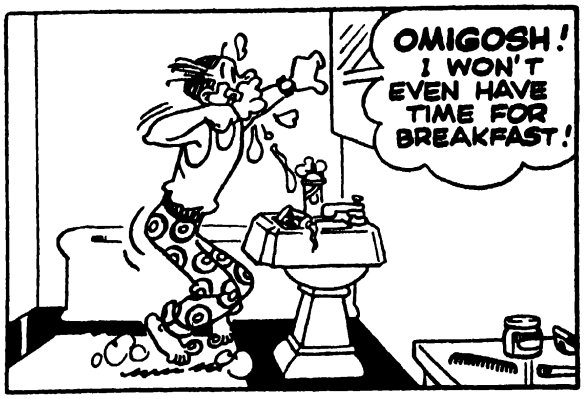
Feb 19—March 20

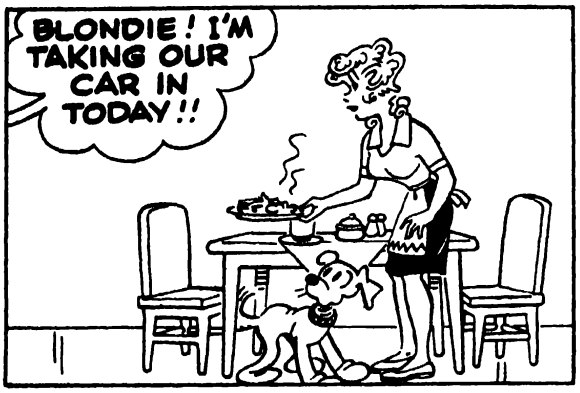
Do not neglect the personal and emotional sides of your life now Religious impulses and psychic doors will open out It is just the right time for romance Seize the chances to augment income and build resources Health problems will not impede your progress Visits and meetings are foretold You will find plenty of satisfaction and security in the affairs of home and children

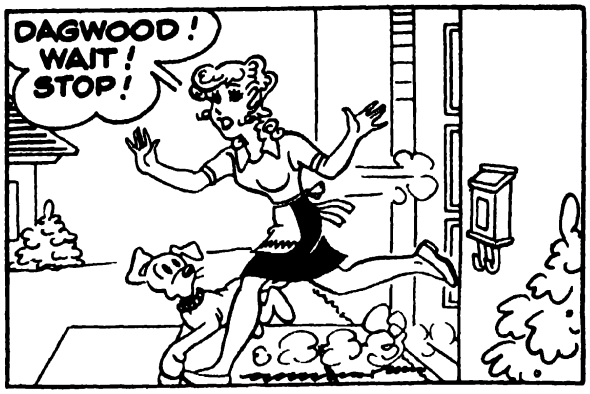


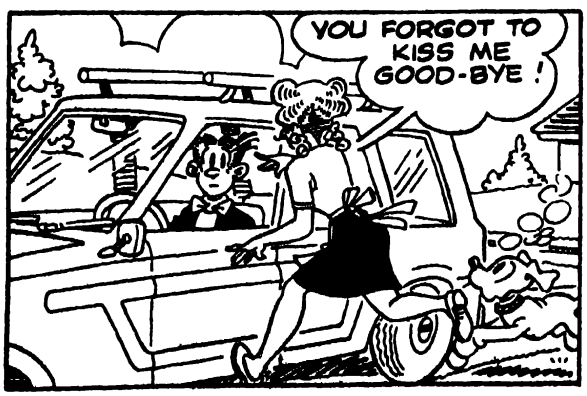




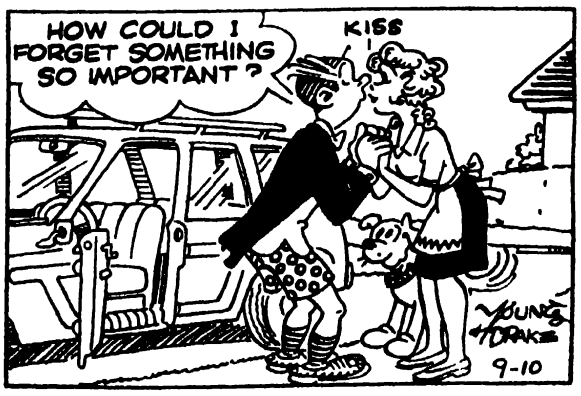




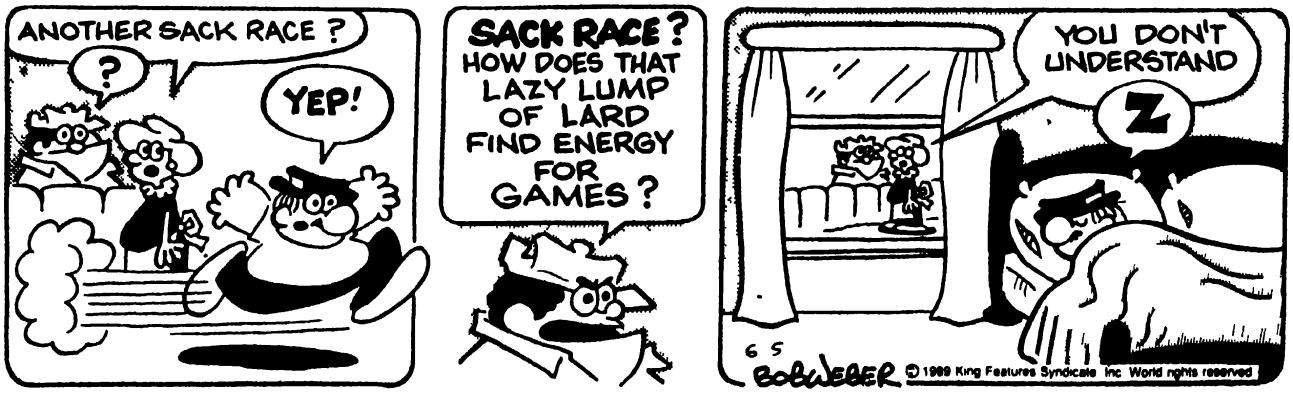


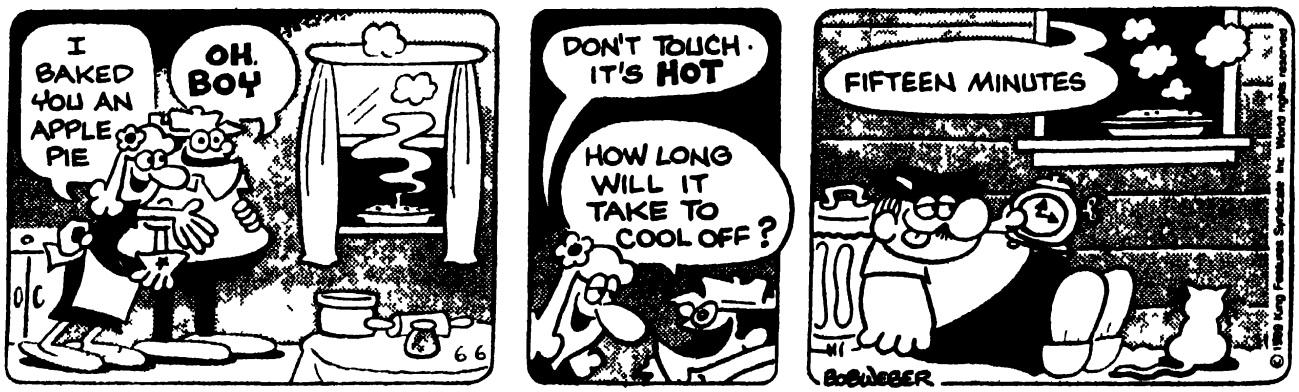


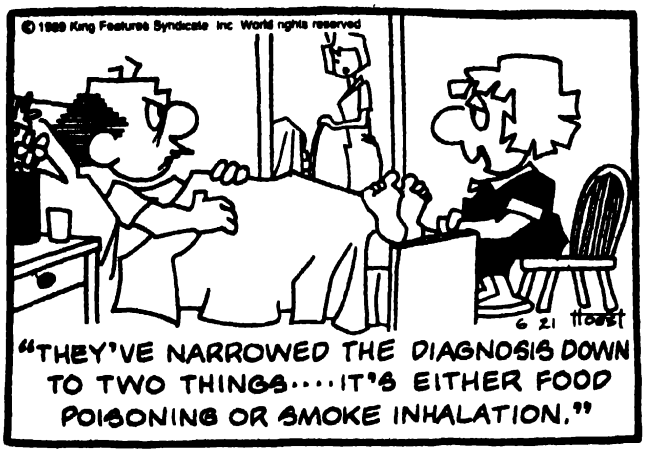
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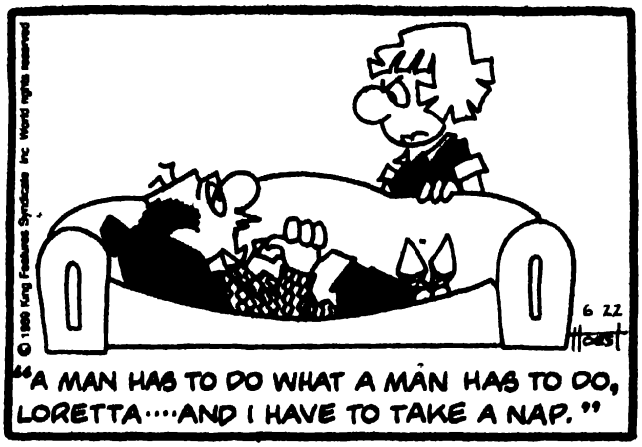



Archie
THIS WAS AN AUSPICIOUS WAY TO BEGIN THE CLASS! YOU ALL GET A'S ON YOUR VOCABULARY TEST!
WHAT DOES AUSPICIOUS MEAN?
...EXCEPT FOR ARCHIE!
TRUCKLE? WHAT DOES TRUCKLE MEAN? THIS VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT IS SO HARD!
LIBRARY QUIET PLEASE
TRUCKLE MEANS TO SUBMIT TO A SUPERIOR, USUALLY WITH CRINGING!
THAT'S GREAT, ARCHIE! YOU KNEW WHAT THAT MEANT I NEVER HEARD OF THE WORD!
YOU HAVE A GREATER COMMAND OF WORDS THAN I THOUGHT!
I READ IT OUT OF THE GLOSSARY!


ANOTHER SACK RACE?
?
YEP!
SACK RACE? HOW DOES THAT LAZY LUMP OF LARD FIND ENERGY FOR GAMES?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND
Z
65
BOBWEBER
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I BAKED YOU AN APPLE PIE
OH, BOY
66
DON'T TOUCH · IT'S HOT
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO COOL OFF?
FIFTEEN MINUTES
BOBWEBER
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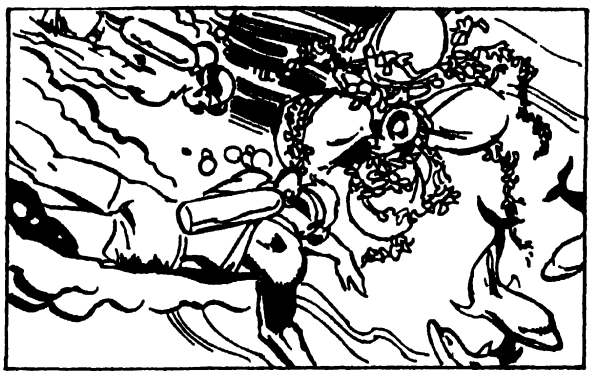


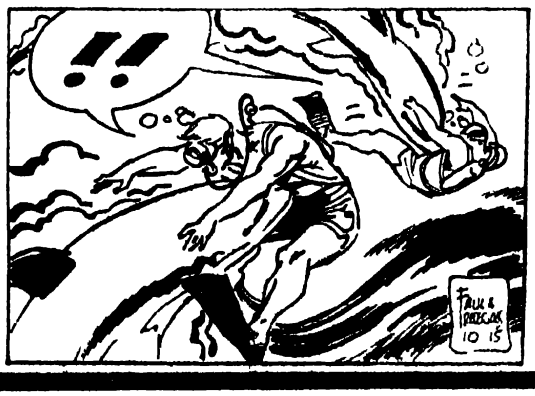




MANDRAKE By Lee Falk



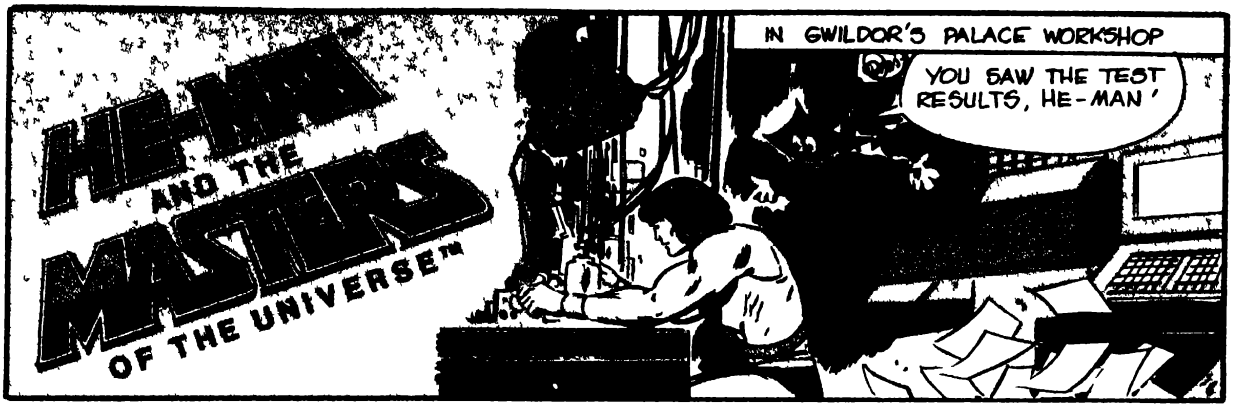







A BOTTLE OF WINE, SQUIRE!
HERE, WHAT'S THIS ? DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE UPPED THE PRICES AGAIN !
AND DON'T TELL ME THE INGREDIENTS ARE MORE EXPENSIVE 'COS THEY AREN'T!
WELL, I SUPPOSE THE PRICE OF PARAFFIN HAS GONE UP A BIT.
57B
IT'S QUIET IN HERE TODAY.
ONE MISSES THE OCCASIONAL DEBATE ON LIFE'S INTRICACIES.
X☆⊙! HE'S PUT HIS ☆⊙✱⊙⊙☆!! PRICES UP!
SCARF!
NO.
GIRAFFE! THAT'S IT! GIRAFFE!
NO.
58B
ALLOW ME, DENNIS.
ANOTHER CARAFE, PLEASE.
CLICK!
ANY MINUTE NOW—"HERE, IS THAT THE TIME?"
HERE, IS THAT THE TIME?
"I MUST DASH."
I MUST DASH.
IT'S NOT MY ROUND, IS IT?
I WISH YOU'D STOP GOING ON ABOUT HOW MEAN I'M SUPPOSED TO BE!
60
I BOUGHT THE LAST ROUND, YOU KNOW!
AND WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT, IT'S MY TURN WITH THE GLASS!

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special



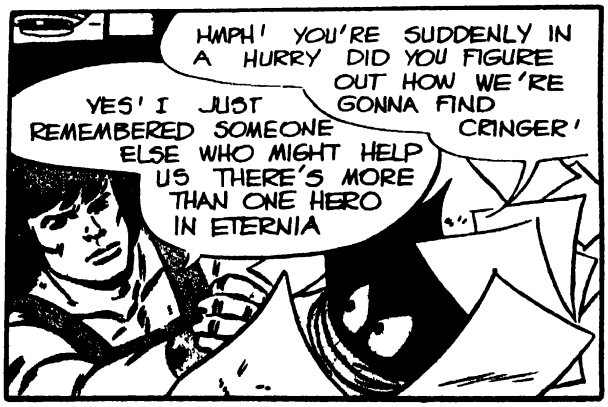


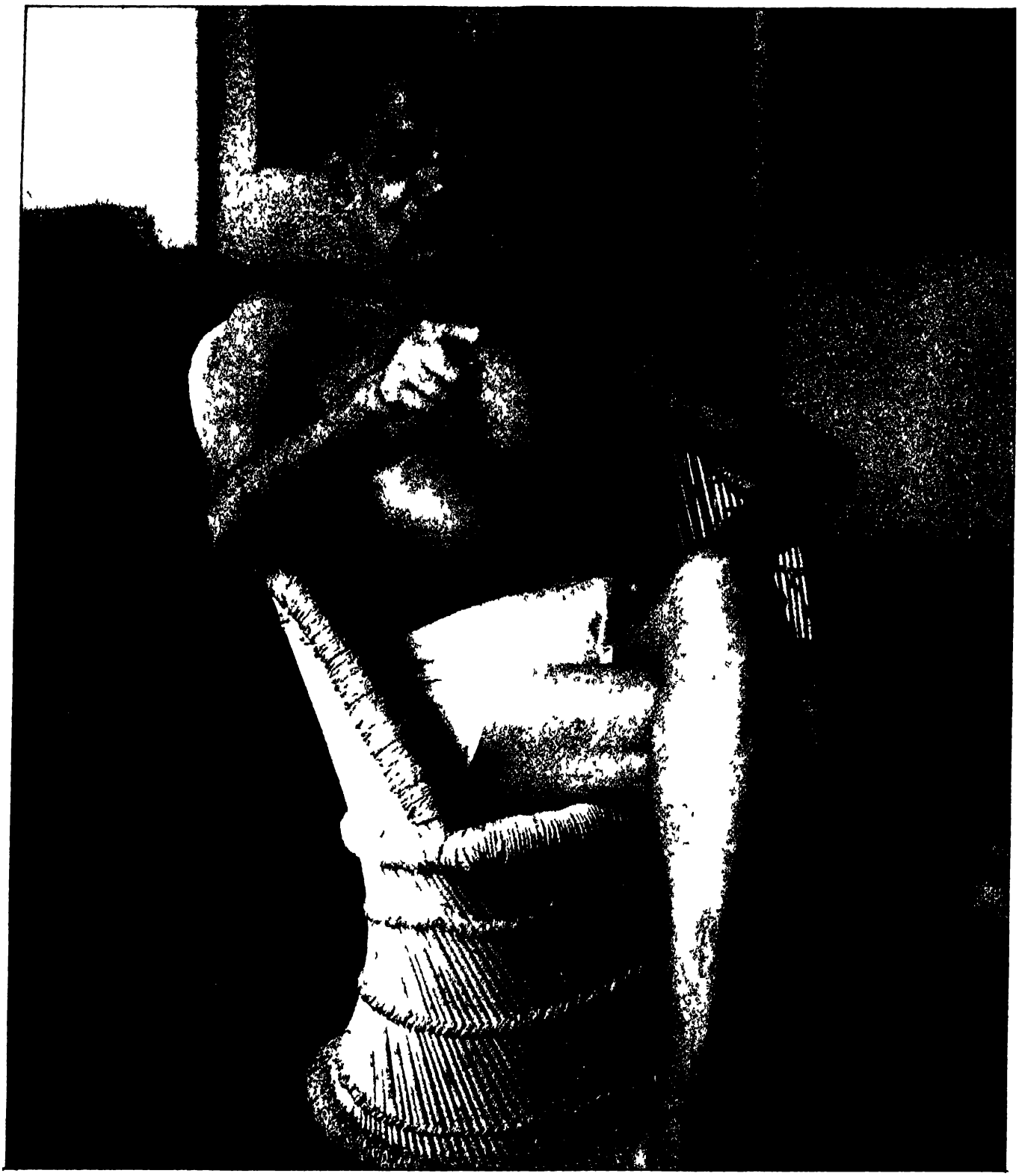












How can you blame the former Bihar chief minister, **Abdul Ghafoor,** for finally losing his shirt and resigning from the Congress(I)? After all, how much can a self-respecting man bare? Photograph by JAGDISH YADAV



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

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250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

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Below Zero Mark

'Pay Now Fly Later' (January 28) was a timely expose on the Indian Airlines. Aeroplanes earlier spelt the fastest and most luxurious way of travelling. Today, it only means wastage of hours and hours, waiting at the airports, to say the least.

The reputation of the Indian Airlines has sunk below the zero mark, particularly among the foreigners who are regular passengers here.

Harekrushna Mahanta,
Bokaro (Bihar)

■ While comparing the salaries of pilots in the Indian Airlines vis-a-vis the airlines in the Gulf countries, I had stated to your correspondent, "Even if Indian Airlines decides to pay its pilots Rs 15,000 per month, still it is far less in comparison, as one can get at least six times that amount in Gulf countries."

It may be clarified that IA being a public sector organisation under Central Government control, it has to act within the guidelines of the Bureau of Public Sector Enterprise (BPE) and cannot have any increase in wages, without the sanction of the ministry. Today, a senior pilot in the Indian Airlines, with 25 years of experience, is paid about Rs 10,000 per month, with no other perquisite, and after deduction of income tax and provident fund, etc. has a carry-home salary of about Rs 6,000.

I would appreciate it if this is published, to correct any misunderstanding.

Capt. S.L. Bagchi,
M.Ae. S.I. Indian Airlines (Retd),
Calcutta

■ The biggest problem with us passengers is that we do not shout when we need to. Everything has a limit and unless we declare war against the Indian Airlines, we are in for a lot more harassment.

Prabal Guha,
Guwahati

■ Your article was an eye-opener. But I am sure the Indian Airlines staff, like bank and postal employees, could not care less. There should be privatisation of such services and some competition.

Jayant Sheth,
Bokaro Steel City

■ Admittedly, no modern society can survive without an efficient air travel service. It is a matter of disgrace that conditions in the Indian Airlines have come to such a pass that we need to hang our heads in shame.

But what about the railways? We are sick and tired of hearing about the delayed arrivals of trains, often by several hours. The railways serve the common man and cause untold suffering to the teeming millions. It is time the new, dynamic railways minister took immediate steps to remedy the situation.

G. Basu,
Calcutta

Behind the Tricks

The Rainbow feature, 'Jokes Apart' (January 28) gave us a glimpse into the fascinating world of circus people and life behind the clowning and tricks.

These people should be helped economically so that life becomes happier for those who never fail to add smiles to our lives.

Vivek Agarwal,
Calcutta



Dilip Banerjee

Life under the Big Top

■ We hanker after cheap films and paperbacks to spend our leisure time, but 'Jokes Apart' reminded us that the entertainers from the circus have been giving us joy since ages. It is surprising that we do not show much enthusiasm in going to the circus.

Koushik Roy,
Bongaon (W.B.)

The Telegraph
4 MARCH 1990

4 It is school admission time. And time for some pressure to mount on both the children and their parents. A report.

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D Nayak

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THE RAT RACE BE



The day St Xavier's put up its admission list for class I, Mr Agarwal threw a really big party, even bigger than the one he gave when he won a major business contract in the face of stiff competition last year. For, in that list was his five-and-a-half-year-old son's name. Mr Agarwal knew he could now relax for at least the next 10 years. Even if his son turned out to be just an average student, he still would have the Xavier's tag to fall back on No one had sent him to such a good school. But after today, that wasn't going to rankle so much. He could now bask in the reflected glory of his son.



An ideal world where teachers leave the kids alone

Almost before you can start thinking of admitting a child into this world, it is time to worry about getting him admitted to a good school

Every year, the pangs of school admission get more acute The rising aspirations of a fast-expanding middle class, combined with cut-throat competition in the job market, are turning school admissions into a virtual winner-takes-all business

But, unfortunately, even as the rush for admissions becomes chaotic—with parents waiting overnight in unending queues—the capacity of the better schools remains relatively inflexible and falls far short of the demand. For parents who cannot hope to get in their children through 'connections' or quotas, the suspense is unbearable

Small wonder then that even before a child is born, the to-be parents sit down to calculate If it (sex still undetermined) comes in so-and-so month, it will be two months too young for so-and-so session, but if it has to wait for the next session, it will lose so many months

At two, even before the child has learned to walk straight with confidence he is sent to a nursery school This is a vital time for him, for he enters a new phase of development when he begins to try and put together all the random and seemingly unconnected impressions he has gathered so far If the child is not handled with care and understanding at this stage, it could lead to problems when he grows a little older A good nursery school, on the other hand, could help him develop naturally without putting any pressure on him

Sadly, though, as admission to an elite high school becomes the be-all and end-all, the child's need for a proper nursery school is being either forgotten or ignored Most parents would rather put their child in a preparatory-nursery school which can assure him entrance to the primary section of one of the top-notch schools two or three years later.

Taking advantage of this situation, more and more nursery schools are mushrooming all over the city, their growth unhampered by any kind of regulation or control

Almost every residential area in the city now has one or more such schools "All that is needed to set up a nursery school is registration under the Societies Act," according to Ms Grace Pinna, principal of Mongrace a leading Montessori house in the city

Of the 300 or more nursery schools in Calcutta—most of which have come up in the last few years—only 27 are recognised as 'Montessori houses of children' by the Indian chapter of the Association Montessori International (AMI) Several of the nursery schools are run by enterprising housewives in their drawing rooms which they convert into classrooms between 9 am and noon Though many of these schools advertise themselves as Montessori houses and do indeed adopt some of the Montessori methods, they come nowhere near fulfilling the norms laid down by the AMI

It is once again time for school admissions. For parent and child alike, it is agony. For some unscrupulous nursery schools, on the other hand, this is the season they look forward to most. Monimoy Dasgupta takes a close look at the chaotic and nerveracking business of getting into a good school, and the parasites who live off it

There is a third category of nursery schools teaching shops run by a breed of touts, who claim they can get any child into a good school These unscrupulous elements—most of whom run their racketts out of dingy little rooms in and around Park Street—convince the parents that their child should be of at least class II standard by the time he appears for the kindergarten or class I entrance test Thus, what should ideally be spread over five or six years is compressed and mercilessly crammed into the child in the space of just three years, regardless of whether he is physically and mentally capable of bearing such a huge burden For teaching extra, these shops extract double the fees charged by other nursery schools At the end of three harrowing years the touts move in for their final kill They make an offer many parents find difficult to resist Guaranteed admission to one of the elite schools The price Anything between Rs 25,000 and Rs 50,000

The sellout of the admission system is complete from the word go And for what? A wasted childhood? With mornings spent in a claustrophobic room, afternoons and

evenings taken up doing homework which make no sense at all, eventually dropping off to sleep with the entrance tests hanging over the head like a Damocles' Sword?

Things are not as bad for the girls. Says the principal of one of Calcutta's better girls' schools, "The pressure for admission is much less. I don't know the exact reason for this. But I guess there are more good schools for girls than for boys and more important, parents in general don't seem as desperate about getting their daughters in. In a majority of Indian families, the son still comes first where career is concerned. As a result the admission process for girls is much cleaner."


Goutam Roy

I am surprised when a child who can spell cupboard cannot join two simple things. I am at a loss to understand how to evaluate this: John Mason

The principal of La Martiniere for Boys, Mr Donald Allney, is extremely critical of these teaching shops. "We don't even expect the child to spell cat. But a lot of children have already been introduced to six-letter words by the time they come to us. All this is through mechanical teaching and after talking to the kid for a while we can make out that his base is very weak," says Mr Allney. "I'll give you an example. During our interview last year, this boy walked in and wished us good morning when it was actually 3 pm. I smiled, realising it was not his fault. The teacher who had prepared him for the interview had mechanically taught him to say good morning as soon as he walked in without realising the child's turn could come in the afternoon."

Says Mr John Mason, who has turned St James' School into a model institution, "I am surprised when a child, who can spell cupboard, cannot join two simple things. I am at a loss to understand how to evaluate this."

A system that overburdens even three and four-year-olds with studies at the cost of their play time is not only cruel but also very harmful. Dr R. Basu, a leading psychiatrist and director of the West Bengal government's child guidance cell, cited the case of a four-year-old girl who had lost her sight. An ophthalmologist had referred her to him when he found nothing pathologically wrong with her. "On analysis I found it was the pressure of a preparatory school and the fear of the rod that had led the child to develop hysterical blindness. I decided to counsel the parents instead of the girl and got them to withdraw all impositions. Soon after this was done, the child became normal again," says Dr Basu.

Says Ms Nandini Chaudhuri, principal of Miranda Hall, another leading Montessori school: "A lot of these preparatory schools train the children artificially. A child may get through the entrance interview, but there is bound to be a collapse later."

According to Ms Uma Ahmad, a founder-member of Teacher's Centre, restrictions on a child's natural gross motor movements could lead to stammering, bedwetting and other problems. "If you confine a child's hand and force her to write the way we do, which is a fine motor movement, it could even weaken her wrist."

And yet, the same teaching shops which perpetrate these crimes not only survive but even manage to do booming business, earning anything up to an estimated Rs 30,000 a month (unofficially, of course).

How do these touts operate? According to the principal of a leading high school, "About 50 per cent of this racket is basically gambling. For instance, the teaching shop owner tells the parents that a seat in class I will cost him Rs 40,000. The amount has to be paid in advance and in case the child fails, there is a money-back guarantee. After taking the money he sits back and does nothing. Meanwhile, the child sits for his entrance examination. He gets in purely on his own merit, but the tout tells his parents it was his sources who managed his admission. He retains the money. In case the child fails, the money is refunded. This way he also builds up his credibility. The problem is that no parent is going to come forward and confess because he knows it would invite an inquiry and if necessary, action would have to be taken. As a principal, I am fully aware that the touts are exploiting the reputation of my school, but I am helpless."

Father C. Bouche, headmaster of St


Endless lines and anxious parents



Xavier's School, admits that such things do happen. "There is a chap who came to me last year and confessed that he makes Rs 2 lakhs on me every year, at Rs 20,000 per student. He chooses his students on merit and does it so well that at least 10 get admission."

But there are some who accuse the school managements of operating hand-in glove with the admission touts Mr Jamil Akhtar Parvez, convenor of the public relations cell of the Association of Anglo-Indian Schools in West Bengal, does not mince words· "Admission through the back door is not possible without the consent of the principal What else can it be when a boy who is not even fit for class III joins class V at the fag end of the session, as has happened in one case? The principal gave his concurrence out of a selfish motive

"Do you admit the boy or the parents?" he asks sarcastically "These days school managements insist on interviewing the parents just to find out how much they can extract from them "

The headmaster of a wellknown school dismisses these allegations and says "There are some good parents who give us donations on their own But we channelise the money for the benefit of the children For instance, some parents and ex-students got together and gave us money for a computer lab It is the students who are ultimately gaining from this noble gesture "

What does happen sometimes, according to a number of principals, is that donations are collected in their names without their knowledge Once, a group of women dressed as Loreto nuns went around the city collecting donations The Mother Superior of the school came to know of it much later and issued a statement in the papers warning the parents against the imposters But, by then, most of the damage had already been done

At least two wellknown principals acknowledged the fact that a section of the school staff may be involved in the admission racket One of them even narrated a case where one of the office peons, who used to deliver the school's admission letters, would first approach the parents and claim he could get their child (who had already been selected) admitted for a consideration Two or three days later he would deliver the letter and take the credit for the child's admission His activities were subsequently brought to the attention of the school authorities, who then decided to put up the names of the successful applicants on the notice board for all to see

The other principal suspects a strong nexus between the touts and the office clerks, who tip them off about vacancies The touts in turn ask the parents to apply They make a neat packet by passing on inside information to the parents

It is not only the clerks and peons with whom these touts have established links Their tentacles reach much further, touching even senior teachers with influence over selections, it is said Although Father Bouche rules out the involvement of his staff in getting children admitted out of turn, allegations that a preparatory home on Park Street guarantees admission to St Xavier's for a fat sum persist

The owner of Childcraft, Mr Paul Roy, was with St Xavier's for 31 years before he decided to strike out on his own According to Father Bouche, Mr Roy resigned because he wanted to start a school "He was interested in teaching " If that was his only interest, couldn't he have taught at St Xavier's? "How could he?" replied the Father "He is not even a matriculate "



There is a chap who came to me last year and confessed he makes Rs 2 lakhs on me every year, at Rs 20,000 per student: Father Bouche

Mr Roy initially refused to talk, but eventually, when he did, he said, "These allegations are all false People are jealous of me because I know the tricks of the trade " And what exactly were these tricks? "I don't mean donations and such things I know exactly how to teach him so that he does well in the entrance examination I have exclusively created this system of teaching I take in a student when he is two-and-a-half years old In the four years that he is in my school, I teach him right up to the brim so that when he goes for admission to class I, he is ready for class II and in some exceptional cases, class III I charge them only Rs 200 per

month, which I suppose any other preparatory school does too, but I teach them in one week what the others take one month to complete "

The children at Mr Roy's school sit for a term examination every three months Besides, there is a weekly report card which covers four subjects—English, mathematics, Indian language (all oral as well as written) and general knowledge He believes in giving regular homework as it helps in the child's character building "It is because of the academic discipline I maintain that my boys get into St Xavier's and not because my wife is a teacher there or because I know the Fathers very well " My Roy claims he does not earn more than Rs 4,500 from the school and other sources put together Nevertheless, he has managed to buy three flats in the Park Street area

Near Middleton Street, not very far from Childcraft, is a similar school. Here, a whole lot of small children and their mothers wait patiently to be called into a small room by "auntie," who happens to be a teacher in the primary school of St Xavier's She is reputed to enjoy "a close rapport" with the powers-that-be in the school; hence, the rush to join her school

There are many others. A former priest of a reputed school runs a preparatory school with his wife (who was a teacher in the same school) further south of Park Street He is widely believed to have maintained links with the school, and as a result attracts a steady flow of children. Although the principal of the school in question denied any association with the priest-turned-entrepreneur, his track record in getting his pupils into the high school is said to be quite enviable.

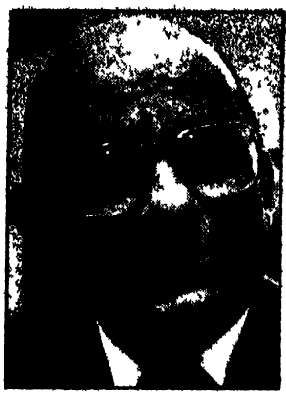
Not everyone, though, in this admission-selling business can maintain a consistently high strike rate. Parents allege that a teaching shop owner on Elliot Road has on several occasions failed to deliver on his promise to get their child into arguably the best school in that particular locality despite political connections and influence with the *para dadas*. "He doesn't return the money and we can't ask him to either since there is no proof. We have realised he is basically a small-time thug," says a frustrated and short-changed parent.

"When I was a kid, going to Park Street meant going to Flury's for pastries or to India Hobby Centre to add to my collection of toys. But it is a nightmare for my brother's four-year-old son who visits a teaching shop there to learn maths and English," says Rajesh Kapoor, a system analyst.

It is not as if there are no good nursery schools in the city. Most of these better schools follow the system that Maria Montessori introduced way back in 1907. Here, the child is allowed to develop on his own. The emphasis is on play and the use of the child's natural senses and not on the written word or learning by rote. Says Ms Grace Pinna, "We do not force the child to read or write or do arithmetic. It comes

What's in store for this child?





During our interviews last year, this boy walked in and wished us good morning when it was actually 3 pm. I smiled realising that it was not his fault. The teacher who had prepared him for the interview had mechanically taught him to say good morning: Donald Allney

naturally with the help of the apparatus we give him. He is given freedom of choice and movement and we see to it that he does not get bored even for a moment." Ms Nandini Chaudhuri believes the child's interest must be developed without any kind of coercion. "He gets great satisfaction if he can complete something all by himself."

But in spite of all this, the situation continues to get worse every day. What is happening is that the teaching shops are gradually taking over the system, leaving good nursery schools in a minuscule minority, a classic example of the bad chasing out the good.

There is, of course, still a demand for good Montessori schools among the more enlightened parents, but due to the fact that these are much more difficult to set up compared to the one-room, one-teacher, equipment-less schools, not enough new ones have come up recently. As a result, the pressure on the well-known Montessori houses is tremendous, and parents who would otherwise have liked to put their children into one such school often have to settle for second-best: the drawing-room schools run by housewives.

The proximity of the school is also an important factor, specially for those without transport: rather than drag the child by a public bus during rush hour, most parents prefer the friendly neighbourhood school.

Even parents who send their child to the notorious teaching shops try to justify their action. "What are we to do? On the one hand, you have the West Bengal government's policy of not encouraging English medium schools. So you have very few really good high schools in Calcutta. On the other, it is difficult to find a decent job unless you've been to a good English medium school. It's no use being idealistic. You have to think of the child's future, too. If you don't push him now, he'll lag behind for the rest of his life. He may not like it."

But the fact is that for many parents, it has become a status symbol to have their child in an elite school and they are willing to push him to the limit to fulfil their ambition.

In recent years, a new trend has become noticeable. Both Ms Pinna and Ms Chaudhuri said some of their school children also went for private tuition in the evenings to prepare themselves for the admission tests. "This shows on the child. He is sleepy and lethargic when he comes to school in the morning. But we can't ask the parents to stop tuitions because then they'll ask us for a guarantee that what we are teaching the child is enough for him to find a place in a good school. Getting admission depends on so many factors other than our method of teaching. So how can we promise anything?" said Ms Chaudhuri.



Kishor Roy Choudhury

Grace Pinna (right) with school children : Growing naturally

The parents are obviously out to hedge their bets. Some who start off with the best of intentions and put their child in a Montessori school, later get unnerved by the admission stampede and send him for tuitions as well. But the really guilty ones are those who decide to send their children to both kinds of school right from the beginning so that he can handle the standard written test as well as stand up to a more intelligent and probing interview.

What should ideally be spread over five or six years is compressed and mercilessly crammed into the child in the space of just three years, regardless of whether he is physically and mentally capable of bearing such a huge burden

For the child, it is clearly a no-win situation. Is there no way out? Says the principal of a leading high school, "We don't enjoy doing what we do. It's very difficult to judge a child in the span of a few minutes. What it eventually boils down to is an elimination process and I agree it can be quite unfair. But we can't take in everybody."

According to Ms Vandana Kanoria of Kislaya Montessori House, "Most secondary schools are realising the harm such coaching classes are doing. They're thinking of changing the format of their entrance interviews." Says Ms Chaudhuri, "A number of schools have started scrapping written admission tests because of the adverse effect they have on the child."

What is the alternative? The principal of Loreto, Sealdah, Sister Cyril, who has gained recognition for her innovative teaching methods, has made a beginning. After taking in children on the Catholic, alumni and staff quotas, she holds a lottery for the remaining children in the presence of the parents.

Too frivolous for a business as serious as this? But, even otherwise, isn't it all a game of chance where the throw of the dice on that vital admission day can make or mar a child's future? ■

WOMAN SMART, MAN SMARTER

Evolution, alas, has out-Darwined Darwin *Conus homo* has now almost totally evolved to *homo porcine*, and chauvinistic to boot Quiz-wiz Siddharth Basu will soon be asking " one word for society?", and pat will come the answer, "Piggery" Five full points, and the quiz-master's decision is final

Women (God bless them!) are, thankfully, female and possess the un-male characteristic of subtlety This has reduced the scope and necessity of outright bloodshed, and increased effectiveness so much so that, if the hegemony of male dominance is not totally broken, it is at least shaken Society's ruling party is now indeed the reeling party

The pig motif, dominant for so long in society, has assumed such proportions as to justify parents grabbing children from the general circulation and shutting their doors to the porcine influence Yes, the story of relations between the male and the female of our species is indeed a long, protracted pig-tale

But, the moment women decided to step out of their stys—or is it stays?—with the intention of bringing home the bacon instead of merely cooking it, the arena of war shifted to the breakfast table, and men began fighting a losing battle on an empty stomach What ordinary mortal could be expected to effectively counter a food-for-housework scheme introduced by the *nouveau*-emancipator wife at the breakfast table? Especially when a sinking feeling is predominant in the pit of the stomach after a night of strenuous sleep? And does anyone ever wonder who the victor will be in this war? If women could have, with all their misconceived frailty, outlived devastating dinosaurs and pernicious pterodactyls, what are mere men?

Yet, some men are such hams! They never learn Despite convincing evidence on the contrary from sociologists, psychologists, journalists, humanists, communists, and even policemen, they continue to be deluded by the idea—which is helped along by doting parents—that they are the last word in culinary expertise So they think nothing of serving up wives sauted, grilled, or roasted at a moment's notice And they expect to be booked and paid in advance for not making a hash of things Every marriage pushes up the price of Burnol, and worried fathers have stopped considering suitors save those residing within a 20-meter radius of a fire station

An MCP started the women's lib movement



From time immemorial the women who have taken all social ills lying down are the prostitutes One business rule has remained constant throughout, 'The customer *always* comes first" This same axiom has filtered into households too, and it is only now that the statement is being investigated The question is, do men always come first? Only problem is, some women have decided that the only way to tackle this problem is to stand up—and take the question to the streets, going public through banners and loudspeakers There's no gainsaying the fact that women make the best wives, but activities such as these suggest (note *suggest*) that the weakness of the weaker sex is mostly confined in and around the cranium Why else should they allow their own femininity—which is at once their best defence and battleground to take on men—to be turned against them?

What most people do not know is that the women's L movement was started by man who was an MCP to e all MCPs. The idea was manoeuvre women out of the home ground into a battlefie programmed to favour on males, and oh boy (or girl) d it succeed! Women becam allergic to elastic when th very basis of their nature w elasticity, they demande rights when they had pr vileges, they wanted pav ments when they could hav pedestals, they wanted to pe ceive what they could not co ceive the Empress wanted t "equal" her subjects

So they sought to equ every Superman with a Wo der Woman If women are st burning at the stake, Joan Arc cannot be a happy choic as a role model of women 'emancipation' Nana-s, Lolit s, Sarah Woodruff s and Rum s still take the cake, have and eat it too Their effectiv ness is *because*, not in spit of, their feminity

Consider the practical re trictions that women face male territory One can 'man' desk, but cannot 'woman' i One can 'man age something never 'woman age it One c plan 'man'power and fully ut ise man'hours Plan woma power and fully uti 'woman'hours, and you hav abolished the dressing tabl Equality demands the abolitio of Ladies Rooms, modesty fo bids it (Conversely, men' rooms could be abolished, b apprehension forbids it) Eve compromises are frowne upon Anyone trying to find middle path between the tw is called some unpronounce able name like 'eunuch' an such like

The key question still re mains Do or do not me *always* come first?' Until th crucial question is answered preferably at the breakfas table (the pavement being to public a place for such a del cate issue)—the porcin population will keep on multi plying under the mistaken be lief that men really do.

Dipendra N. Chatterjee

From time immemorial the women who have taken all social ills lying down are the prostitutes. One business rule has remained constant throughout, 'The customer always comes first'

FACTS & FANCIES

The Planets and Earth

The 20th century has paved the way for contact with other planets in the solar system. The 21st century will see a greater number of people going for longer periods to the moon, Mars, etc.

NASA has announced plans for the first manned expedition to Mars in 2011; and it is hoped that the astronauts will stay on Mars for about two years!

It is also hoped that a permanent settlement will be built on the moon by the beginning of the next century, before definite plans are chalked out for Mars.

"The planet most like Earth, Mars, offers many unique scientific opportunities, but perhaps the most intriguing question is whether life exists or have ever existed on Mars," says a NASA report.

Toy Crazy...

When a friend asked for 'soft toys' for her 21st birthday, the request came as a surprise. Now, comes the news that 43-year-old Stephen Sansweet, bureau-chief for the *Wall Street Journal*, plays with toys when he is not at work!

Many adults have a few pet toys· railway tracks, racing motor cars, aeroplane models, and so on. But, Sansweet has 10,000 toys, out of which only 200 are kept in display cases—the rest of them are scattered all over the house.

Recently, Sansweet had to build an extra floor to accommodate all his toys.

...and Crazy Toys

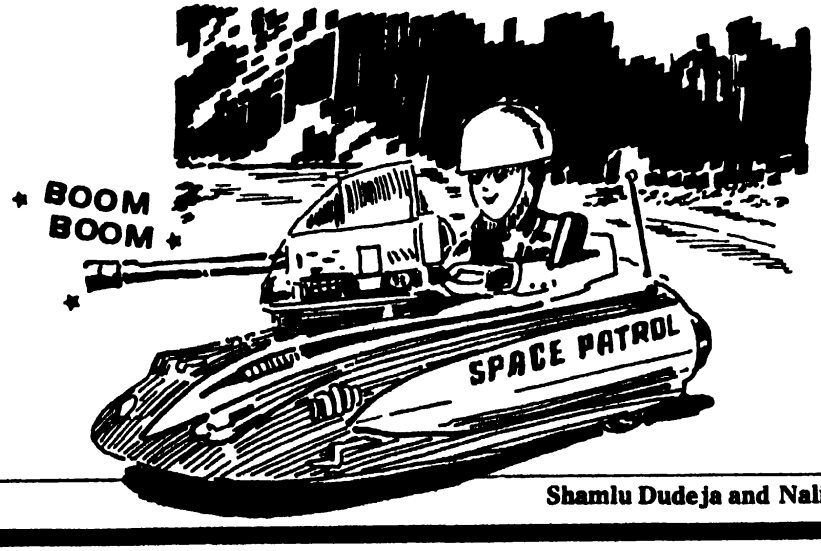
One doesn't have a list of all the toys in the 10,000 strong collection of Sansweet, but space-related toys are his most favourite. But, today, the variety of toys on the market, for all ages, is quite mind-boggling.

For the new born, in addition to the ultra-soft, ultra-cuddly, ultra-huge animals and balls, are Activity Blankets. If the infant wakes up in the middle of the night, and his hand wanders over the outside of the blanket, it encounters soft pom-poms, crackling ears of an elephant, and a specially coated edge of the blanket which is pleasant to taste, in case the child puts it into his mouth!

For older children, the pull-a-string talking toys come in a greater variety of shapes and voices than before. Children particularly love the Barbie doll with hair which "actually grows" and the tearful doll which shivers when you give it a bath. Dolls houses have not altered much; what is amazing is the range of hand-crafted furniture, sometimes more expensive than life-size models available in the shops.

Refrigerators which are battery-cooled and hold tiny bowls and boxes full of food, space stations with see-through windows and little screens that light up, space patrol cars with moving guns which go mock 'boom boom' ... these and thousands more adorn the shelves of toy shops in the West.

The most popular adult toy may well be the Omnibot 2000, a 75 cm tall robot which can be programmed to pour a drink, fetch a newspaper or play your favourite music.



Shamlu Dudeja and Nalini Sitlani

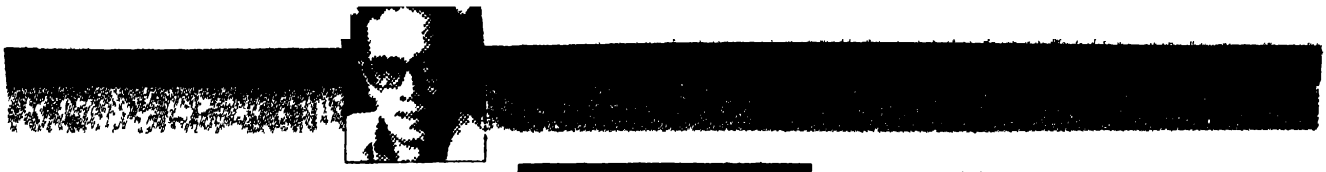
The Handle-me-not Hoover

News to gladden hearts of many housewives: a cordless, computerised carpet cleaner. All you need to do is to take it on its first trip around the house, to programme the robot-like carpet cleaner. Then, day after day, year after year, all that the housewife needs to do is place it at a pre-determined spot in the room and click it on. Zoom, it goes drawing in dust, and sucking in grime. And, it is simple to re-programme it if there is an extra table or a flower pot in the room! Sounds divine, doesn't it?

.... and a Rubber Robot

A rubber robot? No, not made of rubber; it rubs. Rub-a-rub-rubble, robot on the double. In New York, "some delicate match-making has brought about a marriage between the finest of old world handicrafts (the piano) and modern technology," writes Ann Moffat. A firm of fine piano manufacturers, Steinway and Sons of Long Island, and engineers at Columbia University are in the process of developing robotic systems for piano manufacture.

Currently, the job of "finishing" quality pianos is done entirely by hand, by a person known as "rubber", who uses an assortment of solvents, rubbing oils, sandpaper, cotton wool and other polishing aids, to give raw wood that extra touch of class. An off-the-shelf ordinary robot is capable of doing repetitive work, and would not be able to fill in as a "rubber". The "rubber" robot, under development now, can assess the finishing needs of a piano, has position control, will emulate the stroking pattern of humans, and finish the job at least as fast as and as well as a human. Advantage? The "rubber" robot will work three shifts a day!



Here s something on the life of composer Stepehen Foster in response to questions from Kumar Basu, Calcutta 31

One of the first of Amer-ica s great songwriters, Stephen Collins Foster was born in Pittsburgh, Pa His musical talent was natural and self-generated, he had no opportunity to hear serious music or have formal training and his parents did not encourage a talent that they were incapable of comprehending (his father called it strange") Young Stephen was a poor student and disliked the discipline of school he much preferred to read and study on his own, take walks in the woods, and indulge in daydreaming His penchant for personal study resulted in his learning to play the flute, his daydreaming led to the composition of a veritable cornucopia of melodious songs

Stephen s first song was performed when he was 15, during a short-lived period of academic schooling at the Athens Academy in Tioga, and was titled *Tioga Waltz* He wrote it for commencement and played it himself on the flute At 18 he had his first song published, *Open Thy Lattice, Love*, written for a 10-year-old friend whose parents let him use their piano When he was 19, he wrote songs for a group of young men who met twice a week at his home, during this period his bent for Negro music began to bear fruit As a boy he had been exposed to Negro hymns, spirituals, and minstrel music A "bound-girl" who worked for the Foster family (they had two black servants who, because Pennsylvania was a free state, worked in exchange for room and board) took the boy with her to church, where he heard the congregation s spontaneous, jubilant exultations Shortly thereafter he started attending minstrel shows

From doing his own versions of minstrel music as the star of a youthful dramatic club, he progressed to the writing of such popular minstrel tunes as *Old Uncle Ned, Lou siana Belle*, and one of his most popular compositions, *Oh, Susanna!* If the fortyniners didn t all strike gold, *Oh, Susanna!* did, it was adopted by the fortune seekers as their theme song, with appropriate revisions in the lyrics Unfortunately, it reaped profits only for the publisher, not for the composer With his usual casualness and lack of business acumen, Stephen gave the song away to a publisher he met while working as a bookkeeper for his brother, a commission merchant in Cincinnati The song did, however, mark the beginning of Foster's enduring fame It led him to Ed Christy and the Christy Minstrels, who bought and introduced many of his songs So ingenuous was Stephen in business matters, so unambitious, that he agreed to let Christy take credit for authorship of *Swanee River* and other songs, for which the famed blackface entertainer paid him a paltry $15 He later amended this foolish arrangement, meanwhile earning several thousand dollars in royalties through his contract with a New York publishing house

Solvent enough now to brave a proposal of marriage, Stephen asked for the hand of Jane McDowell, a beautiful antithesis of her husband and unreceptive to his way of life and his choice of a musical career When their daughter was born, they left Pittsburgh for New York, where he provided for his family well enough at first During this period he wrote *Old Dog Tray* (inspired by his own setter) and some of his most heartfelt Negro compositions *Massa s in de Cold, Cold Ground* (1852), *My Old Kentucky Home* (1853), and *Old Black Joe* (1860) (based on an old family retainer he met when courting Jane) But twice his wife left him, and he became more and more dissatisfied with himself

In 1861 he was alone and ill in New York The members of his family were dead or scattered With his mother s death he had lost his sustainer and his refuge, the home in Pittsburgh where he fled when he was homesick His popularity had crested and ebbed, and he had been defrauded of most of his royalties Destitute, he drank too much and ate too little A fainting spell in his wretched room on the Bowery proved fatal, and he died a pauper in Bellevue Hospital

Stephen Foster's last work was *Beautiful Dreamer*, a title that epitomises his character In the world to which he escaped in his fancies, he composed simple, unpretentious songs with a sincerity and feeling that touched and continued to touch the hearts of people the world over.

CBS

11th Question: **Why did Henry Ford call his famous car the "Model T"? (Raja Biswas, Green View (IIME), 119 Southern Avenue, Calcutta 700 029)**
Ans: **He had two earlier models called "Model R" and "Model S".**

QUESTIONS

1. Which city is the "Motor Capital of the World"? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3)
2. How did the name "Holi" originate? (Nirmalya Kr Sarkar, Asansol 1)
3. Which famous music composer's last words were "I will hear in heaven"? (Zeenat Afrin, Calcutta 16)
4. Who is the only Indian bowler to have taken five wickets in an innings twice in limited-overs internationals? (P. Surendra, BIT Sindri)
5. What is common to: Jill Esmond, Vivien Leigh and Joan Plowright? (Sheikh Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
6. Name the film in which the late Hemant Kumar made his debut in Hindi films as a playback singer. (Jaydeep Guha Thakurta, Calcutta 7)
7. Which award is regarded as the Nobel Prize for mathematics? (Surjit Barpanda, Bolangir 45)
8. Name the Nobel Prize winning Japanese author who committed suicide (Birendra Kumar Guru, Sambalpur 4)
9. The film *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* was based on whose novel? (Bibhudatta Choudhury, Cuttack)
10. Who is a never-wuzzer in the USA? (Othello Mazoomdar, Calcutta 61)

ANSWERS

success—Q.8)
oeads. (He never was a
18. One who never suc-
9. Gary K. Wolf
(Nobel Prize in 1968)
8. Yasunare Kawabata
under 40 years of age.
ion to mathematicians
national mathematical un-
given every year by inter-
Caspian mathematician,
John Charles Field and
endowed to years ago by
6. Nawakmari (1951).
Queen.
5. They all were married at
some time to Sir Laurence
Olivier.
4. Vijaymanjrekari Srik-
kanth—Q.3)
3. Beethoven. (He was
married, who went with
him into the fire and was
burnt to ashes while
trying to rescue her.)
2. Holika, the aunt of
Prahlad, who went with
him into the fire and was

A DIFFERENT WORLD

Strange sea creatures inhabit the Monterey Bay

They turned off their lights at about 2,900 feet and the ocean became a sparkling firefly world. "Sunlight doesn't go any deeper than this," remarked a scientist aboard the deep-diving submersible *Alvin*.

"But we do," says Rick Gore in the *National Geographic*. "In fact, we are making a luminous blue tunnel as we plunge through bioluminescent bacteria along our path."

The creatures in the water glow "to improve their odds of being eaten," the scientist explained. "Being ingested doesn't faze a bacterium."

Tiny animals eagerly offering themselves as food are but one of the strange phenomena Gore discovered while researching his story about California's Monterey Bay, site of the largest submarine chasm along the continental United States and arguably the richest ecosystem on the West Coast.

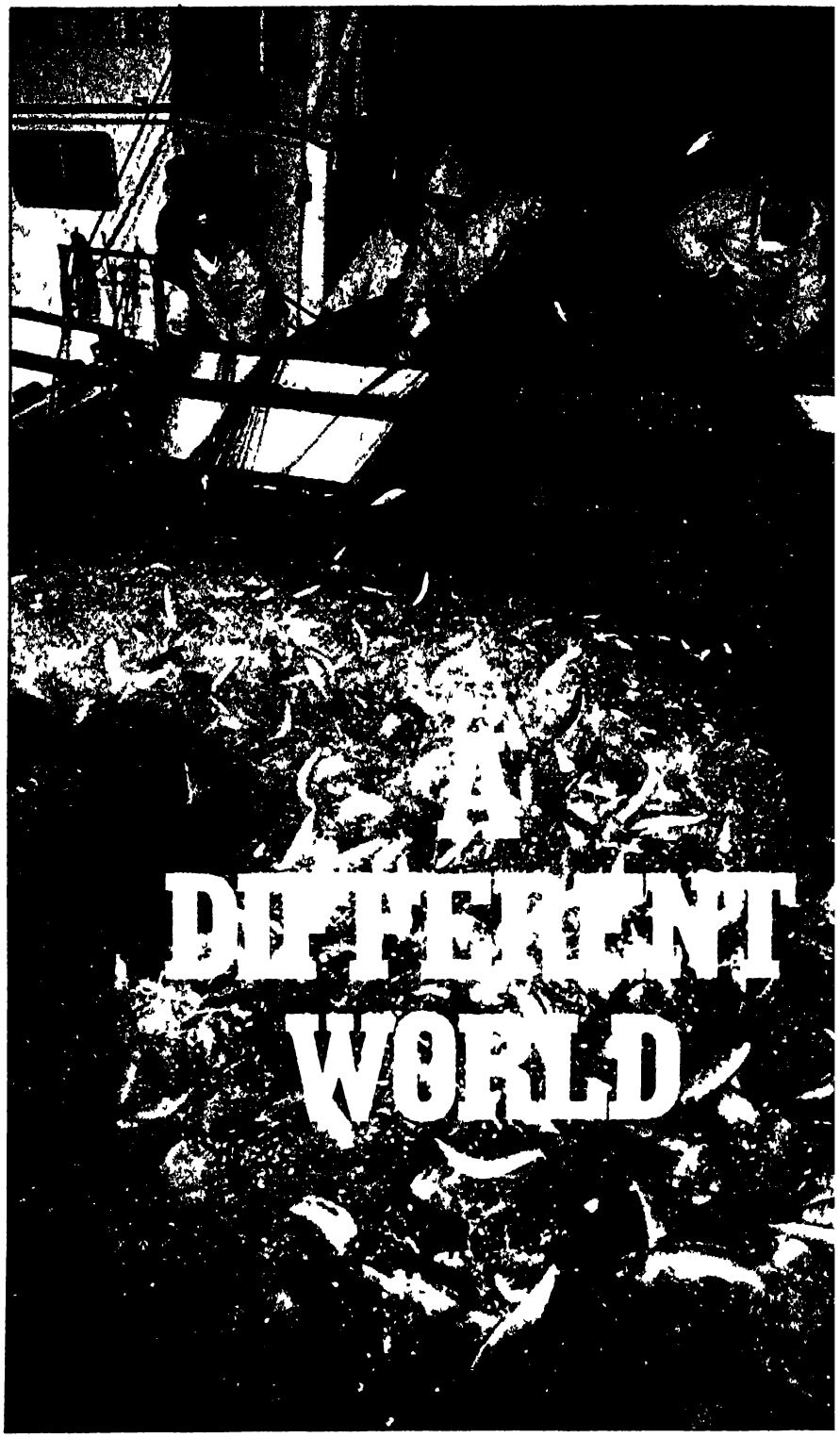
Monterey Bay is a "poem of the sea," Gore says, "a complex dream with internal rhythms that confound and astonish."

Cruising a canyon wall with lights on again, the small three-person craft passed brilliant red medusae. Lobate ctenophores, some of which look like pulsating pieces of Steuben glass, became prisms in the glare "How odd that life in these lightless depths is so often colourful," says Gore.

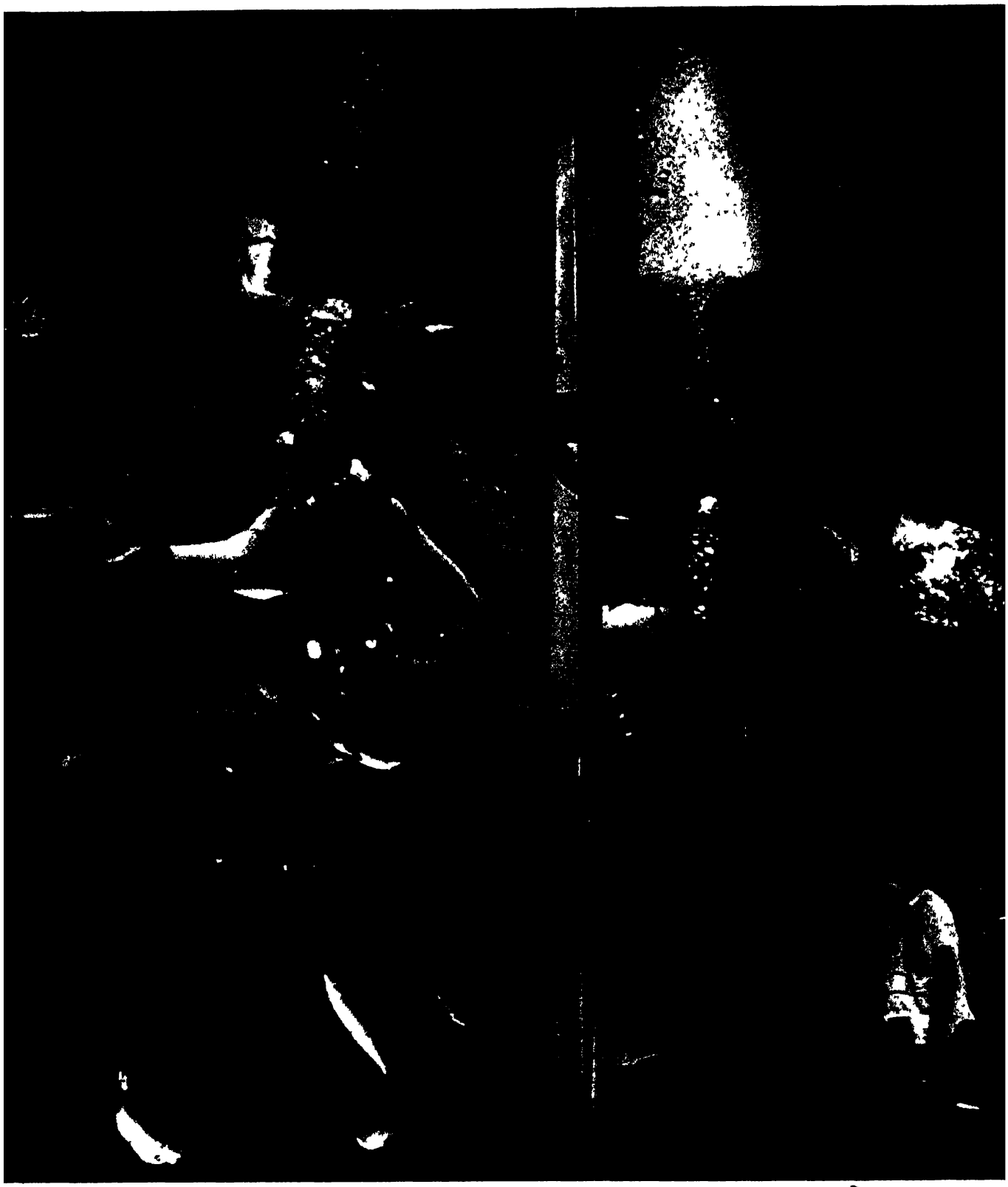
Colourful and odd, some anglerfish males in the bay are much smaller than the females they must fertilise. Once one locates a mate, he bites into her. Their bodies fuse, and the male degenerates into nothing but gonads and a surrounding lump of tissue—a permanent, portable sperm supply.

Another surprising life form found in the bay is the larvacean, an animal no longer than a finger that spins around itself a fragile web of mucus sometimes as large as a person. The creatures circulate water within that mucous shell. Like fine nets, feeding filters trap detritus. When the animal dies or leaves home, its house falls apart, creating a snow of sinking mucus. Besides carrying food to bottom-dwellers, larvaceans may provide a vital service to all life on the planet, some scientists now believe.

Researchers who study the flow of carbon through the biosphere have been puzzled. They cannot find all the excess



A squirming bounty of Monterey Bay sardines comes aboard under the supervision of Capt. Vito Ferrante (left). Although Ferrante may strike 60 tons on a good night, the bay holds a fraction of its original abundance. The fishery collapsed in the late 1940s, largely from overfishing



On the dry side of a 7-inch-thick acrylic window spectators watch Monterey Bay Aquarium diver-guide Jackie Petro feed fish in the 31-foot-deep kelp exhibit. Open to the sky for the light-loving algae, the tank includes a giant piston that creates the surge kelp need to draw nutrients from the water



carbon dioxide their calculations say humans, by burning fossil fuels, are pumping into the atmosphere. Even though carbon dioxide levels are rising ominously, some process seems to be moderating the buildup.

One way nature removes carbon dioxide is through photosynthesis in the oceans. Plankton turn dissolved carbon dioxide into organic matter, which may later be eaten by animals. The animals then return to the atmosphere, through their own respiration, much of the carbon the plankton removed. Organic matter also falls on the seafloor, where it is either buried or eaten by creatures that are unlikely to take it back near the surface.

"Now *Alvin* is showing us that larvacean houses carry down more organic matter than suspected," says Gore. "Because larvaceans may inhabit much of the midwater of the oceans, these unsung bags of mucus would be playing a significant role in helping the biosphere keep carbon dioxide under control."

Much of the life found in the bay waters is on display in the Monterey Bay Aquarium, which opened in 1984 with an investment of about $55 million from one of the bay's most influential figures, David Packard of the Hewlett Packard electronics company. Housed in structures mimicking the site's former cannery buildings made famous by John Steinbeck's 1945 novel *Cannery Row*, the aquarium had 1.7 million visitors in 1989.

Packard himself promoted dynamic displays. At the Rocky Shore exhibit a crowd stands behind a window studying a peaceful rock face adorned with sea anemones and limpets. Without warning, a foaming wave blasts through a hole in the rock, bringing startled squeals from spectators. Seconds later, just as along the surf-battered Monterey coastline, peace returns.

The aquarium staff invented a surge machine, which gives life to the aquarium's most popular exhibit. It represents one of the bay's most striking natural wonders, the Kelp Forest. A huge aquamarine tank more than 30 feet deep swirls with fish and sways with the golden stalks of the world's grandest seaweed. It re-creates the underwater spectacle that draws hundreds of divers to Monterey on weekends.

"As you enter the aquarium the cathedral aura of the Kelp Forest, with sunlight streaming down from above, turns your head and pulls you over, bidding you to slow down and meditate on the majesty that lies hidden just offshore," Gore says.

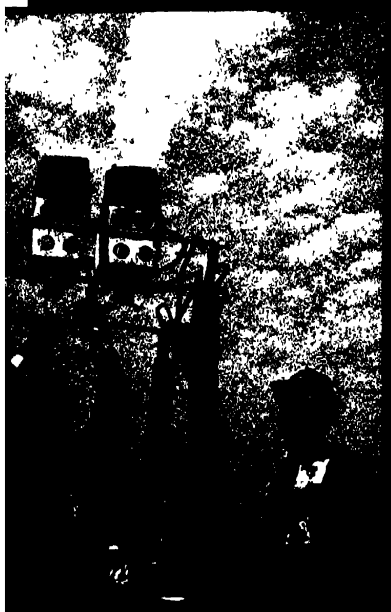
"We are all working on the same question," one aquarium researcher told Gore. "How does Monterey Bay work?" *(National Geographic News Service)*

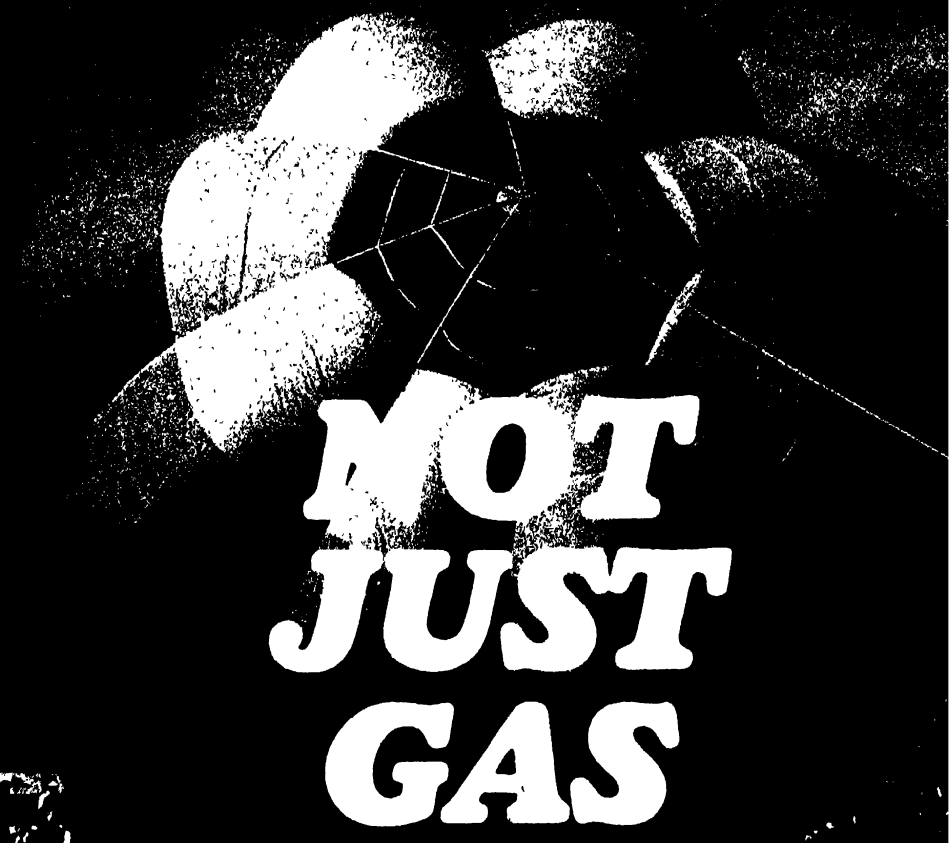


The crescent shape of Monterey Bay sweeps 40 miles of coastline, clockwise from Santa Cruz (at top), past farmland famed for artichokes, to the north shore of the jutting Monterey Peninsula, holding Monterey and Pacific Grove. Seen as clouds from 12,500 feet, fog is a near-daily spring-to-fall phenomenon



Viswabandhu Gupta, MP and secretary of the Ballooning b of India, checking the burners

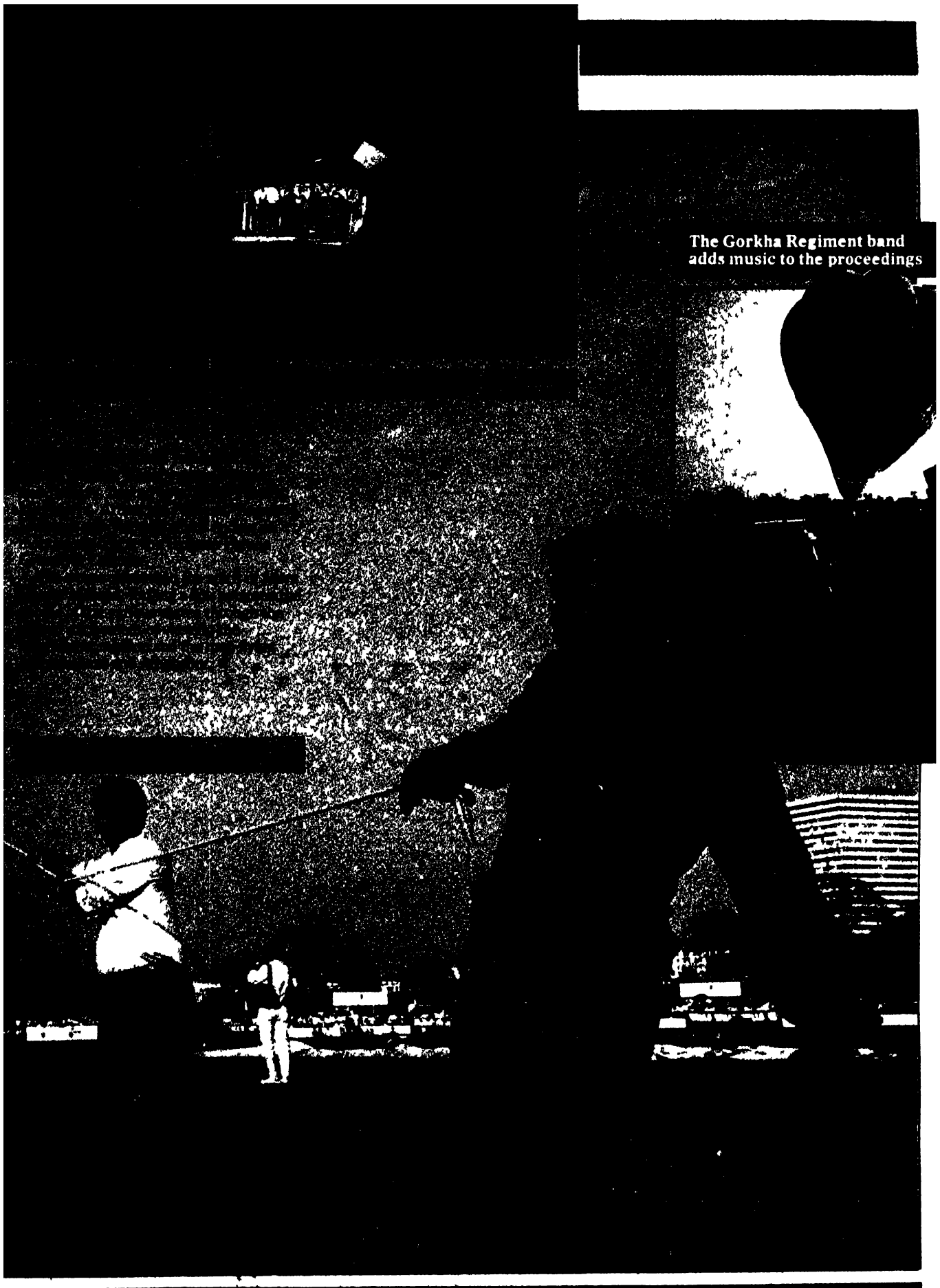




NOT JUST GAS

Noshir Desai shows that the ballooning expedition was a great mission—and loads of fun, too





The Gorkha Regiment band adds music to the proceedings

The Castle on the Hill

Minutes before I crossed over the [illegible] had spotted the temples appearing like two warty growths on the high knoll to the east of the picturesque village of Amb Sharif that clings to the steep and verdant sides of the mountains of the Salt Range.

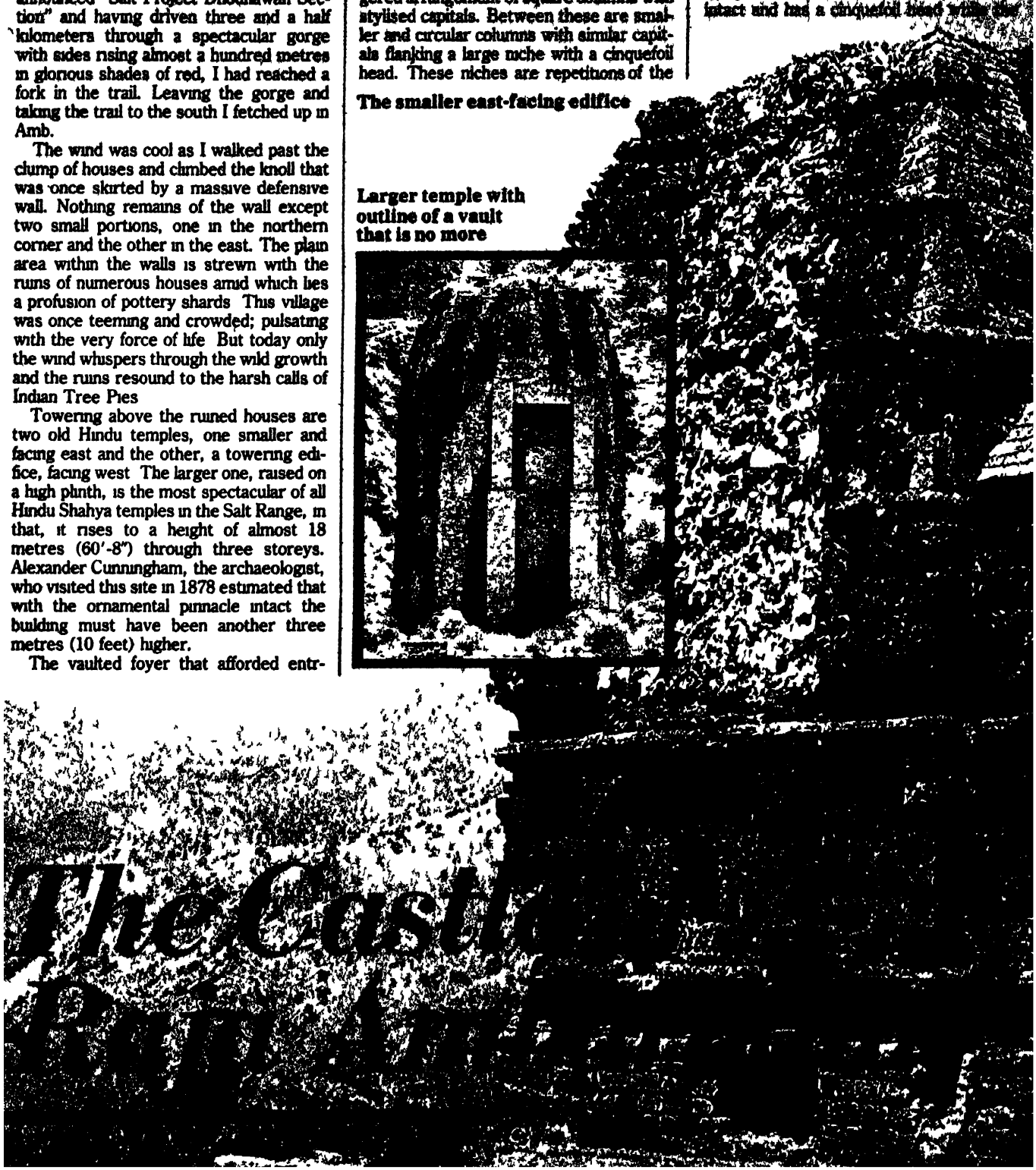
Sixteen kilometers from Quaidabad on the road to Sakesar I had turned into the bed of the Dhodha Nala at a sign that announced "Salt Project Dhodhawan Section" and having driven three and a half kilometers through a spectacular gorge with sides rising almost a hundred metres in glorious shades of red, I had reached a fork in the trail. Leaving the gorge and taking the trail to the south I fetched up in Amb.

The wind was cool as I walked past the clump of houses and climbed the knoll that was once skirted by a massive defensive wall. Nothing remains of the wall except two small portions, one in the northern corner and the other in the east. The plain area within the walls is strewn with the ruins of numerous houses amid which lies a profusion of pottery shards This village was once teeming and crowded; pulsating with the very force of life But today only the wind whispers through the wild growth and the ruins resound to the harsh calls of Indian Tree Pies

Towering above the ruined houses are two old Hindu temples, one smaller and facing east and the other, a towering edifice, facing west The larger one, raised on a high plinth, is the most spectacular of all Hindu Shahya temples in the Salt Range, in that, it rises to a height of almost 18 metres (60'-8") through three storeys. Alexander Cunningham, the archaeologist, who visited this site in 1878 estimated that with the ornamental pinnacle intact the building must have been another three metres (10 feet) higher.

The vaulted foyer that afforded entr- [illegible] point to an entrance. The [illegible] covered by two massive [illegible] raised to prevent further [illegible] that give the building a deceptive Romanesque appearance. The remaining three facades are extensively adorned in the style of other Salt Range temples.

Just above the plinth there is a staggered arrangement of square columns with stylised capitals. Between these are smaller and circular columns with similar capitals flanking a large niche with a cinquefoil head. These niches are repetitions of the [illegible] The smaller temple is in [illegible] preservation. Its vaulted foyer is [illegible] intact and has a cinquefoil head [illegible]



The smaller east-facing edifice

Larger temple with outline of a vault that is no more



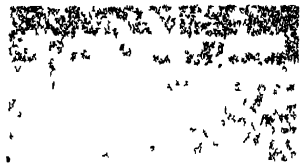
The two temples at Amb

Salman Rashid continues his series on the Hindu temples of Pakistan's Salt Range mountains with a visit to Amb Sharif

[illegible] of the [illegible] temple, Cunningham was told, had been sent to the Deputy Commissioner at Leiah. Subsequent inquiry, however, failed to trace the slab but Cunningham was informed that a pundit had deciphered the inscription as saying that the temples and the city were founded by and named after Raja Ambarikha in the first century AD. The dating, unfortunately for the pundit, is incorrect, judging from the cinquefoil as against the earlier trefoil heads [illegible] date of the erection is from the beginning of the ninth century to the middle of the 10th century AD.

Cunningham writes that Ambarikha, the son of Mandhatari and the brother of Purukutsa was an early Solar or Suryabansi hero, while James Tod (*Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan*) lists Ambarisha 40th in the line of Solar princes. Both these chronologies would place Ambarisha or Ambarikha some 15 centuries before the Christian era or about 2400 years anterior to the building of these temples. The surmise, therefore, that Amb carries the name of a Rajput prince of the distant past who built its temples can safely be rejected.

Ambarisha or Ambarikha or whosoever may have built these magnificent monuments and presided over the now dead city is all but forgotten, and to the locals the ruins are simply Mahal—the Palace. To them they are worthless vestiges of our dark and un-Islamic past; vestiges that do not deserve our pride, much less our concern for care and preservation. What they do not realise is that these forgotten edifices are the most priceless architectural treasures of Pakistan. ■



REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 551133) Krishna (T C Dutta Street 250437) Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue 390762) Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road 363264) Madhuban (Regent Park)

Directed by Mukul S Anand the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi Neelam Danny Goga Kapoor Archana Puran Singh Aloknath Rohini Hattangady and Tinu Anand The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917) 4 shows

Directed by Aziz Sajawal and with music by Nadeem Shravan the film stars Jackie Shroff Farha Aditya Pancholi Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan

• **Majboor:** Lotus (S N Banerjee Road 242664) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road, 474403), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street, 554033)

A film by T Rama Rao whose principal attractions are Jeetendra Sunny Deol Jaya Prada, Farha, Pran, Asrani, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383), Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270) Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956)

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Raam Laxman



Bagha Mitra, Pradip Ghosh and Pallabi in *Kalanka*

Neelam and Mithun Chakraborty in *Agneepath*

• **Souten Ki Beti:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138)—4 shows.

Jeetendra, Rekha and Jaya Prada are the chief attractions The film is directed by Saawan Kumar and the music is by Vedpaal

Bengali Films

• **Bhagyalipi;** Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—3 shows

Sujit Kumar's first Bengali film which stars Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy Uttam Mohanty, Aparajita, Aruna Irani, Paintal and the director himself The music is by Sumitra Lahiri

• **Byabodhan:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561) Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 474686)—1, 4, 7

Directed by Dilip Mukherjee and with music by Ajoy Das the film stars Victor Banerjee, Moon Moon Sen, Indrani Dutta, Kali Banerjee Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury and Tapas Paul

• **Hirak Jayanti:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561)—1 30 4 15, 7

Ranjit Mullick, Chumki Choudhury, Joy Banerjee, Dilip Roy, Kali Banerjee and Sumitra Mukherjee star in this Anjan Choudhury film whose music is by Goutam Basu

• **Kalanka:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani 558080), Purna (S P Mukherjee Road 474567), Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road, 355059)—3 shows

Directed by Shanti Ranjan Ghosh Dastidar and with music by Neeta Sen, the cast includes Satabdi Roy, Subhendu Chatterjee, Pradip Ghosh, Soma Dey, Gita Dey and debutante Pallabi

• **Mandanda:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani, 553045)—2 30, 5 30, 8 15, Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 271282)—2, 5, 7 45

Alok Nath, Benjamin, Subhendu Chatterjee, Biplab Chatterjee, and newcomer Urmi star in this film, directed by Pinaki Choudhury and with music by Swapan Chakraborty

• **Ekaki (A):** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080), Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road; 355059)—3 shows.

Moon Moon Sen, Ayan Banerjee, Dilip Roy and Sumitra Mukherjee are the main attractions of this film, directed by Panna Hossain. The music is by Shyamal Mitra.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Pyar Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Lotus (S. N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Gem (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440).

Directed by K. Bapaiah and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Dharmendra, Mithun Chakraborty, Meenakshi Seshadri, Neelam, Sonam, Kader Khan, Shakti Kapoor and Asrani.

• **Deewar:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—4 shows.

A re-release of this Yash Chopra hit, starring Amitabh Bachchan, Shashi Kapoor, Parveen Babi, Neetu Singh and Nirupa Roy. The music is by R.D. Burman.

Special Events

4—10 March: 3 pm to 8 pm

Chitrakoot Art Gallery presents an exhibition of oils, watercolours and graphics by Akkitham Narayanan.

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Gariahat Road; 755314).

4 March onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm (except Monday)

A week-long exhibition of paintings by French artist Czegledi Rozalia.

At Galerie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

4—6 March

Barun Modak will hold an exhibition of paintings in the West Gallery.

• Proscenium will hold an exhibition of photographs in the North Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

4, 6 and 7 March: 6.30 pm

Indian Council for Cultural Relations presents the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre of Byelorussia (USSR) in the full-length ballet rpertoire, *Halt of Cavalry* and *Carmen Suite* on the 4th, and *Spartacus* on the 6th and 7th.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910, Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6). AI-309 at 1915, Dep. (6) AI-309 at 2015

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7). AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4). SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830

Belgrade-Calcutta-Beijing: Arr. (1): JU-492 at 0955; Dep. (1): JU-492 at 1055.

Beijing-Calcutta-Belgrade: Arr. (1): JU-493 at 2325; Dep. (2): JU-493 at 0025.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2) SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6) IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6): IC-844 at 1115, Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1740, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 2055, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): IC-223 at 1640, BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730, Dep. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1900; Arr. (daily): IC-224 at 1840, BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (1, 4, 5, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1745.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1030, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1250, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340., Arr (7): AI-1122 at 0330

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700, IC-763 at 1340 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1205, IC-764 at 1835 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-176 at 0845 and IC-273 at 1915; Arr. (daily): IC-175 at 0755 and IC-274 at 1825.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-765 at 1640; Arr. (daily): IC-766 at 2140.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (daily): IC-771 at 0705; Arr. (daily): IC-772 at 1240.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Jaipur: Dep. (3, 5): IC-215 at 1610; Arr. (3, 5): IC-216 at 2240.

Calcutta-Varanasi-Gorakhpur-Calcutta: Dep. (4, 6): IC-281 at 1700; Arr. (4, 6): IC-281 at 2030.

Calcutta-Ranchi: Dep. (daily): IC-205 at 1330; Arr. (daily): IC-206 at 1530.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow: Dep. (1, 2, 5, 7): IC-235 at 1400; Arr. (1, 2, 5, 7): IC-236 at 1900.

Calcutta-Vishakhapatnam-Madras: Dep. (daily). IC-542 at 0555; Arr. (daily). IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-270 at 1930.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6) IC-270 at 1950.

Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow-Ahmedabad-Bombay: Dep. (3, 6): IC-295 at 1400; Arr. (3, 6): IC-296 at 1855.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-257 at 0620; Arr. (daily): IC-258 at 0920.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-237 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-238 at 1030.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Silchar: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-743 at 1300 and IC-741 at 0945, Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-243 at 0610; Arr. (daily): IC-744 at 1520 and IC-742 at 1205, Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): IC-244 at 1030.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1130; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1640.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1130; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-213 at 1620.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (daily): IC-201 at 1025; Arr. (daily): IC-202 at 1245.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (daily): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (daily): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320 and IC-703 at 0605; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610 and IC-704 at 0855.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 060(Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

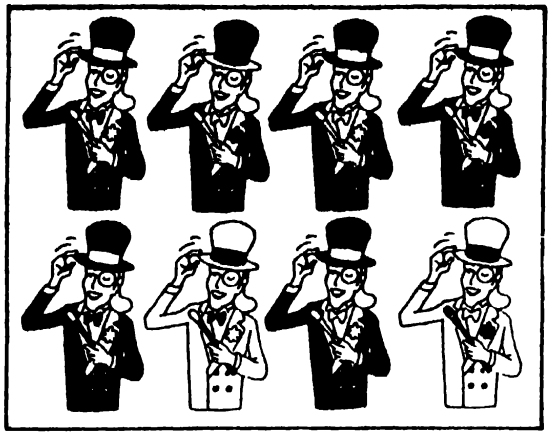
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp.** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	8-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Saral Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep &Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



FIND TWINS! Two of the fancily dressed gents above look enough alike to be twins. Which two is for you to decide

• • PIPE THAT! A certain device found on a wall in modern homes goes up when it goes down and down when it goes up What's that?

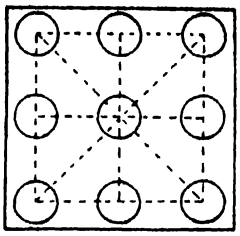
A thermostat



TAKE A SWIPE AT LETTERS!
Solve this verse-riddle letter by letter from stated clues, if you can. The answer is a five-letter word.
My first is in chase, but not in flee.
My second's in sight, but not in see.
My third is in take, but not in grab.
My fourth's in closer, and also in nab.
My fifth is in file, but not in saw.
To do my all, is against the law.
What word am I?

Remember, each line of this verse provides a clue to one letter of the word in question.

The word is 'steal'



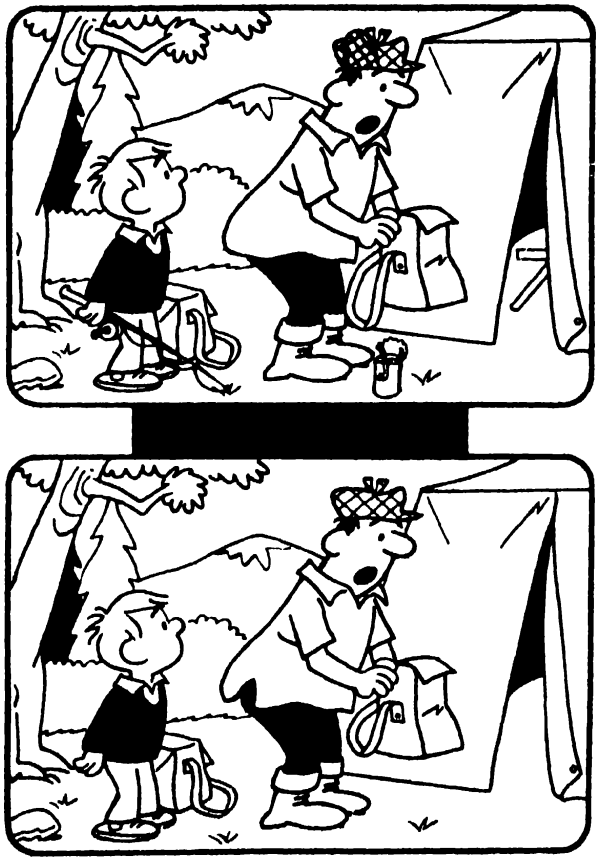
• **STICK SHIFT!** You can have some fun sticking friends with this coin trick. Arrange nine same-size coins symmetrically, as shown below, forming eight rows of three coins (across, down and diagonally).

Challenge: Move two of these coins to form ten three-coin rows.

How can this be done?

One way Move outer coins of middle row adjacent to coin at centre

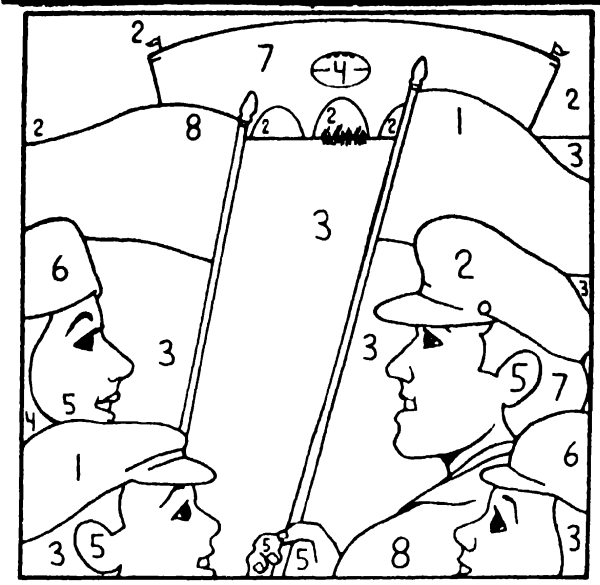
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Fishing pole is missing 2 Shirt is different 3 Cap tape are missing 4 Strap is shorter 5 Can is missing 6 Cot is missing

FUNSPOT



FAN FARE! Apply colors neatly to numbered segments of the stadium scene Code 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk blue

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

PAMPHLET

- - - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible anagram Help lamp

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Finishing touches and wrap up of pending work and projects are the week s main trends Someone who owes you money may employ smooth liaison tactics Romance will be uneventful It is not the best time to launch joint ventures and partnerships Journey of others may create burden for you

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

The week signifies good setting, eliminating the non-essentials and identifying your target Steady and pleasant relationship in romance is assured Tighten your purse strings especially on the corporate or project sector In order to achieve your goal some austerity measures will be necessary Be prepared to undertake a journey

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Communications, signing of documents and security considerations are the main trends of the week Some expenses will be there in order to assume the security of a recently-acquired property A marriage proposal or an engagement for the eligible is signified Also, re-marriage prospects on the increase Medical expenses for spouse or relatives are indicated. Your health remains fine, but take care of the health of some near and dear ones

CANCER

June 21—July 20

A home away from home, travel, problems, resolutions and reunions are the week s main features A tight lip will improve chances of resolving a nagging problem Speak only the essentials and do not allow others to control the agenda Romance will be uneventful Your financial position shows all round improvement Problems like ulcer, eye strain and nagging cough may prove annoying The time is right to undertake a journey

LEO

July 21—August 21

Recuperation cutting your losses, regaining lost ground, job hop and the right steps to repair your damages are the salient features of the week A dicey situation created by a meddling relative will



result in much tension Finances do improve shortly An emotional mood will see you through

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The week s main trends are marriage, collaborations and journeys A lucrative collaboration trading and selling and success add up to a rosy financial outlook Minor illness of a chronic nature but nothing serious are your health prospects Take care of eye injunes For the time being avoid any shift or transfer

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

A fat pay packet, buying and selling of property, research and studies are the main features of the week Your knack for leaving jobs may tempt you to take up a new trend either for pleasure or profit Look before you leap Familiarise yourself as much as possible Chances of marriage and to meet the right people improve A mixed bag as far as finance is concerned

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Children, marriage, housing, loans and funds are the highlights of the week Contracts and assignments will come through You will be healthy as a horse Short trips at a hectic pace will be tiring but fruitful A sick pet requires special care Expenses on household goods are likely

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Property deals and business expansions are the week s main features Romance will be uneventful On the financial front, the atmosphere of the previous week continues No real ups and downs, just new cash keeps on circulating All sorts of journeys are indicated Expect a visitor or a relative to drop in

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Publicity, group activity completion of long-standing projects and success in _ competition are signified It is certainly a good time for marriage and engagements Old affairs, too, may suddenly rekindle happily Your financial position improves Allergies will be the major health problem

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

The love bug bites you You will have the Midas touch Romance will be pleasant A repair of a broken heart and happy reunions for separated lovers are likely Investments, fixed deposits, gambling debts and pay packets bulge nicely Your health will be perfect Much travel is indicated both for pleasure and business

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Explore the depths of your capability Problem resolution and decision making will keep you busy A double-edged opportunity for marriage, courtship and engagement put you in a quandry Only you can say whether the pros outweigh the cons Continue building or re-building resources However, tighten purse strings An old bone or joint ailment briefly flares up Ear aches are not ruled out

BIRTHDAYS

March 4

Wisdom, wealth, happiness and an excellent health are in store for you. Happy changes on the home front. Your brilliance, insight and intuition win the day. Travel is destined.

March 5

Moon conjuction Jupiter: Children give joy, hobbies a thrill, friendships great pleasure and creative pursuits tremendous satisfaction. Those in research, property, industry, designing and the arts do wonderfully well

March 6

Sun trines moon: If your individual horoscope is also powerful, this trine will give a rocket boost and thrust to practically all your activities. Journey, marriage, ceremony, property affairs, buying and selling are highlighted. Be generous and share your fortune.

March 7

Moon opposition Saturn: A difficult year in the sense that adjustments and compromises will have to be made. Home and work conditions could be unsettling and disturbing. Learn to be patient and persevering.

March 8

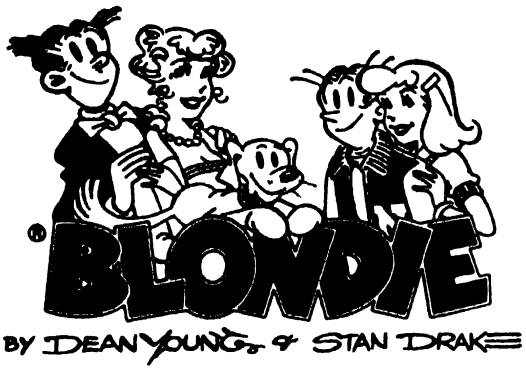
Sun trine Pluto. Architects, scientists, industrialists and those in defence and armaments get considerable leverage this year. Be authoritative but not tyrannical. Your prestige and status soar splendidly.

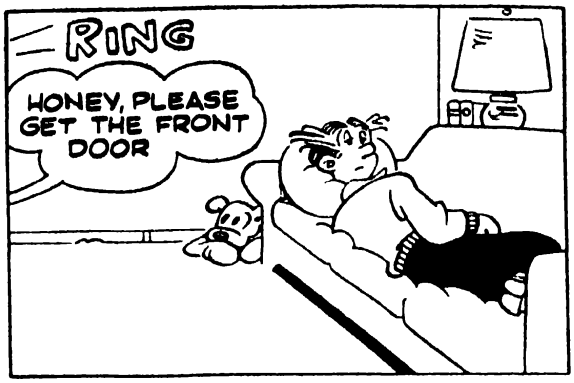
March 9

Mercury sextiles Uranus: Those in commission, sales, agency and brokerage will make it big. However, there is a possibility of deceit and betrayal. Those in travel and trade have everything going for them.

March 10

Moon sextile Jupiter: Teachers, writers, editors and artistes will be at their imaginative best. Now is the time to fan out to people and places. Marriage for the eligible, and collaborations, better sales and distribution for businessmen are predicted.

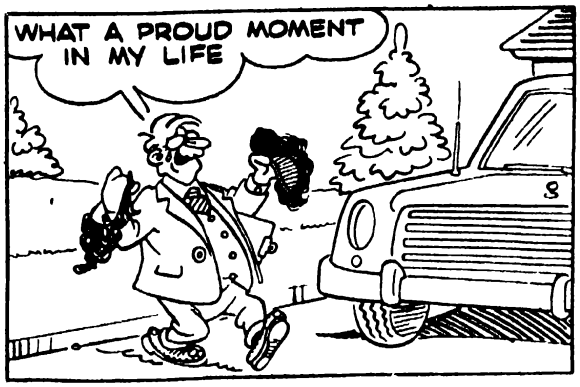


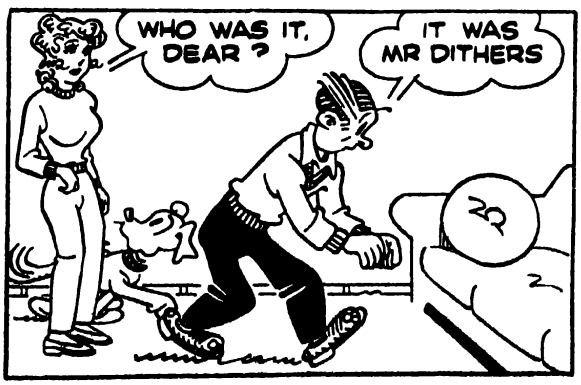




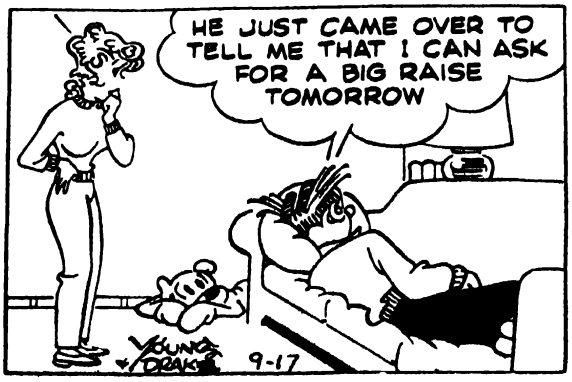




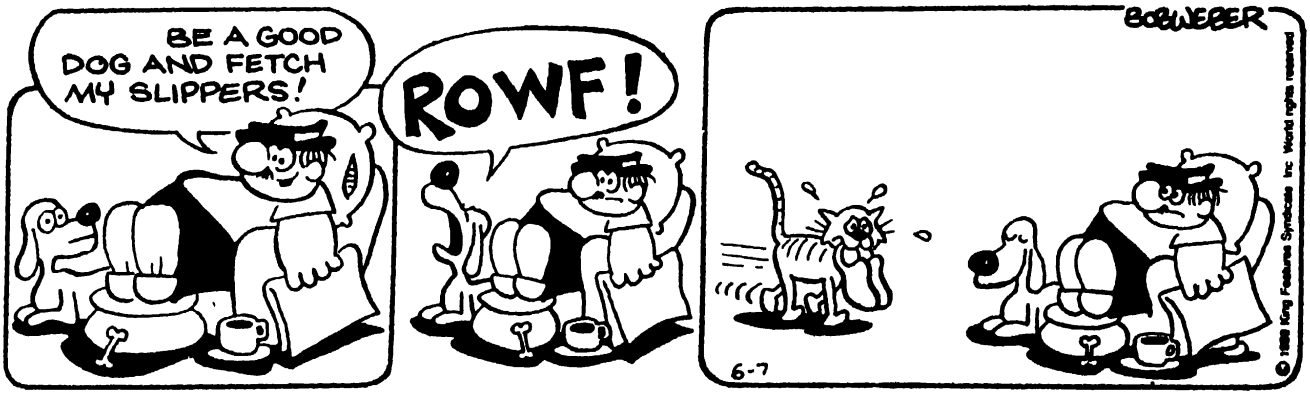


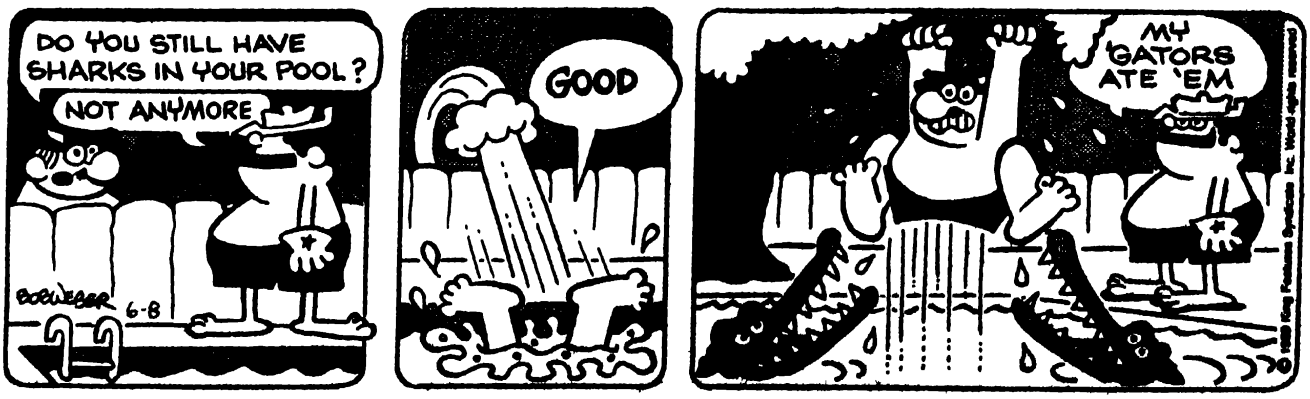


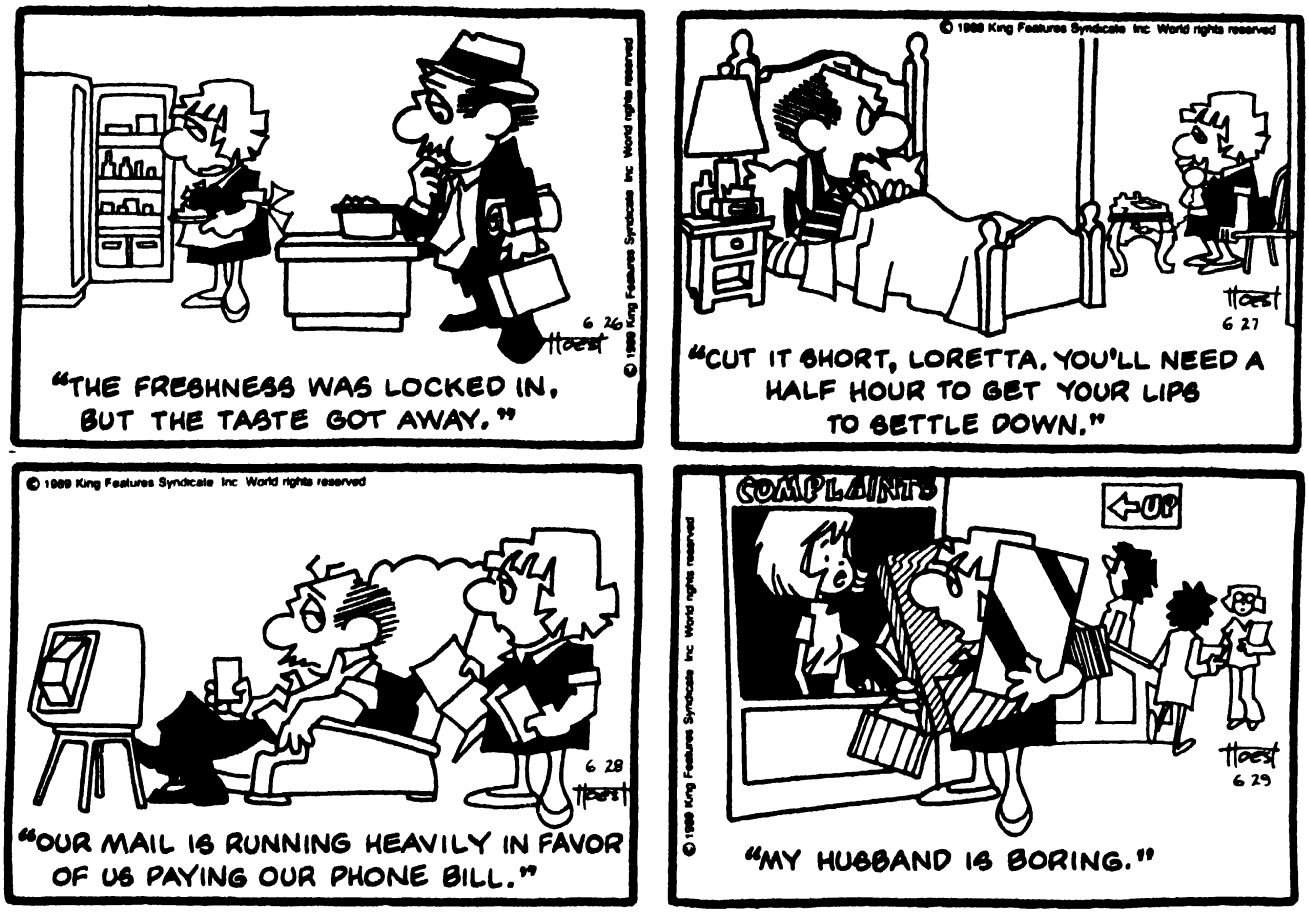
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Archie
LIBRARY
HMMM...
HELLO, SIR!
OH! HELLO, ARCHIE!
WHAT ARE YOU READING, MR WEATHERBEE?
A BOOK I BOUGHT ON HOW TO HANDLE STRESS!
LIBRARY
IS IT GOOD?
YES!
GEE.., I'LL BET IT'S TOUGH READING!
NOT REALLY!
WAS IT EXPENSIVE?
NO!
IS IT...
WILL YOU GO AWAY AND STOP BOTHERING ME!!
GRRRR...
SEEMS LIKE A WASTE OF MONEY TO ME!


BE A GOOD DOG AND FETCH MY SLIPPERS!
ROWF!
BOBWEBER
6-7
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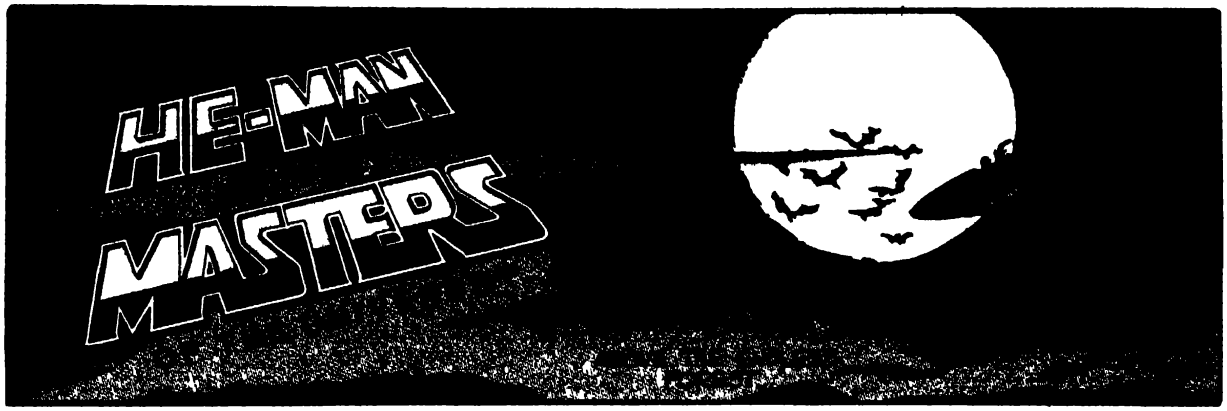

DO YOU STILL HAVE SHARKS IN YOUR POOL?
NOT ANYMORE
BOBWEBER 6-8
GOOD
MY 'GATORS ATE 'EM
© 1998 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved


"THE FRESHNESS WAS LOCKED IN, BUT THE TASTE GOT AWAY."
6 26
© 1989 King Features Syndicate Inc. World rights reserved
"CUT IT SHORT, LORETTA. YOU'LL NEED A HALF HOUR TO GET YOUR LIPS TO SETTLE DOWN."
6 27
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"OUR MAIL IS RUNNING HEAVILY IN FAVOR OF US PAYING OUR PHONE BILL."
6 28
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COMPLAINTS
"MY HUSBAND IS BORING."
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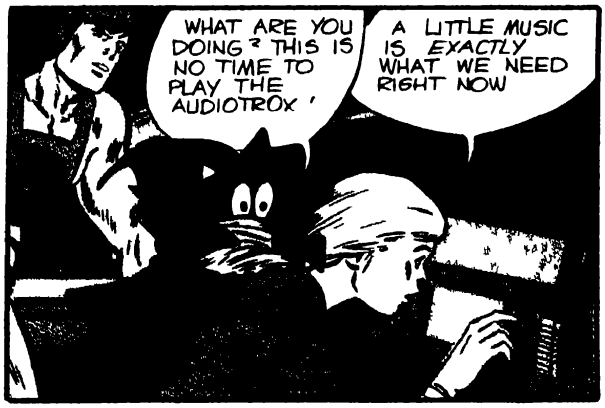

THE DOLPHINS PAID NO ATTENTION TO THE FOOD.
WHAT DO THEY WANT?
CAN DOLPHINS.. WANT ANYTHING?
WHISTLE.. CLICK. CLICK WHISTLE..
LISTEN TO ALL THOSE SOUNDS.. AS IF TRYING TO TALK TO US.
DOLPHINS .. TALK?
IF WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEIR LANGUAGE... MAYBE I CAN UNDERSTAND THEIR THOUGHTS.. WITH TELEPATHY.. I'LL TRY.
OH.. ISN'T THIS DANGEROUS?
COULD BE.. COULD BE..
10-22
CONT'D
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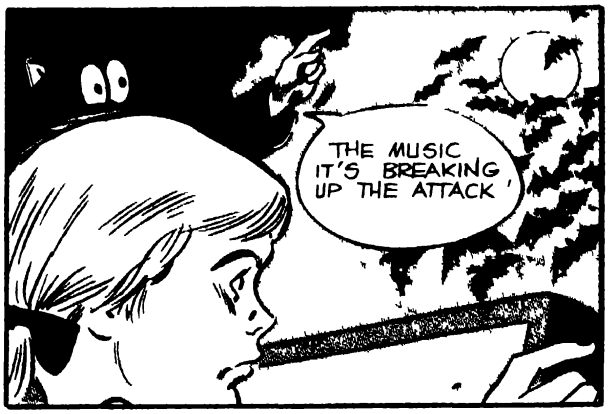

I'LL PROVE I'M NOT MEAN! WATCH THIS!
TWO BOTTLES OF BEST CHAMPAGNE, PLEASE!
I'M SORRY SIR, WE'VE NONE LEFT..
..WHY NOT TRY A BOTTLE OF BEER SIR? OH, WELL IF THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE..
WHAT A MAGNIFICENT NIGHT, PIERRE!
DO YOU KNOW THAT THOSE STARS RULE OUR DESTINY? IT'S ALL THERE, YOU KNOW!
I BET YOU'RE A CAPRICORN!
SMACK!
I KNEW IT! WARM HEARTED KIND.. YOU LIKE A GOOD JOKE
YOU CAN DEFINITELY TELL SOMEONE'S PERSONALITY BY THE STARS, PIERRE.
TAKE MY DORIS, FOR EXAMPLE...
PLEASE TAKE HER! HAR! HAR! HAR-DE-HAR!
DEAR ME! SNIFF! OUR STAR SIGNS ARE CERTAINLY COMPATIBLE- THE WAY WE LAUGH AND JOKE TOGETHER!
SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT I CAN READ THE FUTURE IN THE STARS?
OKAY! WHAT'S YOUR SIGN? IS IT CAPRICORN? ARE YOU A GOAT?
SMACK!
THERE YOU GO! I SAW THAT COMING!
HOW DID THE NIGHT-SHIFT WITH MAD PIERRE GO?
FINE.
WE HAD A FASCINATING CHAT ABOUT ASTROLOGY. I THINK HE'S A VIRGO.
DON'T BE SMUTTY, DENNIS.

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special







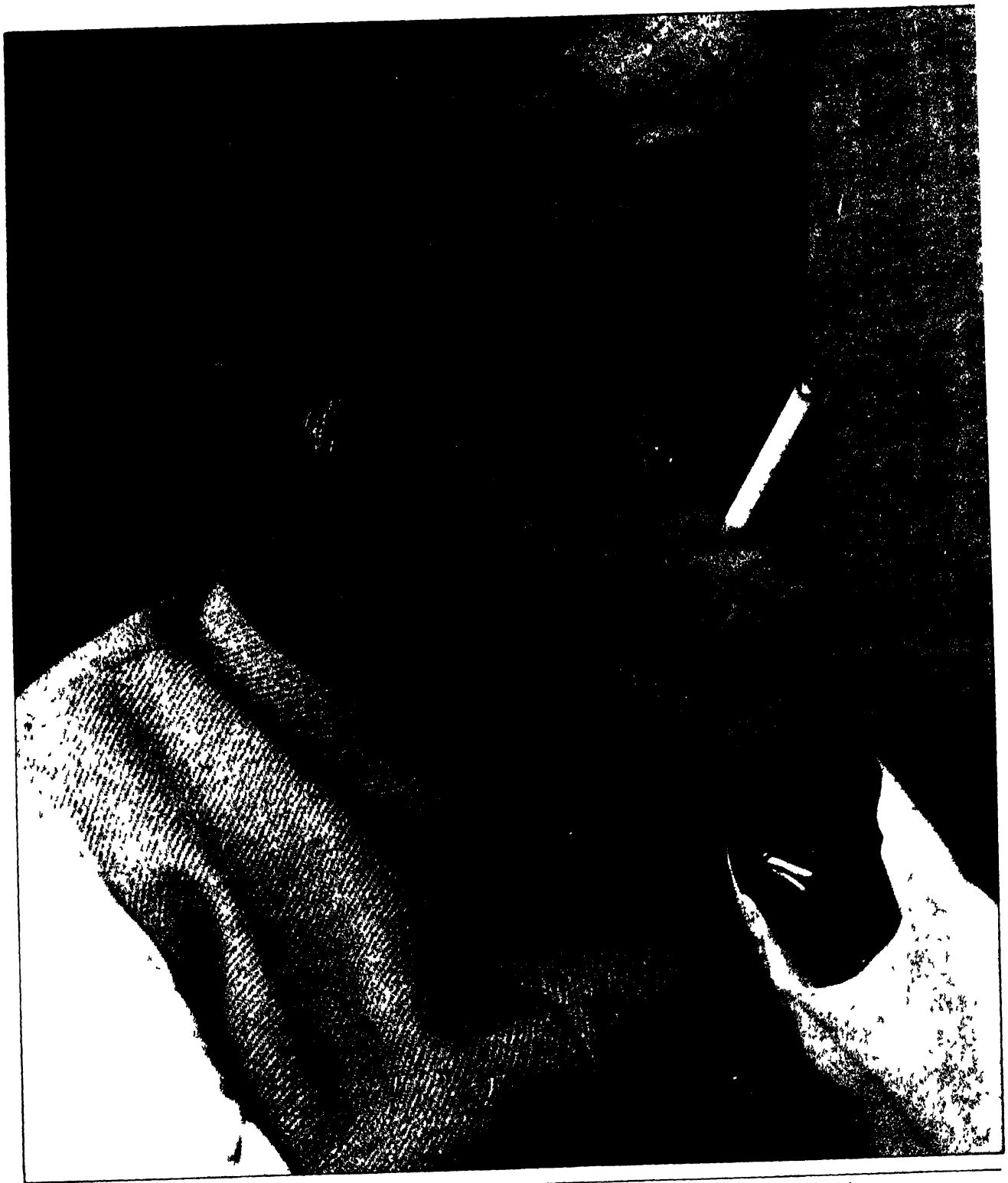








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If there is a hell on earth, it is in Kashmir right now. By closing his eyes to it, Union home minister **Mufti Mohammad Sayeed** can't wish away the fire. Photograph by KISHOR ROY CHOWDHURY



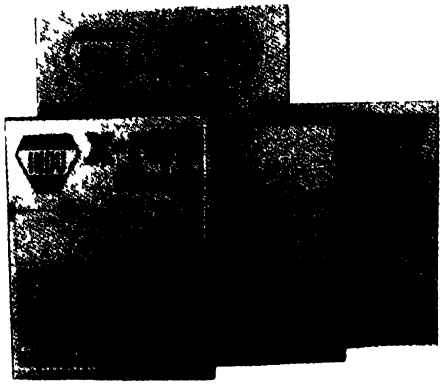
The Phantom is alive and well. Not in the eerie skull cave in Denkali But in the picturesque hill station of Udhagamandalam In a sophisticated test lab At Hindustan Photo Films

The Phantom as it s fondly called is an artificial skeleton that can emulate the bone and skin tissue functions of a human being HPF's INDU CTA and Polyester X-ray Films undergo various tests, at all stages, on the Phantom Just to make sure that all's well when it reaches you

Tests like this make HPF click Because today's technology may become obsolete by sun-down That's the impetus to research The need to develop the photofilm technology of tomorrow

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Just a few samples of homegrown technology from the Company that believes tomorrow may be too late



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Singh Songs

V.P. Singh is the shrewdest politician in Indian history ('The New Think Tank', January 21). He knows the real art of manipulating other people's expertise for the advancement of his own image.

Bradshaw,
Malda (W.B.)



Dharm Vir Jayaar

V.P. Singh: Fair or foul?

■ A lonely traveller, V.P. Singh does not have cronies around him as Rajiv Gandhi did. As Prime Minister, he sometimes compares with Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Let us see how long he can maintain the lost glory of truth and simplicity.

Harekrushna Mahanta,
Bokaro (Bihar)

Matter of Concern

I am glad the Colour Magazine published 'The Kidney Bazar' (January 7), a subject of considerable concern to all right thinking people in this country.

Since the article mentioned that kidney transplantation is done in two private nursing homes in the city, and we happen to be one of them, I feel obliged to express our stand on the matter.

Choosing a kidney donor is a serious matter and the process we follow is as follows:

1) A prospective renal donor must be a blood relative. Alternatively, the spouse or a close friend of the patient who might derive emotional satisfaction from saving a life may be considered.

2) All prospective donors are interviewed behind closed doors to ascertain and eliminate coercion of any kind.

3) Extensive investigations are carried out to make sure that a donor is in perfect health. A habitual blood donor will be ruled out in the very first examination itself even if he masquerades as a relative.

The practice of paid organ transplantation by some centres brings all transplant work into disrepute and hence must be discouraged. The media has a significant role to play by stimulating public awareness of kidney transplantation as a life saving treatment, with articles such as yours, rather than highlighting only the ulterior motive of a mere handful.

Dr V.V. Lakshminarayanan,
Woodlands Nursing Home,
Calcutta

Increasing Public Awareness

'Getting Away with Murder (And Sex)' (January 14) was very timely specially when more and more uncensored footage is being added to NRI films.

Police vigil can only check this temporarily. To end this, a complete change of attitude among the public is required. The censors do not allow an aesthetically shot lovemaking scene, but will allow vulgar, semi-nude scenes in films like *Jawani Ki Jalwe* and *Khuli Khidki*. It is high time that the censors, too, did something positive in this direction.

J. Sarkar,
Calcutta

Misguided

The stormy petrel of the communist movement in the seventies, Azizul Haque, remains a controversial character even today ('Distant Thunder', January 14). We look forward to more such political features in the Colour Magazine.

Raja Chatterjee,
Jalpaiguri

■ What inspired you to waste paper, time and energy on Azizul Haque just to make us understand that he is something of value? What is his sacrifice? What has he done for the people? Who has benefited by his and his gang's misdeeds?

He was a misguided, self-made demagogue responsible for leading astray a bunch of dreamy-eyed young men and for murdering many innocent people and thus inflicting misery on many. Yet, he wants to chant the gospel of Mao who is dead in his own country in every sense of the word.

Sarit Datta,
Calcutta

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The Telegraph
11 MARCH 1990



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SECTIONS

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SU... THE FITTEST?



Photographs C R Venkatesh

Large cages with simulated natural conditions. Here, the wasps are not captive; they build their nests inside the cages but can go out to forage for food, honey and water

For more than a 100 years it remained a paradox Something that confound ed even the great natural historian Charles Darwin Until interest was re vived in the subject in the 1960s and attempts were made to unravel the mys tery Inching closer towards what might be the final solution to the paradox is Dr Raghavendra Gadagkar of the Indian Insti tute of Science in Bangalore

The paradox was the presence of neu ters or sterile females in insect societies



Gadagkar and his custom-built wasp cage

For a while it seemed to Charles Darwin as if decades of hard work travels all over the world and painstaking research would all come to nought Darwin had met in the neuter insects the greatest challenge to his Theory of Natural Selection The law itself had exploded suddenly into public controversy and promised to revolutionise the face of science and yet there was this hitch

The presence of sterile females in insect societies left a question mark over Darwin's Theory of Natural Selection. After a decade of painstaking research, Raghavendra Gadagkar seems on the verge of solving the century-old paradox. SARITHA RAI met the Bangalore-based scientist

Darwin was quick to recognise the problem Said he in his classic treatise on evolution *The Origin of Species* pub lished in 1859 The neuters among in sects often differ widely in instinct and structure from both the males and fertile females and yet from being sterile they cannot propagate their own kind This special difficulty threatened to be fatal to his revolutionary theory itself—that orga nic beings multiply vary let the strongest live and the weakest die

A century after Darwin recognised the paradox in the late 1960s scientists in the West began to take a good look at the problem Pure mathematicians and natural historians examined the paradox to work out possible solutions That was when Dr Gadagkar stepped in 'Pure mathematics and natural history seemed to me two extreme ways of looking at it I took the via media'

Social insects, namely ants wasps termites and even the highly organised honeybees are distinguished as a group by several common traits Individuals of the same species cooperate in caring for the young and there is reproductive division of labour with sterile individuals working for fertile ones Overlapping generations contribute to colony labour and offspring assist parents during some period or an other in their lives

Darwin had examined the case of sterile or working ants in his book and had been struck by two overwhelming facts If fit ness were measured by the number of offspring, then by the Law of Natural Selection (survival of the fittest), the ster ile slaves should have disappeared from the face of the earth Again, working ants differed widely from the males and the fertile females in structure The shape of the thorax was not the same, they were wingless and, in some cases, eyeless, their instincts differed

With the working ant we have an insect differing greatly from its parents yet absolutely sterile Darwin pondered so that it could never have transmitted successively acquired modifications of structure and instinct to its progeny' He knew that the facts were well established but admitted thankfully that they did not completely annihilate his theory

Researchers did not pay explicit atten tion to the second part of Darwin s Para dox in the hope that a solution to the first part of the paradox would automatically extend to the second When Dr Gadagkar

took up the research, he discarded thoughts of studying honeybees and ants because they seemed already locked into the social system. "Ants have been highly eusocial for millions of years. If I were to find out the reasons now, they may not be the same reasons why they became eusocial so many years ago." Gadagkar thus, chose wasps which seemed to be on the threshold of the social system—some started off as solitary individuals and evolved into highly complicated colonies.

Ten years ago, when Dr Gadagkar first started his study of social wasps (*Genus ropilidia*), very little was known about them. "Darwin's own crude solution to the paradox was that the Law of Natural Selection extended to insect colonies by being the survival of the fittest colony and not necessarily the survival of the fittest individual. But this was hardly convincing."

The tiny 'paper wasps' are a fairly common Indian species. These insects derive their name from the fact that their nests are made not from wax but from fibres scraped from twigs and leaves, chewed with their secretions and converted into pulp. If one were to chart out the course of evolution, these wasps had certainly learnt to make paper much before mankind discovered the method. The nests of these wasps consist of small hexagonal structures suspended from trees. Eggs are laid in cells, hatch into larvae and these are fed by adult slaves. The insects are entirely carnivorous, their food mainly consisting of spiders and other

The larvae hatch into pupae which produce silk and close the cell in which they undergo transformation. A new colony of wasps could be built from a single solitary female wasp or a group of females. Males do no work for the colony, they only mate and die. As such they are not an integral part of the social organisation. What caused problems for researchers was the peculiar fact that among social wasps, fertile females can produce offspring without mating. The unfertilised eggs grew up into male wasps and the fertilised into females. Even after a fertile female mated, she could store the sperms in her body and fertilise chosen eggs to produce sons and daughters by choice.

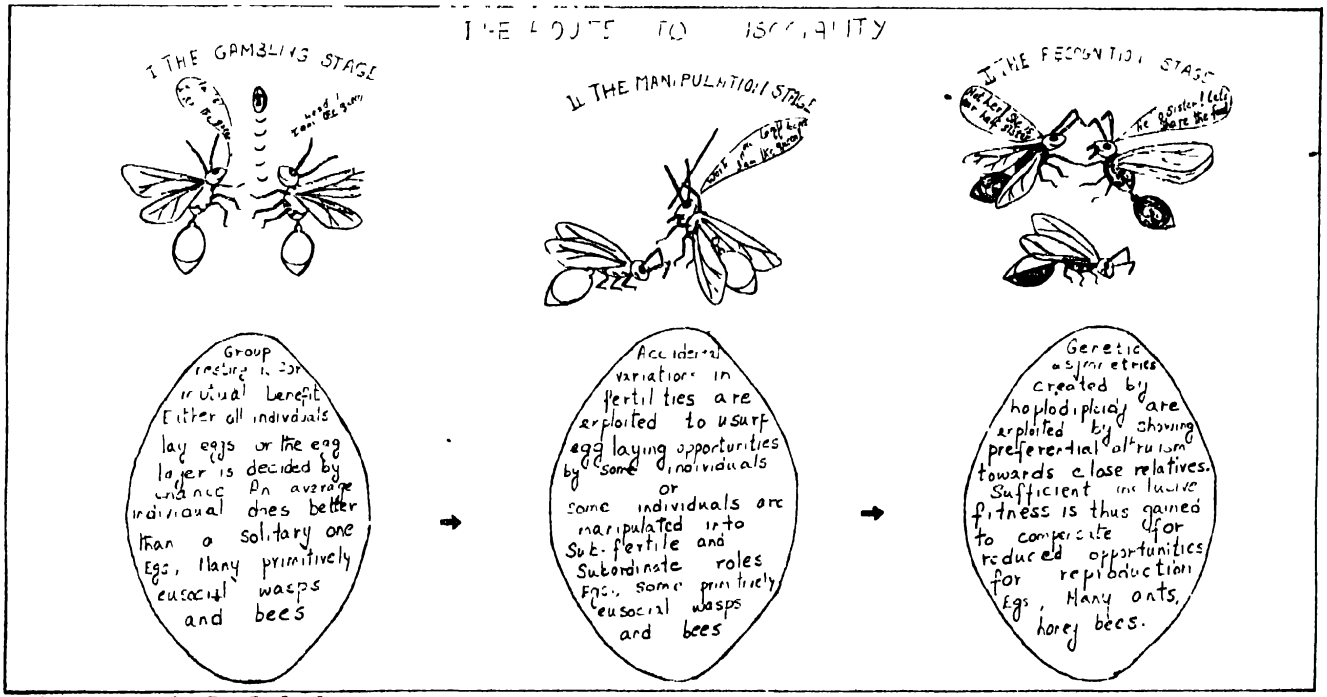
Dr Gadagkar was convinced that the key to Darwin's Paradox lay in finding out how one social wasp differed from another in a colony. And whether these differences had anything to do with deciding which individual became a queen and which a worker. He started his work at the Centre for Ecological Sciences' laboratory where he reared social wasps in custom-built cages. Each was in a cage marked with a small spot of coloured paint to distinguish it and give it an identity.

"This was the turning point. It opened a new scene altogether and the whole thing became suddenly interesting." Dr Gadagkar spent hours watching natural wasp colonies often bothered by curious onlookers. Painstaking hours of work sometimes went waste when whole colonies disappeared overnight, destroyed by predators. Dr Gadagkar broke general tradition and decided to treat all colony inmates similarly whether queen or worker.

Even in the sixties, some facts had already been realised about social insects. Based on this, three solutions had been forwarded to solve Darwin's Paradox. The first such was known as Hamilton's Theory of Kin Selection. Hamilton propounded that animals sacrificed their own personal fitness for the sake of close blood relations. His theory was explained because a worker female would have 75 per cent of the chromosomes from her mother in common with her sisters but only 50 per cent in her sons or daughters. So, a female worker was better off looking after her sisters in a colony than going off on her own, to produce offspring. Hamilton thus said that 'altruism' was not contrary to Darwin's Theory of Natural Selection.

Another theory that attempted to solve the paradox was the Theory of Parental Manipulation—that individuals were being manipulated into being sterile slaves and that they were oppressed. Workers do not gain from being a part of the colony. Yet another theory was that a lot of social species are not completely sterile but they come together for mutual benefit. This way they are better off than when they live in a solitary state.

In order to test these theories, Dr Gadagkar decided to proportion how every individual in the nest spent its time. These proportions Dr Gadagkar called 'time activity budgets'. By computing data he found that every colony had three different kind of animals—sitters, who spent a lot of time sitting around doing nothing; fighters,



A chart drawn by Dr Gadagkar

who not only guarded the next against outside danger but also fought with others in the colony; and foragers who spent a lot of time going outside foraging for food and water. The only exception was the queen—only she laid eggs and only she never left the nest.

In the species Dr Gadagkar studied, the queen always was a 'sitter'. He hypothesised that the queen was conserving all her energies towards breeding. The other sitters were hopeful of becoming the queen one day and therefore, were also conserving energy. The fighters had great selfish interest and were using a different way of getting to the top. "It was the foragers who had the least chance of becoming the queen and were left with the riskiest job." Dr Gadagkar tried a simple experiment on the colony; he removed the queen from the nest. Overnight, there was a very smooth transition and another individual had taken over.

The Hamilton Kin Selection Theory was discarded by Dr Gadagkar because he deduced that if the queen mated with different males, the female slaves would be half-sisters rather than full sisters. "This way there is not much more relatedness between sisters than between a mother and her offspring." Also, individuals in a nest were not capable of distinguishing between sisters and half-sisters.

The theory about oppression of individuals and their being made slaves also did not jell. "Roughly half the females in a colony are born capable of laying eggs. But it is only a small one per cent which ultimately become the queens." Even the mutualism theory could not hold good because of the simple fact that mutualism could not give rise to sterile animals.

Instead, Dr Gadagkar has now come up with a theory in which he describes what might have been the root of social evolution. In the first 'gambling stage', if two animals came together to form a nest, he says, they gambled on who would be queen. An average gambler would do better than a non-gambler in terms of the offspring produced. Then, cheaters evolved in the 'manipulation stage'. "Once group living is established, the stage is set for manipulation. Accidental variations in food supply leading to sub-fertility can be exploited."

As manipulation became increasingly effective, benefits of group living became increasingly unavailable to some individuals who began to lose reproductive options and got trapped into worker roles. It is precisely at this stage that the ability to recognise and give preferential aid to closer relatives began to have value. This Dr Gadagkar called the 'recognition' stage.

His 10 years of research have led Dr Gadagkar to this postulate that seems to explain the origin of eusociality. As he says, "My solution envisages a scenario which stands by present known facts and which can be tested in case more facts come to light in future." He is now working out a mathematical model on a computer on the very simple advantage a worker has in a social group that no solitary individual can have. "When a single individual tries to bring up her offspring, she has to survive till the lifecycle of the egg is complete. Otherwise, the whole exercise is pointless. Whereas in a group, another worker can take over easily. I am now trying to look at this advantage, mathematically and quantitatively." ■

'MOST OF MY CHILDHOOD WAS SPENT IN CHASING INSECTS'

If Maneka Gandhi ever met him, she would spit him in the eye.

True, Dr Raghavendra Gadagkar may be well on his way to solving the 130-year Darwin's Paradox, but the reason why he first chose to research insects was simple. "Insects were the easiest animals to get hold of for study...I could catch them and kill them."

Seriously though, Dr Gadagkar describes his interest in insects as a natural extension of his being a science freak. For, as long as he remembers he was interested in science in general and in nature in particular. "Most of my childhood was spent in chasing insects, growing tadpoles and studying pond-water in the microscope I had built for myself."

It was not any part of his formal education that inspired him to choose his career in ecological sciences. On the contrary, he drew inspiration from the things he did in his spare time—like building models for school science exhibitions. This was more fun than study and by then Dr Gadagkar had decided to take up the National Science Talent examination; this legitimised the fun and also earned him a scholarship to college.

During the five subsequent years of slogging at Central College, Bangalore Dr Gadagkar decided that two things interested him—animal behaviour and molecular biology. "People thought this strange because very few people study both these things together. But I had decided that my career would be in both."

When he applied to the Indian Institute of Science for a PhD, this elitest of elite research institutes had no regular research avenue in animal behaviour. "They had only one seat that year for a PhD in molecular biology. When they offered it to me, I accepted immediately."

Not that Dr Gadagkar forgot about his other love, animal behaviour. While a few months of joining the PhD keen interest in the study of wasps. On Sundays, he would be on the campus of his alma mater, Central College, by six in the morning. "I used to bribe the watchman into letting me in so I could watch the natural wasp nests in there."

The first thing a PhD from the Indian Institute of Science generally does as soon as he gets his doctorate is buy himself an airline ticket to the West. But not Dr Gadagkar. He rebelled against the system and decided that if he took a post-doctoral fellowship it would be at the institute itself. It was thus that he launched into an initial five-year study on wasps.

The decision not to go westwards ultimately proved to be a blessing in disguise for him. "Instead of reading all the material and being trained by experienced people along beaten paths, I found myself setting off on my own. My different approach told me a whole lot of different things." Along the way, Dr Gadagkar decided that it was the Indian system that has stopped more scientists from looking at things differently.

"For example, take any high school textbook in physics, chemistry, mathematics or biology. You will see that the 20th century Indian contribution in any of these fields is nil. This was terribly demoralising for me as a kid." Dr Gadagkar feels that there is a lot that is wrong with science in India. "It is important to differentiate between science to alleviate human suffering and science to advance frontiers of human knowledge. Unfortunately, in India we confuse the two and use the same approaches to research them."

What drives Dr Gadagkar today is partly that he conducts his research the way he thinks science should be done. It is also the fascination wasps have for him. At the rate he is going, nothing it seems will stop him. "Everything I do brings up more questions. The number of things that should be solved is never going to diminish. So I don't see my interest tapering off, at



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

"Did a falling apple actually inspire Sir Isaac Newton's theory of gravity?" asks Chandan Bagchi, Calcutta.

Sir Isaac Newton was taking tea under the apple trees in the family gardens at Woolsthorpe one summer's afternoon in 1665 when an apple fell from an overhanging branch, plunked him on the head, and immediately provided the inspiration for his law of gravitation Or so the story goes It may indeed have happened that way, but no one knows for certain Even the famed British astronomer, Sir Harold Spencer Jones, who publicly stated that the story was probably true, later recanted, noting that "one cannot be sure either way "

The story of Newton s apple first appears in Voltaire s *Elements de la Philosophie de Newton*, published in 1738, long after the great English mathematician had died and 73 years from the time the disputed apple fell Voltaire admired Sir Isaac and his theories tremendously and offered a clear, penetrating interpretation of his teachings But his only source for the apple story was Sir Isaac's niece, Catherine Barton Conduitt, who had married one of her uncle s closest associates She and her husband lived with and kept house for Newton in his declining years



Sir Isaac Newton

Another bit of evidence, one that is taken quite seriously by the story's adherents, is Rev William Stukely's biography of Newton, written in 1752 though unpublished, mysteriously, until 1936 Stukely, a physician, cleric, and prominent antiquarian, wrote that he was once enjoying afternoon tea with Sir Isaac amid the Woolsthorpe apple trees when the mathematician reminisced that "he was just in the same situation as, when, formerly, the notion of gravitation came into his mind It was occasioned by the fall of an apple as he sat in a contemplative mood " Note, however, that Stukely did not claim to have witnessed the apple incident first hand Meanwhile, important early biographies of Newton by Pemberton, Whiston, and Colin Maclaurin include no mention of the ancedote at all And the great German astronomer, Karl Friedrich Gauss, thought the story too ludicrous for words "Undoubtedly," he once hypothesised, "the occurrence was something of this sort: There comes to Newton a stupid importunate man, who asks him how he hit upon his great discovery Newton wanted to get rid of the man (and) told him that an apple fell on his nose, and this made the matter quite clear to the man, and he went away satisfied "

In all fairness, it should be noted that the Babson Institute in Wellesley, Massachussettes, USA claims to own a fruit-bearing tree grafted from the one that figured so crucially in Newton's thinking The institute was founded by Roger W Babson, the man who made the study of gravity and the quest for an antigravity machine his life's work Also on display on the Babson campus is Sir Isaac's bed, whose significance should be readily obvious It was only the force of gravity which allowed Sir Isaac to rest on it

CBS

***11th Question*: Very recently, a new word has been coined with regard to computers—Carachute. What does it mean?**
(Sanjay Prasad, Management Services, Telco, Jamshedpur 831 010).

***Ans.* In this age of computer viruses, Sangeals de Sade, an engineer, noticed characters falling vertically down to the base of the terminal screen. He named it Carachute meaning fall (chute) of characters (caracteres).**

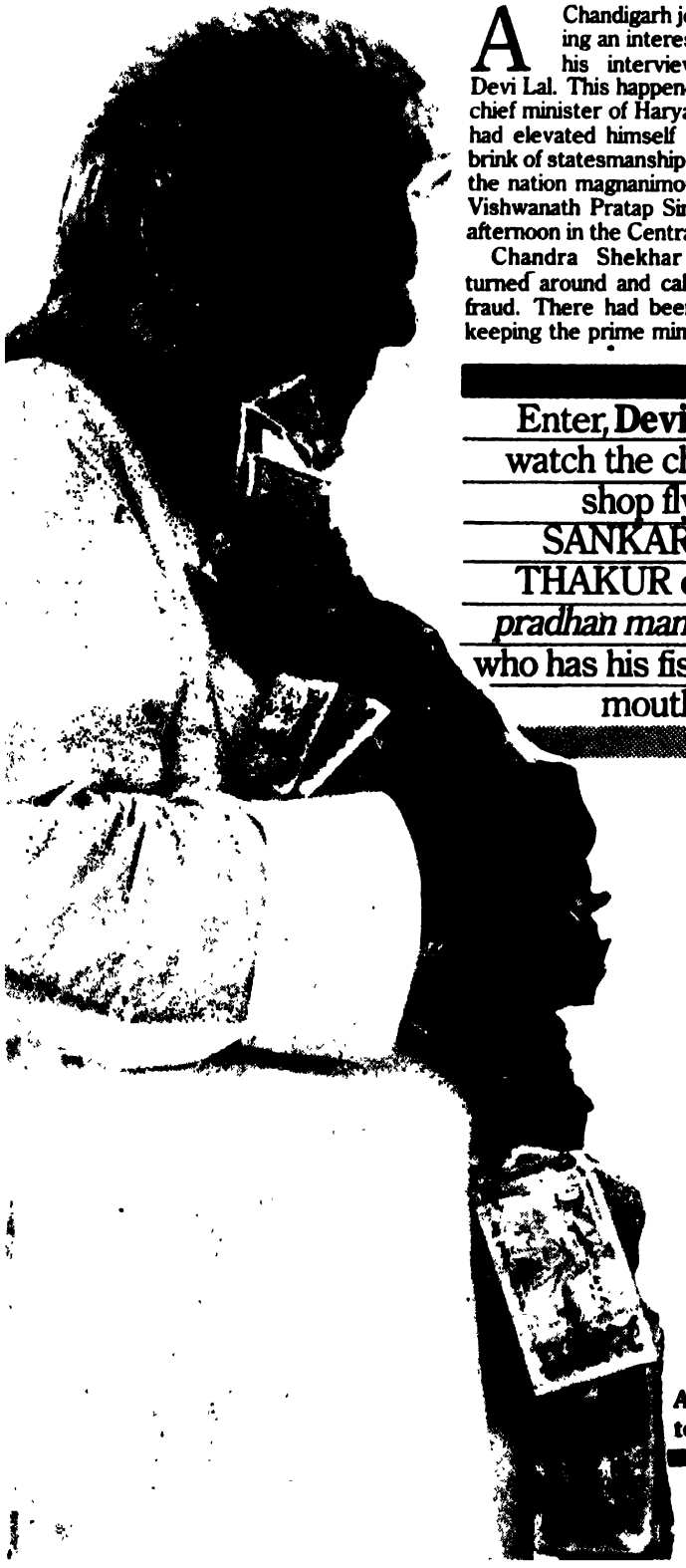
QUESTIONS

1. What was Bharatiyam '89? (Riazul Arfin, Calcutta 14)
2. What is the full name of the Indian pop star Remo Fernandes? (Sailesh Kr Singh, BIT Sindri)
3. *The Road Back* and *Three Comrades* are my second and third novels. But I am more famous for my first novel about World War I which was made into an Oscar-winning film. Who am I? (Birendra Kr Guru, Sambalpur 4)
4. Which countries share the longest continuous boundary in the world? (Aditya Kr Basak, Rourkela 7)
5. Who gave birth to Apollo and Artemis, the twin children of Zeus, and where? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)
6. What is scopophobia? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)
7. Where was India's highest polling station in the elections to the 9th Lok Sabha? (Buddhadev Meher, Sambalpur 28)
8. Which dictator of a country conferred on himself titles like 'The genius of the Carpathians', 'The Danube of thought,' 'The guide and sentinel of socialism'? (Diptikanta Thakur, Burla)
9. In World War II what was called the "Land of No Future" by British bomber pilots? (J. Omprakash Rao, Jharsuguda 2)
10. State the theory of doppelgangers. (Ehtesham Anjum, Calcutta 16)

ANSWERS

1. A children's cultural show held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on November 14, 1989 The programme also marked the conclusion of the Nehru centenary celebrations.
2. Luis Remo De Hijale Maria De Bernardo Fernandes.
3. Erich Maria Remarque. His first novel: *All Quiet on the Western Front.*
4. The US and Canada
5. Leto gave birth to them on the island of Delos
6. The fear of being stared at.
7. Hikim in Himachal Pradesh (15,000 ft.)
8. The deposed and executed Romanian dictator Nicholae Ceausescu
9. The Ruhr in Germany.
10. Briefly the theory is that each of us has, somewhere in the world, an exact double (doppelganger)—a person entirely unrelated by blood but absolutely identical in physical appearance and voice.

TAURUS



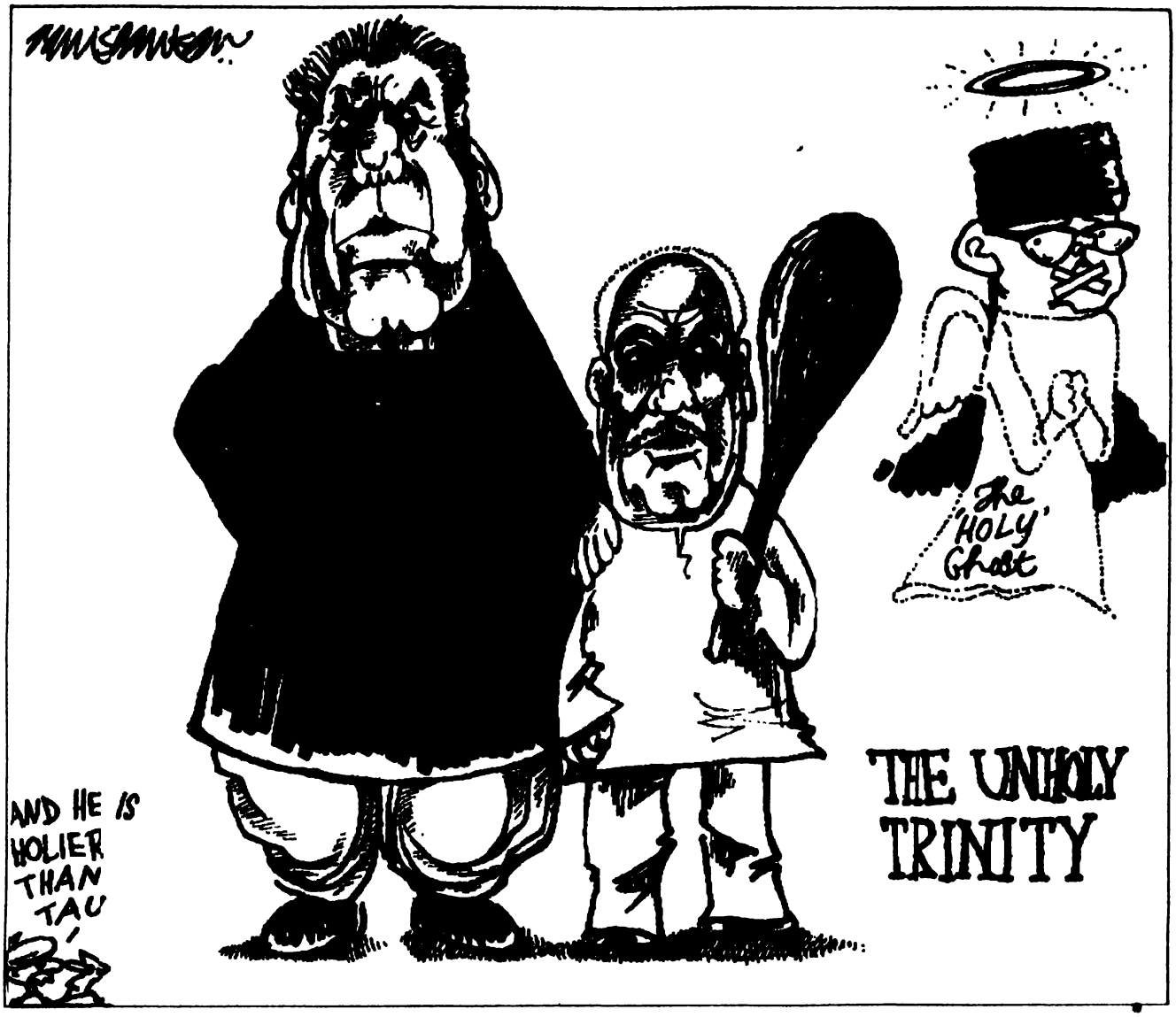
Accountable only to himself

Enter, **Devi Lal.** And watch the china in the shop flying. SANKARSHAN THAKUR on the *up pradhan mantri,* a man who has his fist where his mouth is

A Chandigarh journalist loves relating an interesting little tale about his interview with Chaudhary Devi Lal. This happened when he was still chief minister of Haryana, much before he had elevated himself to *Tauji* status in a brink of statesmanship, leaving the reins of the nation magnanimously in the hands of Vishwanath Pratap Singh that surcharged afternoon in the Central Hall of Parliament.

Chandra Shekhar had, of course, turned around and called it a last-minute fraud. There had been an agreement on keeping the prime ministership from V.P. Singh; Devi Lal had conspired to stab him in the back. But according to Chaudharysaheb, it was nothing as complicated. "Yes, there was such an agreement with Chandra Shekhar," he explained, "But I changed my mind on the way to this meeting. One has to accept the people's verdict." The next morning, *Tau*, the great self-effacing patriarch, also accepted the deputy prime ministership in all humility. President R. Venkataraman had perhaps not been properly briefed on *Tau*'s official designation so he kept insisting on administering him the oath as a mere minister. How annoying! But then, how politely did *Tau* overlook the President's ignorance. Every time the President said *mantri*, *Tau* said *up-pradhan mantri* until the President got the subtle signal.

But to come back to the Chandigarh journalist's story, the interview had been fixed for one afternoon in Chaudharysaheb's office. There is a large ante-room behind the chief minister's chamber in which Chaudharysaheb used to take his mandatory afternoon nap and it was to this room that the journalist was ushered. Chaudharysaheb lay sprawled on a huge divan and, without wasting much precious time on ceremony, asked him to shoot. The interview proceeded. By and by the questions came to charges of nepotism against him. "What nepotism? Explain," demanded the chief minister and an explanation was duly furnished—names of sons and sundry relatives in important positions. "Oh, you mean that," the chief minister remarked and, adjusting his pillow, turned his face towards the wall and went off to sleep. But before the journalist could be so rude as to shake him awake, the chief minister's aides intervened: "Please do not disturb him now,", they pleaded. "But," protested the journalist, "what about my interview, I have a deadline"..."But don't you see, he is asleep." The journalist wasn't quite sure and felt that the chief minister was only pretending because he had been asked an inconvenient question. But truly, that is not the case, the officials explained, Chaudharysaheb is not exactly young and in addition to the burdens of Haryana he has taken upon himself the task of listening to the woes of people in other states for which he has to make these tiring aircraft journeys. Besides, there is the responsibility of uniting the Opposition; he seldom gets time to rest because he is seldom in



Chandigarh.

Now, even if this wasn't the only reason isn't it only fair that just as the journalist had the right to choose what question to ask, Chaudharysaheb had the right to choose which one to answer? Politicians in similar situations have turned abusive, they have had people thrown out, threatened them with the gun. *Tau* just turned his face and went off to sleep.

And then, *Tau* has never been overly enamoured of the press and says so. "Why attach such importance to newspapers? They are read every morning and sold as *raddi* every afternoon." It is another matter, though, that all through his early morning perambulation of the Haryana Bhavan terrace in New Delhi, an assistant follows him diligently reading out all that the newspapers have written about him.

People pick on almost anything to get at *Tau*. For instance, they have begun to say all kinds of things about why he chooses to stay in Haryana Bhavan even though he is the deputy Prime Minister. The most uncharitable of all the things being said is that he hasn't moved because now that 7, Race Course Road has been taken by V.P. Singh, they cannot find a bungalow fitting *Tau*'s stature. Actually he is a man of very simple tastes and finds everything provided for in Haryana Bhavan. All those weekends spent at resorts like Sohna and Suraj Kund and Morni Hill are only meant to provide some comfort to colleagues and a bit of an outing for journalists on the job. Otherwise, it is such a great bother moving—all the resorts do not even have the seven-foot beds and seven-and-a-half-foot quilts that *Tau* needs to stretch out (tall leader, after all). But he is a good host, always ready to lay out the red carpet. Journalists once asked him if the government had made arrangements for them at the annual Kurukeshtra fair and he replied: "Oh, but people go there to wash their sins. I have made arrangements for Bhajan Lal, you see I take care of even my enemies."

Bhajan Lal may have come to personify the popular and enriching culture that goes by the name of Aya-Ram-Gaya-Ram but in all fairness, the credit for fashioning it should go to *Tau*. Bhajan Lal, typically, hijacked it from him. Rao Birendra Singh, former foe and present friend of *Tau*, has a story to tell about how this culture was born. The scene was a sprawling bungalow in New Delhi's Maharani Bagh which belonged to a real estate operator, a get-rich-quick man with splendid connections in high places. His house was a favourite rendezvous of the high and mighty—ministers, governors, ambassadors, bureaucrats, a cosy nook from prying eyes. One day Rao Birendra Singh was invited to dinner by the gentleman and the first person he saw on arriving was none other than *Tau*. He wanted to

leave immediately for he held "that man Devi Lal" responsible for conspiring to oust him from the Pratap Singh Kairon ministry in the United Punjab days. But the host and Devi Lal insisted that he must stay, this was a social occasion, they would not discuss politics.

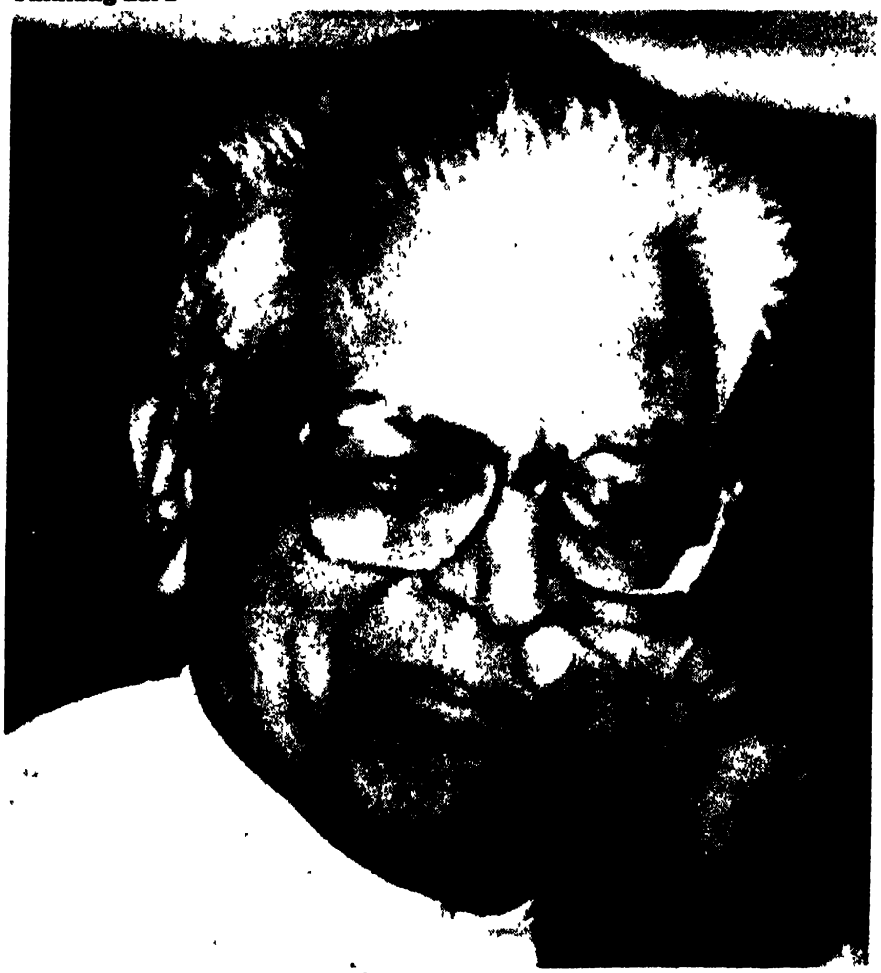
A few minutes later they were doing just that. The host was pleading with Rao to let bygones be bygones. "Devi Lal is fully with you, the real thing is to bring down the government of Bhagwat Dayal Sharma (then chief minister of Haryana)...Devi Lal is ready to swear his loyalty to you here and now...he will do anything you want him to..." The hulking Jat from Hissar sat by quietly, looking the very picture of remorse and contrition. Indeed, he was ready to make amends and swear his loyalty to Rao Birendra and before Rao Birendra could even respond, Devi Lal darted out of the room to return a few minutes later with a glass container full of what he promised was *gangajal* and some lumps of salt on a plate.

Then began the solemn oath ceremony.

Devi Lal came forward and one by one began dropping the lumps of salt into the water. As the lumps dissolved, Devi Lal intoned: "I, Devi Lal, swear in the name of God that if I do not remain loyal to Rao Birendra Singh, may my body dissolve and perish just like these salt pieces in the *gangajal*." Taken in by the solemnity, Birendra Rao asked Devi Lal what his price was. How indecent of Rao Birendra to even ask such a question of a man who was making such a selfless gesture. "We have no terms," replied Devi Lal. "Just get rid of Bhagwat Dayal Sharma." But since Rao Birendra would not believe him and pressed on, Devi Lal finally relented, "Well, if you think it right, give Chand Ram a ministership."

The deal was struck and shortly the 13-day-old ministry of Bhagwat Dayal Sharma had fallen. Rao Birendra was sworn in chief minister and Devi Lal made each minister of his group—by this time he had managed to get three of his men in—take the salt-and-*gangajal* oath in public. But soon *Tau* realised that Rao Birendra Singh was not serving Haryana's cause well. Besides, he had not even agreed to give his man the industry portfolio. So in the interests of Haryana and industry, Devi Lal decided to get rid of Rao Birendra. He began consorting with Bhagwat Dayal Sharma again and promised to withdraw his support to Rao Birendra. As always, he had no demands, his only interest was to save Haryana by bringing down Rao Birendra. And live up to his promise he did. *Tau* has never betrayed his friends, only changed them from time to time to suit larger interests.

Thinking hard



Ashok Vaid

Take Hemavati Nandan Bahuguna. After the split with Ajit Singh in 1987, Chaudharysaheb gave Bahuguna the presidentship of what was then the Lok Dal and called him the great hope of the future. After Ajit Singh began calling his group Lok Dal (Ajit) he responded appropriately and even allowed the suffix 'B' (for Bahuguna) to be attached to the name of the party. Some months later, after he had blitzkrieged Haryana and had been enthroned, he was abusing him. ("What abuses," the late Bahuguna used to say in disbelief, "The worst things you can imagine, and on the phone. Not even the decency to abuse in private.") "There is no Lok Dal A or B or C," he declared one day, "there is only one Lok Dal and that is Lok Dal D. D for Devi Lal."

But *Tau* was forced to do it. Could the Janata Dal have been a reality if he hadn't showered all those abuses on Bahuguna? After all, weren't he and Chandra Shekhar acting unnecessarily coy about going hand-in-hand with other parties? Weren't they quibbling over petty details? They had to be called *kalnemis* and Congress agents. All's fair in the war for unity (and, perhaps, in the love for Chautala). And after all, what are a few abuses and allegations between friends. Look at Chandra Shekhar, he hasn't taken it to heart. He even supported *Tau* when it came to saving Om Prakash Chautala's skin when anti-family forces ganged up to demand his removal for holding a "largely peaceful" poll in Meham. Look at Rao Birendra Singh—he is back to being friends again. Indeed, he is almost beholden to *Tau* for making him a Janata Dal MP from Haryana.

Raosaheb might now squirm at hearing his own salt-and-*gangajal* story but *Tau* has never denied it. *Tau* never denies what is true. Like he never denies that Om Prakash Chautala was caught at the Palam Airport during the Janata government days trying to smuggle in watches. He disowned Chautala in public, embraced him in private and later defended him. "You see the clever ones always get away with these things, the fools and simpletons get caught. Chautala is a simpleton," he said. Even on Meham, he has not once sought to deny that there was unprecedented rigging and violence. *Tau's* only point is that his worthy son and chief minister, Om Prakash Chautala, was not

TOUGH NUT



Making mayhem while the son shines

It is not unusual for Om Prakash Chautala to put his father in a spot and then rely on his influence to bail him out. He is to Devi Lal what his heel was to Achilles. Apart from the now-famous watch-smuggling incident, there have been at least three other occasions when Chautala has caused public embarrassment to Devi Lal.

In January 1981, he was arrested in Yamunanagar on charges of embezzling Kisan Sammelan funds; in February 1984, he was booked under the Arms Act in Hanumangarh; and then immediately after Devi Lal became chief minister of Haryana for the second time in 1987, the Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA) land scandal broke out in which Chautala was alleged to have colluded with officials to artificially reduce development charges for some Delhi-based colonisers. An IAS officer, R.S. Malik, was suspended due to his alleged involvement in the multi-crore scandal, but Chautala remained untouched, though his already sullied image took a further beating.

But then, Chautala has never really cared too much for his public image as long as he had the power and all that comes with it. No wonder he has never won an election since 1968 when he was returned to the Haryana Assembly from Elenabad. Unlike his father, he has never been a leader with any mass following, but more than makes up for it with his talent for political blackmail and backroom manoeuvring. Known to be arrogant, brash and ruthless, Chautala has not really endeared himself to colleagues in Haryana either. Younger brother and arch political rival, Ranjit Singh, has in fact done much better in that department with his soft, genial approach but Chautala has always had the upper hand for he has the ability to browbeat even his detractors into supporting him.

After the Meham episode, for instance, a majority of Janata Dal legislators from Haryana turned against him and were planning to sign a memorandum demanding that he be replaced by Ranjit Singh. However, Chautala was able to tilt the scales overnight and the memorandum never saw the light of day.

Chautala's biggest asset, however, is his overpowering sway over his father, the secret of which even close associates of *Tau* wonder about. It could be as simple as a father's blind love for a favourite son.

to blame. The whole thing was a "conspiracy to defame Chautala, my family and the Janata Dal headed by Vishwanath Pratap Singh."

Tau's genuine love for his sons has often been misrepresented as nepotism. When has he gone out of his way to help them? Ranjit Singh has been pining to become chief minister of Haryana, but has *Tau* let his affections come in the way? Yes, the elder son, Om Prakash Chautala, is the chief minister but, as *Tau* is at pains to explain, that is not because Chautala is his son. "I wanted the state to be run efficiently after I came to New Delhi and Chautala simply happens to be the most efficient man." If you press on with the same question, *Tau* is most likely to retort saying, "*Apne bete ko* chief minister *nahin banaoonga to kya tere bete ko* chief minister *banaoonga?*" (Why shouldn't I make my son the chief minister; should I instead make your son the chief minister?) What kind of father would he be if he couldn't do something for his children? He even did something for his third son, Pratap Singh, who had spent the entire period of the Haryana election campaign in Bansi Lal's lap, firing salvos at Devi Lal; but the moment Chaudharysaheb became chief minister, Pratap came seeking forgiveness. Devi Lal granted that and more—he made Pratap chairman of the Haryana Tourism Development Corporation. When asked why he had done so, he said, "*Woh party ke khilaf bahut baat karta tha. Uska munh band karne ke liye, kursi de di*" (He used to talk a lot against the party, I gave him a position to shut him up).

But people continue to berate *Tau* for being a feudal Jat patriarch. And onto this they pin a whole lot of other labels like rustic, illiterate, farmer, which they think are uncomplimentary. They do not realise, perhaps, that *Tau* takes great pride in being called a farmer, a son of the soil. He would, in fact, take great umbrage at being called a suave, urbane intellectual. As for the charge of being illiterate, he would rather let his record speak for him. This is the same man who talked of "turning into Cory Aquino and making a Marcos out of Rajiv" during his triumphant *nyay yudh* in Haryana, the same man who later said he would ring New Delhi with his "seventh fleet" if Haryana's share of water was taken away under the Punjab accord.

Only someone well aware of the world around him could have used these metaphors to such effect. Some of his more illustrious colleagues in the past might not have known where to place Cuba on the map but *Tau* knew immediately which direction he was headed in when he was asked to go to Australia recently. And he taught the Australian farmer a Haryanvi trick or two on animal husbandry

during his trip People might still joke about Chaudhary Charan Singh's vision not going as far as the Vindhyas, but nobody can say such things about *Tau* He has gone right round the globe to Disneyland and to Ohio, with which Haryana has clinched a state-to-state exchange programme deal And talking of Chaudhary Charan Singh, *Tau* has taught him a lesson or two as well The Chaudhary wanted to contest the 1984 Lok Sabha from two constituencies and had chosen Sonepat in addition to his home seat, Baghpat. But *Tau* didn't like the idea too much, it did not befit a man of Chaudhary Charan Singh's stature to stand from two constituencies, it betrayed lack of confidence So he had the Chaudhary's Sonepat papers wrongly filled in Upon their rejection, *Tau* himself entered the fray from Sonepat Some are, of course, likely to jump at this and ask why *Tau* contested three Lok Sabha seats (Rohtak, Sikar and Ferozpur) in the November polls But that was not on account of any lack of confidence Having so endeared himself to the people of all three states he wanted to bestow on them the honour of having him as their representative

Nobody grudged him the three Lok Sabha seats for *Tau* had indeed contributed the most, both in terms of sweat and resources first, the dirty job of hammering the fractious Opposition into one unit and then the taxing campaign in which *Tau* took the lead, using his state aircraft virtually as a bicycle for the sake of party and country. But once the hurly-burly was done and the National Front government installed in power, some people within the government began saying that *Tau* had served his purpose and that it was now necessary to keep him "under check" Some indeed thought that he would immediately set about tarnishing the image of the new government by demanding the US ambassadorship, the vice-chancellorship of Delhi University and the chairmanship of the State Trading Corporation (STC) for close relatives or friends Now that he had moved to New Delhi, these were the kind of posts *Tau* could have placed at the service of his family How improper it would have been for him to continue interfering in the affairs of Haryana

Even on the Punjab issue he had begun to react as a truly national leader, rising above the parochial concerns of Haryana He had, for instance, stopped nitpicking about the water and territorial disputes with Punjab and was concentrating solely on the role of the Congress(I) in power He was only serving the interests of the Janata Dal for had not the party run its entire campaign on the Congress-*hatao* slogan? But here were Dal leaders themselves criticising *Tau* for speaking consistently against the Congress(I) and provoking them to pull out of the all-party meet on Punjab *Tau* would try to enhance the credibility of the Dal by lampooning the Congress(I)'s Punjab policy and the next day the Dal spokesman would undo it all by issuing fresh invitations to the Congress(I) to join the all-party meet Instead of rewarding him, the party began ignoring him, they would allow him to say all that he wanted to, but never follow the patriarch's path When things became too hot—as they did on the eve of Assembly elections when *Tau* had begun making announcements on Punjab polls which he thought were conciliatory but which the party thought were importune and rash—they packed him off to Australia. Now that he is back from the most successful Australia tour that any Indian agriculture minister from Haryana with the surname Lal has had, they are working out devious plots on how to sideline him.

Perhaps he could launch another *nyay yudh* in Haryana, is one uncharitable suggestion After Meham, it is being said, Haryana is in particular need of *nyay* (justice) and who better to deliver it than *Tau* himself. If last time he captured the people's imagination with the loan-waiver, this time he could promise to waive dynastic rule in the state. ■

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DEVI LAL

He may not be the *tau* of philosophy, but that has never stopped the deputy Prime Minister from dropping his own home-grown gems—or bricks, depending on which way you look at them—of wisdom at every available opportunity. We present a small collection of Devi Lal's quotable quotes:

• Satish Sharma got married in Holland. Rajiv Gandhi got married in Italy, Farooq Abdullah got married in England. These people have no links with India. This country belongs to its citizens, not to someone's in-laws.

• Keeping accounts is a *banya's* work, not a Jat's. Every Friday, thousands of rupees are sent to me by the people. There is so much money, I don't have to keep accounts.

• When Goa was liberated, I told Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru that he had liberated India from Salazar. 'When will you liberate the Indian National Congress from the Birlas?' I asked. I feel happy that a Birla has to enter the Rajya Sabha by bribing people.

• The problem with people of this kind—Bahuguna and Chandra Shekhar—is that they can never be elected MPs or MLAs. So they just quote the Constitution to control and sabotage the party.

• I never called Bansi Lal chief minister. I called him cheap minister.

• I always like good and dependable people around me, not like Rajiv Gandhi who picked a rootless man like Arun Singh whose father became a Christian.

• *Note chhapane ki mashin mere haath me dijiye do to sabko vare nyare kar doonga* (If you give me access to the exchequer, I will make everyone rich)—Before the Lok Sabha election.

• Can anyone tell me Rajiv's paternal grandfather's name? Nobody. But who knows Rajiv? Whose Chaudhary is he?

• My orchard gives me Rs 2.5 lakhs a year. I do politics with the money. I don't sell tickets like Chandra Shekhar.

• The larger the crowds that hang around your house, the bigger the leader you are.

• *To kya Bhajan Lal ke chhore ko banata?* (Should I have made Bhajan Lal's son instead?)—When asked why he made Om Prakash Chautala chief minister.

• Regional parties have become irrelevant. Only a strong national party like the Janata Dal can fulfil your hopes and aspirations.—In Guwahati where the AGP, a regional party and a constituent of the National Front, is in power.

• If Gorbachev who speaks no English can become the leader of a superpower, why can't I become leader of India?—When asked whether his not knowing English would jeopardise his chances of becoming PM.

• Shut up, you bastard!—To Pratap Singh Kairon.

CONCENTRATION CAMP



1

Aroop Datta saw Indian and German painters working peacefully together, trying to put the theme of bullets and doves on canvas



2



3

4

1 **The camp in progress**

2 **Brigitte T.A Tischler attends to a fine detail**

3. **Sunil Das, the coordinator of the camp: Moments of relaxation**

4. **G.R. Santosh at work**

As part of the *War and Peace* programme an Indo German Artists Camp was held in the last week of February at Max Mueller Bhavan Calcutta Eleven painters from India and two from Germany participated each of them working on two canvases

It was open house for visitors who could observe the painters at work and discuss the theme and their interpretations Calcutta was represented by Paritosh Sen Ritu Singh Shuvaprasanna and Sunil Das the last mentioned also coordinating the camp New Delhi sent Amitava Das P Khemraj and G R Santosh while Bombay s Badri Narayan Madras Alphonso A Doss Hyderabad s Surya Prakash and Jaipur s V S Upadhyaya also put their brush to canvas Germany was represented by two women artists Emo Simonyi and Brigitte I A Tischler both Munich based

The final results will be exhibited in other cities of the country and Germany as well



Tapan Das

MAMA MIA!

At 63, Gina Lollobrigida can still make you miss a beat Her lovely mane spilling over her shoulders, she exuded a red hot sensuality while she bared her mind for a couple of hours with journalists at a city hotel the other day It was her first visit to Calcutta though she has been to India before

The movie goddess had lost nothing of what she had 30 years ago when she was projected as one of the two great sex symbols from Italy, the other one being Sophia Loren, of course An over-enthusiastic newsman wanted to know more about her "mysterious beauty in 'younger days' and prompt was the retort 'What about now? Am I not young? We're always young "

The lines of age show, the bosom is not as full, she has a severe backache, but the penetrative look in the eyes is still there, so is the full, red-lipped pout Gina has happy memories of her film career, which is not exactly past her now, and remembers how her fans appreciated her in *Trapeze* (1956), *She Got What She Asked For* (1963), *Hotel Paradiso* (1966), *Woman of Straw* (1964), and some other titles "which I forget" She keeps reminding you that the only apparent disadvantage of getting on in years is not fading beauty, but a failing memory As an actress, however, she feels her best is yet to come "I'm not satisfied with what I've done I always wish to better my best "



Sudhakar Pal

She remembers her "friends and costars" vividly and says that the bigger they were, the simpler they were at heart Rock Hudson, who starred with her in that runaway hit *Come September*, was "a very nice friend, warm and wonderful, it was fascinating to work with him" Show biz and stardom may be heady wine Gina agrees, "but the golden rule of success is to have your feet firmly on the ground" Perhaps this unassuming characteristic made her one of the most popular international actresses of the post war period

Sometime in the seventies, Gina Lollobrigida turned her passion to photography and this passion rose from her training in painting at the Accademia delle Belle Arti in Rome "As a young painter, my teachers become my fans In fact, one of the teachers lost his job for looking at me too much,' she grinned If fate had not played its role, I would have continued studying sculpture and painting "

But fate did play a role when director Mario Costa spotted her on a street and offered her an extra's job in films Gina Lollobrigida never looked back Her childhood days were hard and life was restricted to "home, church and school" She added "In those days, going to films was almost a crime What an irony Many years later, I was to be there on the screen, acting "

When Gina's first book on photography, *Italia Mia*, was published, many considered it a coup More than 30,000 copies were sold and people were asking for more She later published two other photographic books, *The Philippines* and *Manila*, and directed two documentaries, *Portrait of Fidel* (Castro) and *The Philippines* In between, she did a number of features for important publications the world over, including interviews with Castro, Henry Kissinger, Paul Newman, Salvador Dali and Indira Gandhi

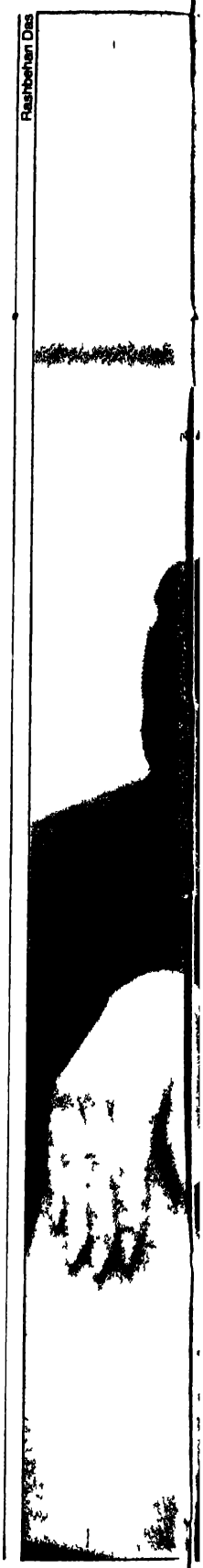
In India again, Gina visited Calcutta for the first time a fortnight ago, and met Mother Teresa, presenting her with a copy of *Innocence*, her forthcoming book of photographs on children and animals She found Calcutta "a city of contrasts" and explained "You have the good and the bad on the same level There is so much help needed here I want to come back here soon "

Gina's fascination for photography was perhaps a natural transition from being in front of the camera "Cinema was a great human experience," she said, "which matured and enriched me in very many ways, but there it is the director who directs, guides and sometimes compels Photography is an expression which is all mine I am my own director and direct my own creativity through the pictures that I see I express and realise myself through photography "

Gina is an actress who believes in spontaneity and her current interest also indicates that part of her nature "What I try to capture is emotion in its natural state without any artifice, she explained

Her opinions or bread, love and dreams were equally spontaneous She is well off now and can rest on her oars 'Our world is not an easy one she said 'We have to struggle all out for success If we only have good experiences, we will never learn Sad times teach us many things I have learnt from life when things have *not* gone well And that is what makes living wonderful "

Love was an experience which could differ from person to person "Some may have love for their spouse, some may have it for just one person Others may find happiness in loving everyone else like Mother Teresa "



Rashbehari Das



The Italian screen legend, Gina Lollobrigida, was on an Indian trip again, and visited Calcutta for the first time. A freewheeling chat with the international twinkler



Subhash Pal

Movie goddess meets goddess on earth

> **'As a young painter, my teachers became my fans In fact, one of the teachers lost his job for looking at me too much'**

And love did not necessarily mean a happy marriage. "I have something against marriage," she said candidly. "For some it may have been a very happy experience, for some women a marriage works It did not work for me, it was a bad experience for me. Happiness in a marriage can remain a dream."

India has a special meaning for Gina. "I love India and this is obvious from my photographs. In most of my exhibitions, photographs of India have always been prominent When you love a place, your pictures show the warmth you have for it." The catalogue cover of *Innocence* also shows a hawker in a Varanasi market, a night shot taken in 1973

Her love for the country began two years later when she came to attend the international film festival in New Delhi. She met Mrs Indira Gandhi and spent an afternoon with her, taking pictures of the late PM. "Indira Gandhi was a gem of a person. She was a *wonderful* woman and I can still visualise her playing with her grandchildren in the lawns of her house—the same place where she was assassinated. We talked on the many problems confronting women, but never discussed politics."

Indian memories have created a strong bond with Madras, Varanasi, Delhi, Calcutta. "India is wonderful. If you have travelled all over India, you need not visit any other place in the world. You get everything here." Small wonder, then, that Gina has an exhaustive collection of what she called "fascinating frames of Indian people and places"

Does her love for India extend only to photographs, she was asked, or would she accept a role in an Indian film, too? "Why not?" she said enthusiastically. But would she be a little too expensive for Indian filmmakers to afford, someone else wondered. She looked into his eyes deeply, and fielded the question with a deliberate purr: "I'm not expensive." And waited for the laughter to subside.

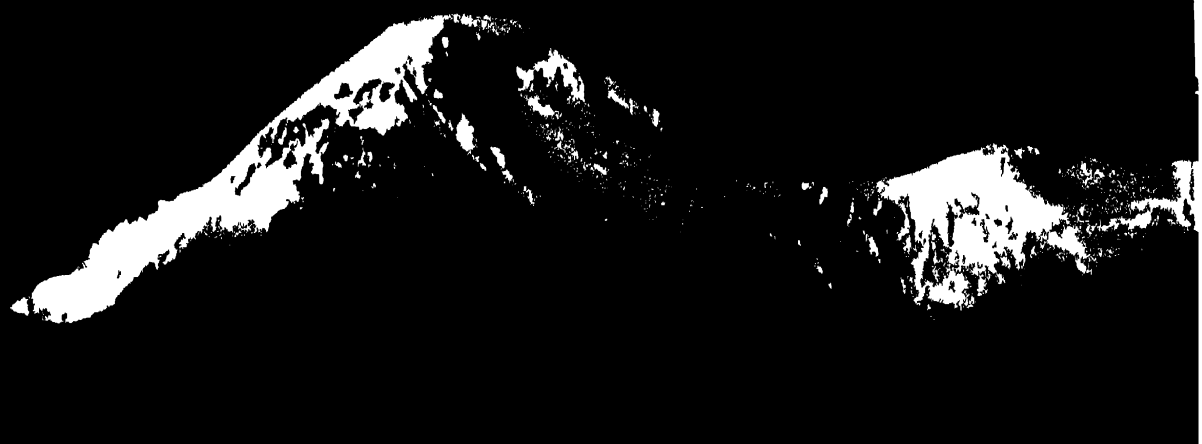
Debashis Aikat

AU
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3



4

In Trans Himalayan Sikkim you see the other side of the mountains. Photographer **Sujoy Das** unfolds some of the magic of the place



Situated in the rain shadow of that great mountain Kanchenjunga, Trans Himalayan Sikkim has some of the most spectacular mountain scenery in the world Bordered by Tibet to the north



and east Nepal to the west and the lush green valleys of Sikkim to the south, it is a land of high mountains, barren plateau and glaciated lakes It is also the home of the yak herdsmen who live and survive with their cattle on the high mountain pastures through the freezing winters Due to its close proximity with Tibet, north Sikkim is restricted to visitors and tourists



1. A yak caravan makes its way across the barren plateau of north Sikkim adjoining Tibet at an altitude of 17,000 feet. Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker, the famous botanist, who travelled in this area in 1849 had remarked, "Here the colourings are those of the fiery desert while the climate is that of the poles!"

2. Mount Kanchenjao at sunset as seen from the village of Donkung.

3. An old woman of Muguthang village, near the Tibet border.

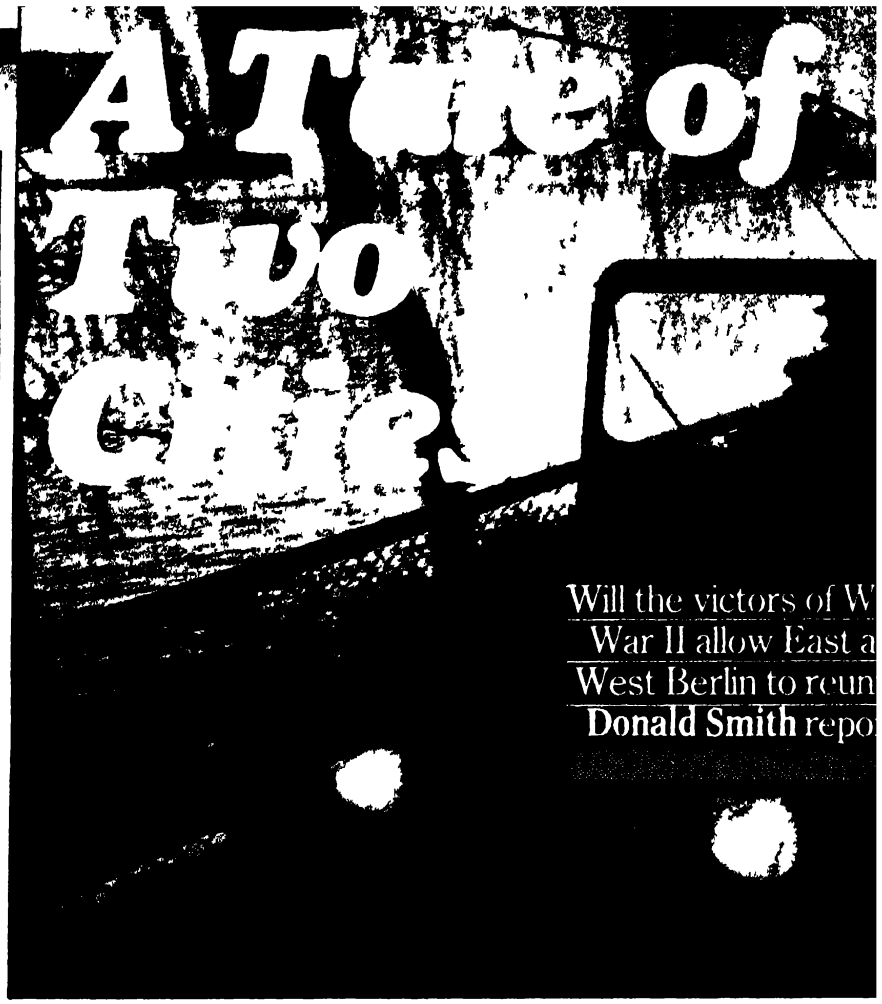
4. Sunset over the north Sikkim plateau—looking west from the pass of Dorji La.

5. Morning at the Green Lake, the base camp of Kanchenjunga in the Zemu valley.

6. Mount Simolchu in storm clouds as seen from the Zemu

A Time of Two Cities

Will the victors of W
War II allow East a
West Berlin to reun
Donald Smith repo



Showing Allied muscle where the Wall lies across the River Spree, machine-gun-bearing US Army jeeps patrol the edge of Kreuzberg. Post-World War II agreements about the military occupation of Berlin guarantee the four victorious powers a role in determining the political future of Germany

Like a fairy-tale princess breaking the spell of long bewitchment, the city of Berlin is astir with brave dreams The dominant sound along the Berlin Wall is the chipping of stone by hammer-and-chisel-wielding souvenir hunters, whom residents have jovially nicknamed "Mauerspecht"—wall woodpeckers

Amateur wall razing has not only put Berliners on both sides in a jubilant mood, it has revived deeply held aspirations for the restoration of their city as a political, cultural and economic crossroads of Europe—as well as possibly the capital of a newly unified Germany At the same time Berliners are increasingly being reminded of limits imposed by the odd legal niche their sprawling city has occupied since the end of World War II

Although elaborate superstructures of elected city officials have sprouted since the war, the city remains under the ultimate control of the four victorious allies—France, Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union

"Regardless of how popular the cause of reunification may be in Germany, the legal status of Berlin cannot simply be dissolved by people marching in the streets," Eastern European analyst Helmut Sonnenfeldt of the Brookings Institution says "The occupying powers have left this legal marker"

The four powers will have a direct voice in the future of Germany by virtue of their special status in Berlin, a comforting thought to many in the world who fear the prospect of a reunified German powerhouse—including some Germans

"I think of the past when Germany was not separated," says Manuel Stern, a 22-year-old chemistry student in Berlin "In recent years there has been much more nationalism and racism I fear there would be more of that with a big Germany"

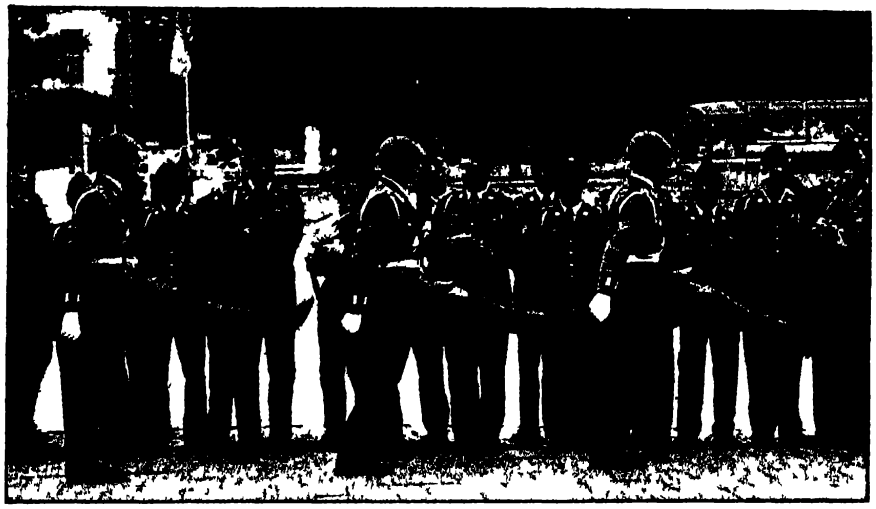
Businessman Peter Herz, a prominent figure in West Berlin's municipal government in the 1970s, also has reservations about any headlong tumble toward reunification "I think the prerogatives of the allies should be respected in the process," he says "However, I have the impression my fellow countrymen here are talking not so much about reunification of Germany as reunification of Berlin We are happy to be Berliners again"

After World War II, Berlin was divided into four sectors, each administered by one of the victors Initially intended as an interim stage pending a final peace treaty, this arrangement became the status quo after the Soviet Union and the three Western powers disagreed over Germany's political future The four powers reaffirmed their respective rights of access and control of the city most recently in the 1971 Quadripartite Agreement.



An officer reviews French troops in West Berlin's Napoleon Barracks. Immediately after World War II each of the four victorious Allies took responsibility for administering part of the city, pending a final peace treaty. Because a treaty has never been signed, each power retains control of its sector to this day





American soldiers meet East German troops face to face at East Berlin's memorial to the Victims of Fascism and Militarism. Post-World War II agreements among the four allies—France, Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union—allow each power to enter the others' sectors

Today, West Berliners elect a parliament, which passes laws—subject to approval of the three Western powers whose sectors make up West Berlin. The parliament also elects the operating government, called the senate It consists of a governing mayor and up to 16 senators, who act as department heads

West Berlin operates independently of the Federal Republic of Germany, whose capital is Bonn. In East Berlin the municipal government is subordinate to the German Democratic Republic whose capital is East Berlin, still legally the Soviet sector

Visible signs of the four-power presence are so familiar that residents tend to ignore them Uniformed French. British and American forces patrol the Soviet sector every day The Soviets patrol the three Western sectors The East and West dispute legal and diplomatic definitions, and the life of ordinary Berliners goes on.

Now life is changing and the four powers are concerned They chose early December 1989—during the initial euphoria over the opening of the wall, the collapse of the Communist Party's power in East Germany and widespread demonstrations in favour of German reunification—to hold their first formal conference on Berlin in 18 years.

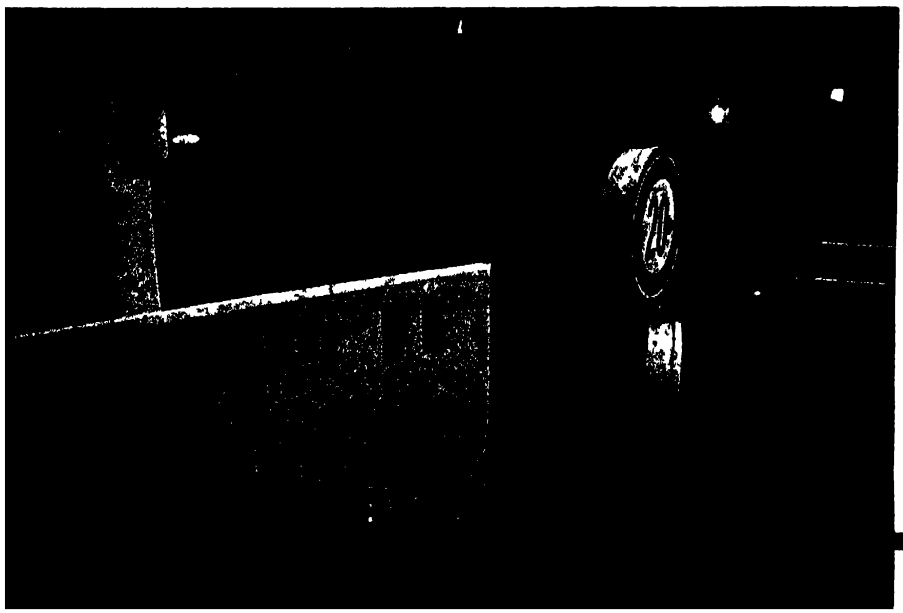
The conference, requested by Moscow, was held in the palatial Kommandatura Building, which has been little used since the Soviets withdrew from the four-power management of Germany in 1948 The stated purpose of the meeting was to discuss international sports meetings, but it had the effect of reasserting the role of the four powers in Berlin

"When the four ambassadors decided to meet, we were suddenly reminded that there are a lot of regulations that control the city," says West German university professor Andreas Wosnitza "A lot of these regulations would have to be lifted if the two Berlins are to grow together"

The French government has been fairly blunt in its interpretation of what the four power gathering was supposed to underscore "This meeting reminded everyone, including the Germans, that reunification is not as simple as it might appear," says a French official who asked not to be identified "Reunification is not only up to the German population There has been a war, a peace treaty has not been signed and the four powers have to have their say in the process"

(National Geographic News Service)

Traffic passes through Berlin's Checkpoint Charlie. Although travel between East and West Berlin is less restricted than it was before the dismantling of the Berlin Wall, the four victorious World War II Allies still maintain borders delineating their areas of responsibility under postwar agreements



All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133), Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 250437), Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road, 363264), Madhuban (Regent Park), Jaya (Lake Town, 573936)

Directed by Mukul S Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi, Neelam, Danny, Goga Kapoor, Archana Puran Singh, Alok Nath, Rohini Hattangady and Tinnu Anand. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Baap Numbri Beta Dus Numbri:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917)—4 shows

Directed by Aziz Sajawal and with music by Nadeem Shravan, the film stars Jackie Shroff, Farha, Aditya Pancholi, Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383), Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956)

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Raam Laxman

• **Pyar Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue, 464440)

Directed by K Bapaiah and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Dharmendra, Mithun Chakraborty, Meenakshi Seshadri, Neelam, Sonam, Kader Khan, Shakti Kapoor and Asrani



Madhavi in *Insaaf Naagin Ka*, now showing at Hind



Mithun Chakraborty in *Agneepath*

Bengali Films

• **Ekaki:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080), Alochhaya (Beliaghata main Road, 355059)- 3 shows

Moon Moon Sen, Ayan Banerjee, Dilip Roy and Sumitra Mukherjee are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Panna Hossain The music is by Shyamal Mitra

• **Bhagyalipi:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—3 shows

Sujit Kumar's first Bengali film which stars Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy, Uttam Mohanty, Aparajita, Aruna Irani, Paintal and the director himself The music is by Sumitra Lahiri.

• **Byabodhan:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road, 474686)—1, 4, 7.



Anil Kapoor and Madhuri Dixit in *Kishen Kanhaiya*

Directed by Dilip Mukherjee and with music by Ajoy Das, the film stars Victor Banerjee, Moon Moon Sen, Indrani Dutta, Kali Banerjee, Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury and Tapas Paul.

• **Hirak Jayanti:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561)—1.30 4.15, 7.

Ranjit Mullick, Chumki Choudhury, Joy Banerjee, Dilip Roy, Kali Banerjee and Sumitra Mukherjee star in this Anjan Choudhury film whose music is by Goutam Basu.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Film

• **Bahurani:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474867)—4 shows.

Directed by Manick Chatterjee, the film stars Rekha along with Rakesh Roshan, Dewen Verma, Aruna Irani and Utpal Dutt. The music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Jeene Do:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Ujala (Russa Road; 478666), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 351382).

Directed by Rajesh Sethi and with music by R.D. Burman, the film stars Sunjay Dutt, Jackie Shroff, Farha, Shakti Kapoor, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri.

• **Kishen Kanhaiya:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue; 390762), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 564033), Madhuban (Regent Park), Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road; 355059).

A film by Rakesh Roshan, starring Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Shilpa, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri.

• **Shandar:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road; 474403), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437)—4 shows; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—noon.

A film by T.C. Dewan, starring Mithun Chakraborty, Meenakshi Seshadri, Mandakini, Juhi Chawla, Kader Khan and Danny. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily) IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-265 at 0900; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-266 at 0820.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-272 at 1915.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262665, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-243 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1720; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time		Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
		Howrah		
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp.** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time		Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
		Howrah		
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Tues, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



FACE LIFT! How many happy faces are there in the drawing above? Our artist says 35. Let's see if you can find them.

• LOVE NOTE! "I LOVE —," said Popeye the Sailor, naming someone he holds near and dear Rearrange cap letters of quote to fill the blank

The missing person's name is OLIVE of course

1	P I N _ _ _ _ _
2	_ P I N _ _ _ _
3	_ _ P I N _ _ _
4	_ _ _ P I N _ _
5	_ _ _ _ P I N _
6	_ _ _ _ _ P I N

PINPOINT ANSWERS!
Six PINS are in plain sight above. Indeed, they appear progressively in six eight-letter words which you are asked to discover, in according with these definitions.

1. Child's toy that blows in the wind.
2. What earth is doing on its axis.
3. Had an effect on rights of others.
4. Trimmings added to sundaes.
5. Football no-no.
6. Necktie accessory.

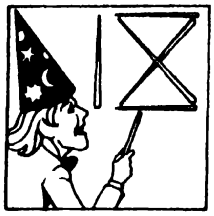
How quickly can you fill in the words?

1 Pinwheel 2 Spinning 3 Impinged 4 Top-ping 5 Capping 6 Backpin

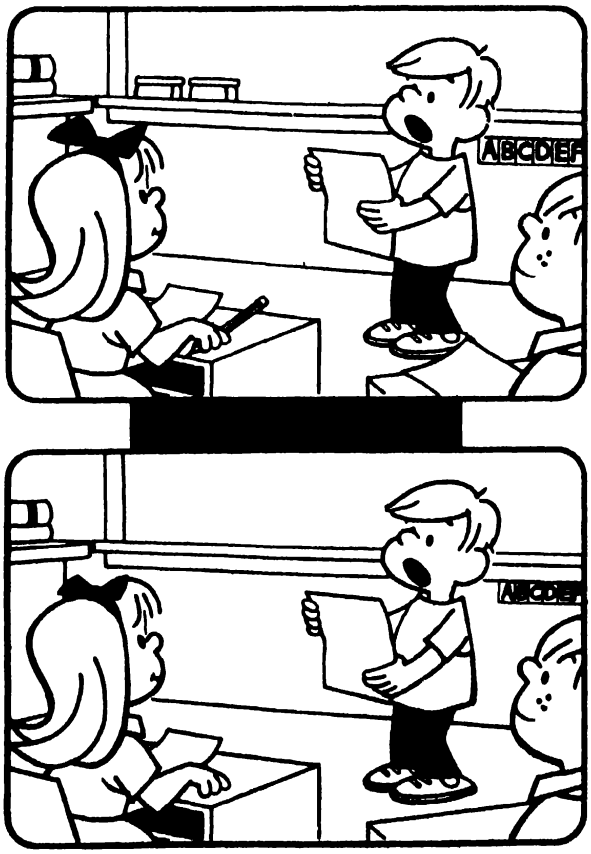
• **HALF OFF!** Arrange five toothpicks to form a reasonable facsimile of the figure 18, as shown below. Challenge: Take away two of the five toothpicks so that the result is half the number presently shown. That is to say, so that the resulting amount is nine.

How quickly can you make this changeover?

Simply remove top and bottom horizon-tals leaving the Roman numeral IX



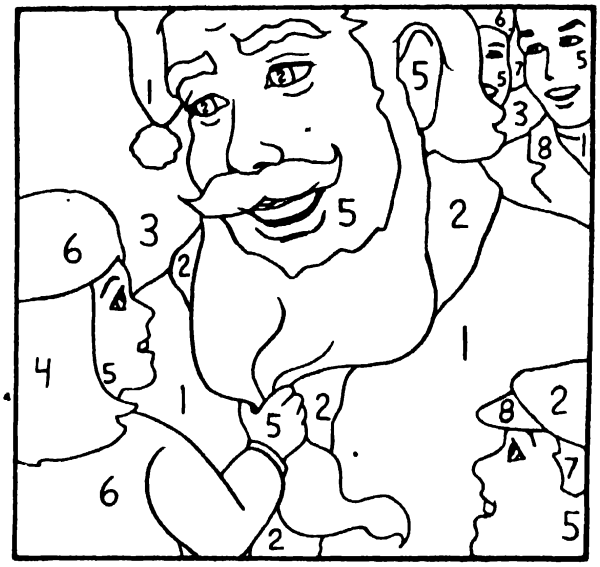
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Erasers are missing 2 Bow is smaller 3 Pencil is missing 4 Arm is lowered 5 Letters are smaller 6 Sheet of paper is missing

FUNSPOT



ON HOLD! Hey, young lady, please let go of St. Nick's beard. Add these colors neatly: 1—Red 2—Lt. blue 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. blue.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

REMINDER

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Rind, mare

ARIES

March 21—April 20

It is time to move mentally, physically, emotionally, spiritually, psychologically and adapt to circumstances. As regards romance, better keep your options open as, in and after August, you will have a choice. Those employed will rake in money. An overdose of work could tell on your health. Thanks to Mercury, travel and commuting are fated. Home and children could be fluid and slightly unsettled.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Children, hobbies, research, studies, know-whow, collaborations, house move and transfer make an exciting week. Fuse a little leisure too and happiness will slide into your heart. Do not neglect your health. As far as romance is concerned, your heart pulsates to a jungle beat. Home and children are well signified.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

The first three days of the week are destined for a head-start. Finish pending chores and then launch a venture if so interested. Work pressures mount on March 15 and 16. Buying, selling, trading, shopping, sales and distribution are definitely highlighted. Your health poses slight problems during March 19-21 Work could prod you into a journey or pilgrimage. The week certainly focalises house and home, office and industry, site and development.

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Contacts, contracts, new schemes, publicity boost, communication and correspondence are the main trends of the week. In romance, there is much to look forward to. There is nothing much to worry about Do not fret over trifles and fancied hurts, for your health will be splendid. The time is right to undertake a journey. Devote more time to the affairs of children.

LEO

July 21—August 21

Money is the name of the game, be it earned income, shares and stocks, dividends and investments, loans and funds. A family get-together is foretold. Romance will be bitter-sweet, but never a damp squib. Travel is a



distinct possibility. Health remains suspect. Buying or selling of some property is likely.

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

A radical change in your lifestyle is destined as the full moon, according to Western astrology, falls in your sign Strong attachments and reactions are absolutely certain It is just the right time for romance, engagement and wedlock Financial opportunities for those in employment are likely. The mid-week is ideal for trips and ties A nagging health problem keeps worrying you. Good going on the home front

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Rendezvous, travel, secret negotiations and deals, and mysterious relationships are the week's main trends Romance promises unusual and subtle ties as well as plenty of excitement Expenses, buying, selling, negotiations, trading, commission and brokerage are the other salient features of the week. You will have to travel to look after the disabled and the sick.

SCORPIO

Oct 22—Nov 22

The week signifies friendship, socialising, gains and gaiety Romance will be thrilling and titillating. Deals can be closed and transactions will prove lucky. March through May is travel time. Avoid phobias and fixations and your health remains fine. Home and children figure prominently around March 15.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

Hard work leads to success is the message of the week But it will tax you to the outer limit. Romance will be a much-needed safety valve. Finance shows an upward trend Immigration, transfer, shift and change of scenery are not ruled out. You need to take a break from your hectic schedule sometime around the 16th of this month.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

It would be best to launch a campaign, take a study course, start an enterprise, plan expansion, undertake a journey and organise a meet. Romance promises immense satisfaction on March 15 and 16. On the financial side, you swing a deal, bag an assignment and go in for important transactions, bargains and takeover of a company. Your health remains perfect.

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

It is time to invest, buy and sell, have a ball of a time and fuse pleasure and lucre. Financial gains are likely. You will have your fill of romance Travel is a distinct possibility. Your health will improve. Childbirth or conception, getting essentials as well as fancy objects and accessories, and furniture and gadgets for the house are indicated.

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Romance, marriage, business link-up, travel and expenses are the week's main trends. You excel in romance. Investing, purchasing, capital raising, joint-finance and amalgamation are well signified. Travel is a marked feature; contacts and communications hold the key.

BIRTHDAYS

March 11

Moon trine Neptune: Good fortune, honours and rewards are assured. Marriage for those who are eligible and a deeper understanding for the married. Travel will delight you. Relationships will be complicated and intense.

March 12

Moon trine Mars: This trine gives pep and power, be it love or work. Finances and partnerships will be unusually important. A change of scenery or outlook is what the birthyear is all about.

March 13

Moon square Uranus: This means you will have to put in concentrated effort to succeed. Your ability to communicate and sell an idea will be fully tested. Health is, however, suspect.

March 14

Moon square Saturn: The game is not lost till it is won. If you follow this principle you will succeed. In and after August, and again after February 9, 1991, things will move your way.

March 15

Moon sextile Uranus: Opportunities will come in tidal waves and thus you will certainly make progress. Journeys, celebrations, adventures, promotions and new associations are on the cards. Learn to share your happiness.

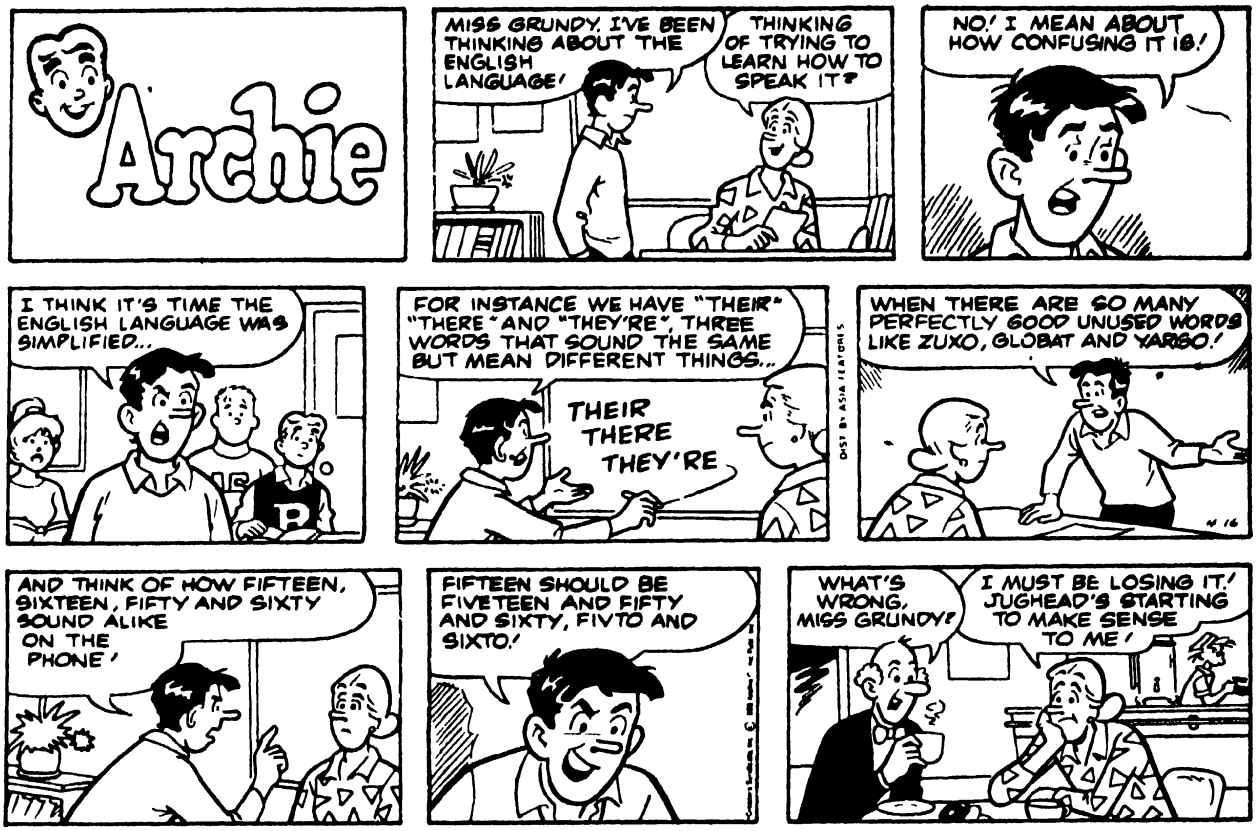
March 16

Moon conjunction Pluto: An exceptionally lucky conjunction, no matter who you are. Now is the time to push ahead, giving it all you have. By July you should see happy results. It is time to fan out to people and places. Love breathes life into you.

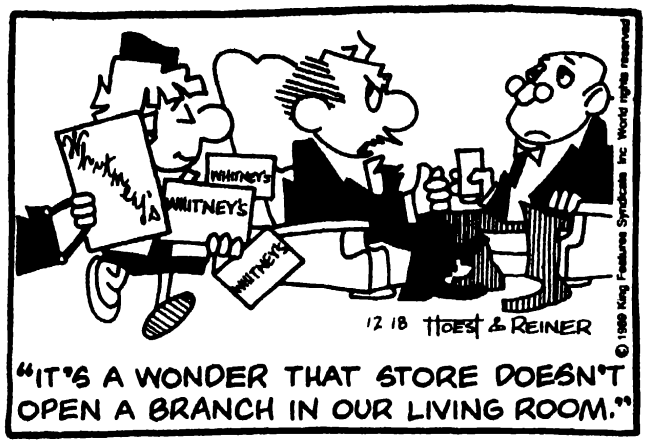
March 17

Sun-Moon trine: It signifies progress and joy and, therefore, it is time to be successful and confident. Journeys, celebrations, rites, meets, conferences and ventures lead to wild adventures and thrills. Take the initiative, if you have to.

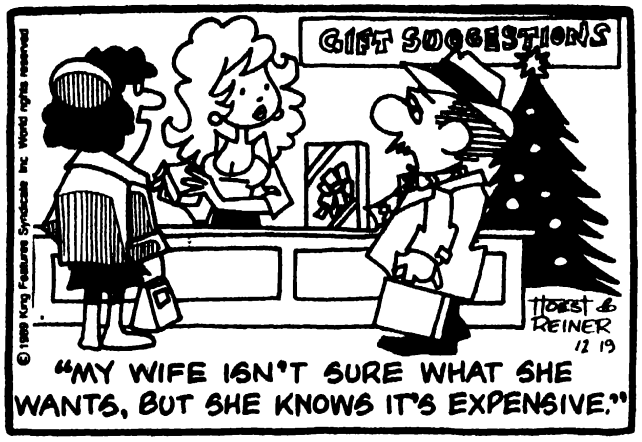

BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG & STAN DRAKE
SKNX-X
SKNX-X
SKNX-X
WHY DON'T YOU STRETCH OUT ON THE SOFA, HONEY?
SKNNX-X
IT'S TIME TO GO TO BED, DEAR
SKNNX-X
SKNNX-X
9-24
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SKNX-X
IT'S LIKE LIVING IN A SAWMILL
YOUNG & DRAKE


Archie
MISS GRUNDY. I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE'
THINKING OF TRYING TO LEARN HOW TO SPEAK IT?
NO! I MEAN ABOUT HOW CONFUSING IT IS!
I THINK IT'S TIME THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WAS SIMPLIFIED...
FOR INSTANCE WE HAVE "THEIR" "THERE" AND "THEY'RE", THREE WORDS THAT SOUND THE SAME BUT MEAN DIFFERENT THINGS...
THEIR THERE THEY'RE
DIST BY ASSA FEATURES
WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY PERFECTLY GOOD UNUSED WORDS LIKE ZUXO, GLOBAT AND YARBO!
AND THINK OF HOW FIFTEEN, SIXTEEN, FIFTY AND SIXTY SOUND ALIKE ON THE PHONE'
FIFTEEN SHOULD BE FIVETEEN AND FIFTY AND SIXTY, FIVTO AND SIXTO!
WHAT'S WRONG, MISS GRUNDY?
I MUST BE LOSING IT! JUGHEAD'S STARTING TO MAKE SENSE TO ME!


GRITS GETS A BISCUIT FOR FETCHING THE PAPER! IT'S EASY TO TRAIN ANIMALS
IT'S TOO EASY!
THE NEIGHBORS WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THEIR PAPERS
6-9
BOB WEBBER
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CHESTER! CATCH ANY FISH?
NOPE!
HOW ABOUT YOU, MOOSE?
BOATS FOR HIRE
10
WELL, IF I CATCH THIS ONE I'M GOING AFTER NOW--- AND THEN CATCH FIVE MORE-- I'LL HAVE SIX
TERRIFIC, MOOSE
6-10
BOB WEBER
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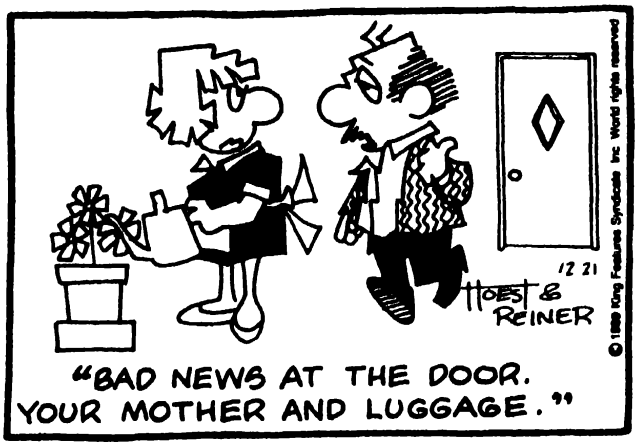
"IT'S A WONDER THAT STORE DOESN'T OPEN A BRANCH IN OUR LIVING ROOM."



"MY WIFE ISN'T SURE WHAT SHE WANTS, BUT SHE KNOWS IT'S EXPENSIVE."

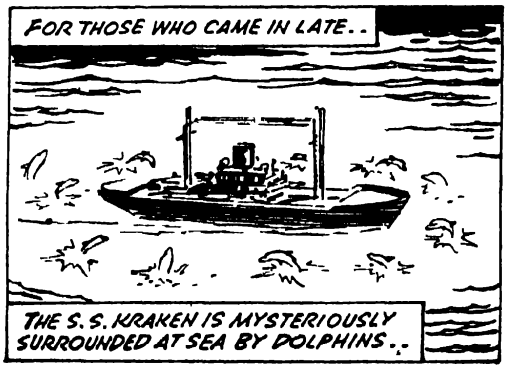


"I SEE YOU HAD WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS AGAIN."

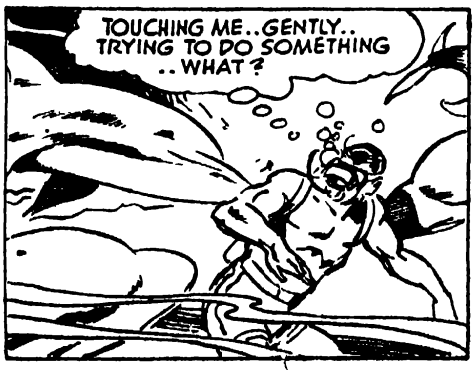


"BAD NEWS AT THE DOOR. YOUR MOTHER AND LUGGAGE."

MANDRAKE By Lee Falk



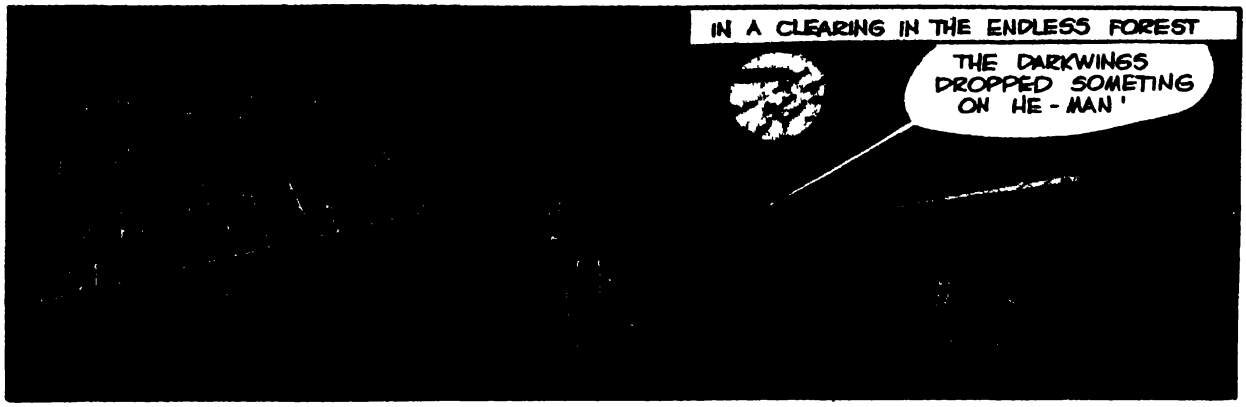







OKAY, EGON, JUST PICK OUT SOMEONE TO HELP YOU IN THE KITCHEN THIS WEEK
A-HEH-HEH-HEH!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HA! HA! HAR!
HAR-HAR HAR-DE HAR!
HAVE YOU PUT A LAXATIVE IN MY
YOU MEAN I'VE GOT TO HELP YOU IN THE KITCHEN?
YUP
BUT-BUT I CAN'T COOK!
HERE AM I SAYING THAT TO A CHEF WHO FRIES JELLY
YOU WANT ME TO PUT TWO EGGS IN THERE?
YEAH
TAP! TAP!
HERE, THAT'S CLEVER!
I NEVER KNEW THE SHELLS CAME OFF!
ER EGON?
THERE ARE ABOUT TEN COCKROACHES IN THIS SOUP
OH, NO! IT'S RUINED!
THERE SHOULD ONLY BE SEVEN
AND THIS, MY FRIEND IS THE 'PIECE DE RESISTANCE'!
A LITTLE SOMETHING THAT SEPARATES A GREAT DISH FROM AN ORDINARY ONE
CHOP! CHOP! CHOP!
WHAT THE TOP OF A FINGER?

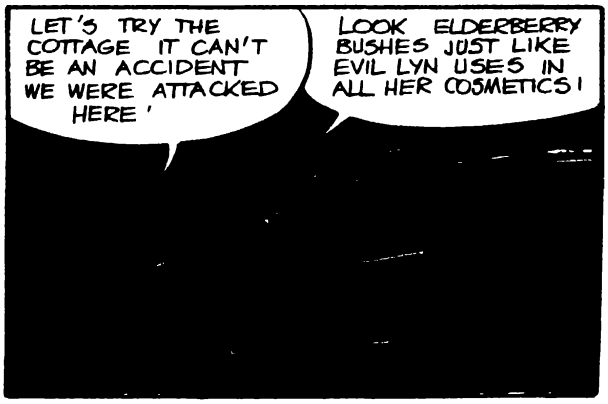
The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special



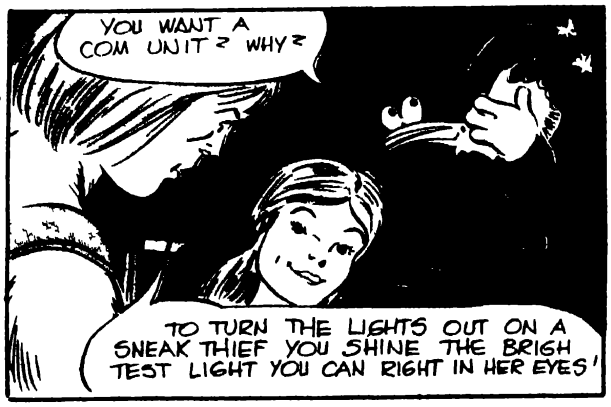




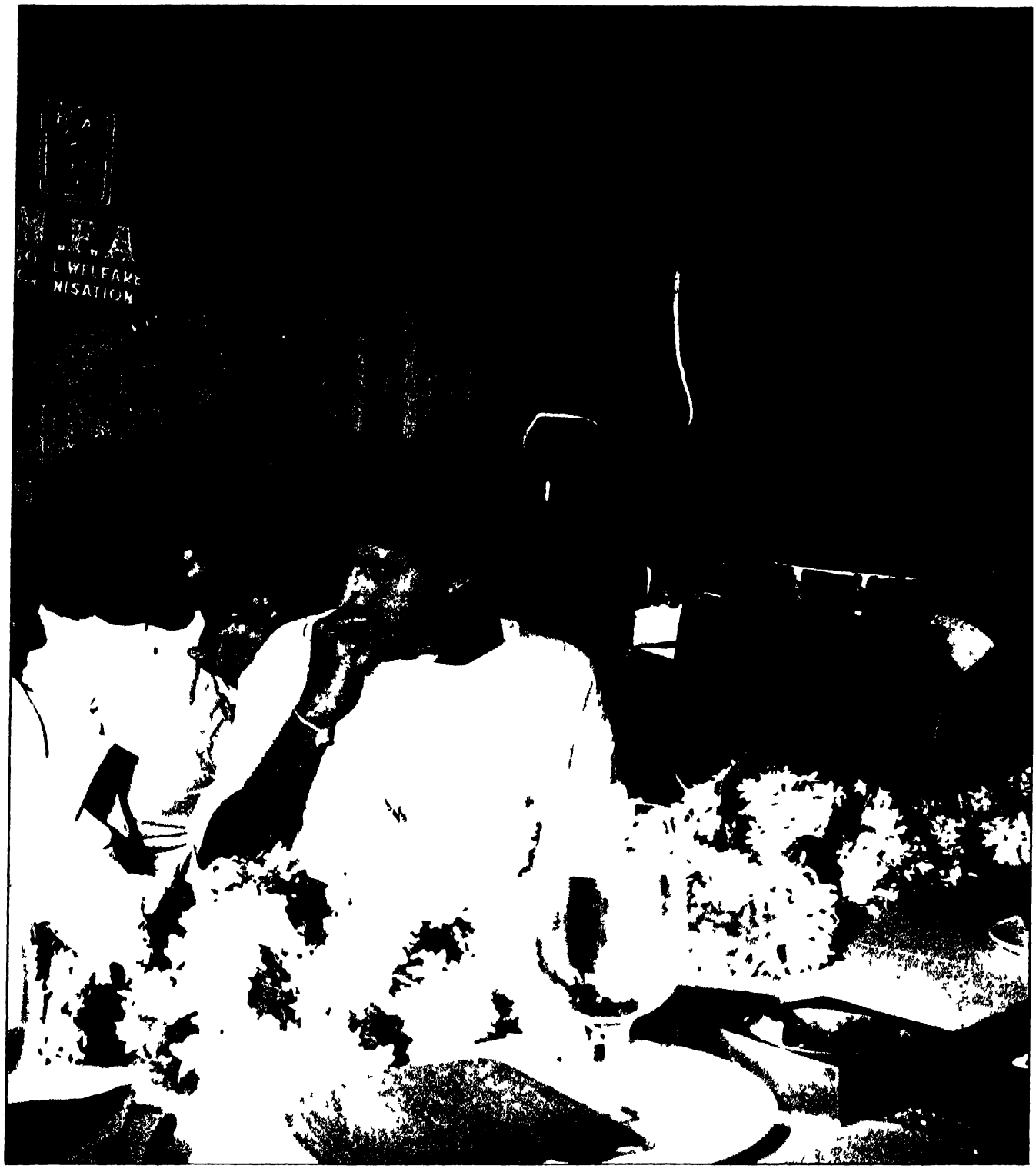








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Ah, for the sweet smell of success. But does it really matter to the two Calcutta boys how *Agneepath* fares? You can never keep a megastar like **Amitabh Bachchan** down and **Mithun Chakraborty** will always remain outstanding. Photograph by ASHOK MAJUMDER



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that s a situation none of us would like to get into But then one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for With Mediclaim from New India A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits including cover for hospitalisation at home, under special circumstances For a premium as low as Rs 200 per annum (at the minimum) It also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate

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Rs	Rs	Rs
200	10 500	3 100
250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

Age limit 5 70 years * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium

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Psst! Ghafoor...

After repeated requests from the readers of the Colour Magazine, I thought you had finally stopped publishing obscene pictures. But I was surprised to see the Candid Camera page of the February 25 issue where you carried a semi-nude photograph of Abdul Ghafoor.

This only shows your attitude. You see to it that every issue has at least one nude.

T.V. Sanjit,
Calcutta

■ The picture and caption of Candid Camera (Abdul Ghafoor, February 25) were simply splendid. It had much to say about the hypocrisy of politicians in India and the increasing number of turncoats who have often jeopardised the country's democratic norms, seldom failing to 'bare' themselves in the process.

Riaz ul Ahsan,
Calcutta

Why Nudes?

The sexciting stills used with the article, 'Getting Away with Sex (and Murder)' (January 14) were in no way befitting to the Colour Magazine tradition.

The magazine has turned out to be a very successful Sunday package for the entire family. Why use these nude pictures and pollute the aroma?

Sunil Banerjee,
Calcutta

■ The pictures of flowers in Rainbow (February 25) were most colourful—and far better than the nude pictures you sometimes publish!

Azhar Doctor,
Calcutta

■ You have quoted the publicity officer of 20th Century Fox in the article. But your representative neither interviewed me on the issue nor did I make any statement.

N. Dutta,
Calcutta

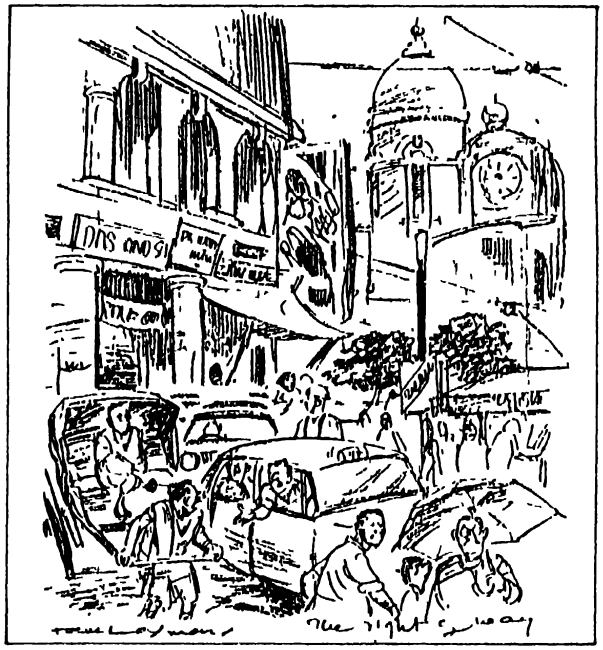
The Spirit of Calcutta

You have done great service to Calcutta by reproducing R.K. Laxman's sketches (February 11). They successfully capture the spirit of Calcuttans.

Keshob Ranjan Biswas, Calcutta

■ I have preserved the issue simply because of Laxman's sketches. They are vivid and relevant and Laxman has managed to project the true mood of the city. Only, I missed a sketch on the processions of Calcutta.

Rajendra Mundhra,
Howrah



Of Animals and Humans

'The Zoo Story' (February 4) convinced me that we have fallen into an abyss of hypocrisy. The so-called champions of animal rights are concerned about the wretched existence of these creatures in unhealthy surroundings like garbage dumps, smoke-filled tea stalls and anti-social infested parks.

But have they ever bothered to think about the much worse conditions in which millions of human beings are languishing in city slums and villages? At least these animals are provided with food and shelter and medical treatment free of cost.

What is the crime of these human beings, who are the most beautiful creations of God and certainly not inferior to these animals? They have no home, no food or pure drinking water. Unless we can provide them with basic needs, all our attempts to, preserve wildlife will look like a farce.

Sanjay Banka 'Manish',
Calcutta

■ The unhealthy surroundings and the incessant noise of traffic must be quite unbearable for the poor animals trapped in their filthy cages. The utter misery of the animals is heart breaking.

Anjana Sinha, Rourkela

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18 MARCH 1990

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Subhajit Pal

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18 The Hubble Space Telescope, scheduled for launch next month, is expected to provide new insight on the universe.

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24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover Raghubir Singh



BLOW THE BUGLES

Desert Warrior (Pesi Shroff up) coming in the winner

This year Calcutta hosted the prestigious Classic Indian Turf Invitation Cup feature in which Desert Warrior from Bombay ran away with the honours. Some vignettes of excitement



Rashbehari Das

Jyoti Basu and ITC chairman J.N. Sapru hand over the cup to (l-r) Dr Cyrus S. Poonawalla, Mrs Villo C. Poonawalla, and Mr and Mrs R.B. Jain, the owners of Desert Warrior

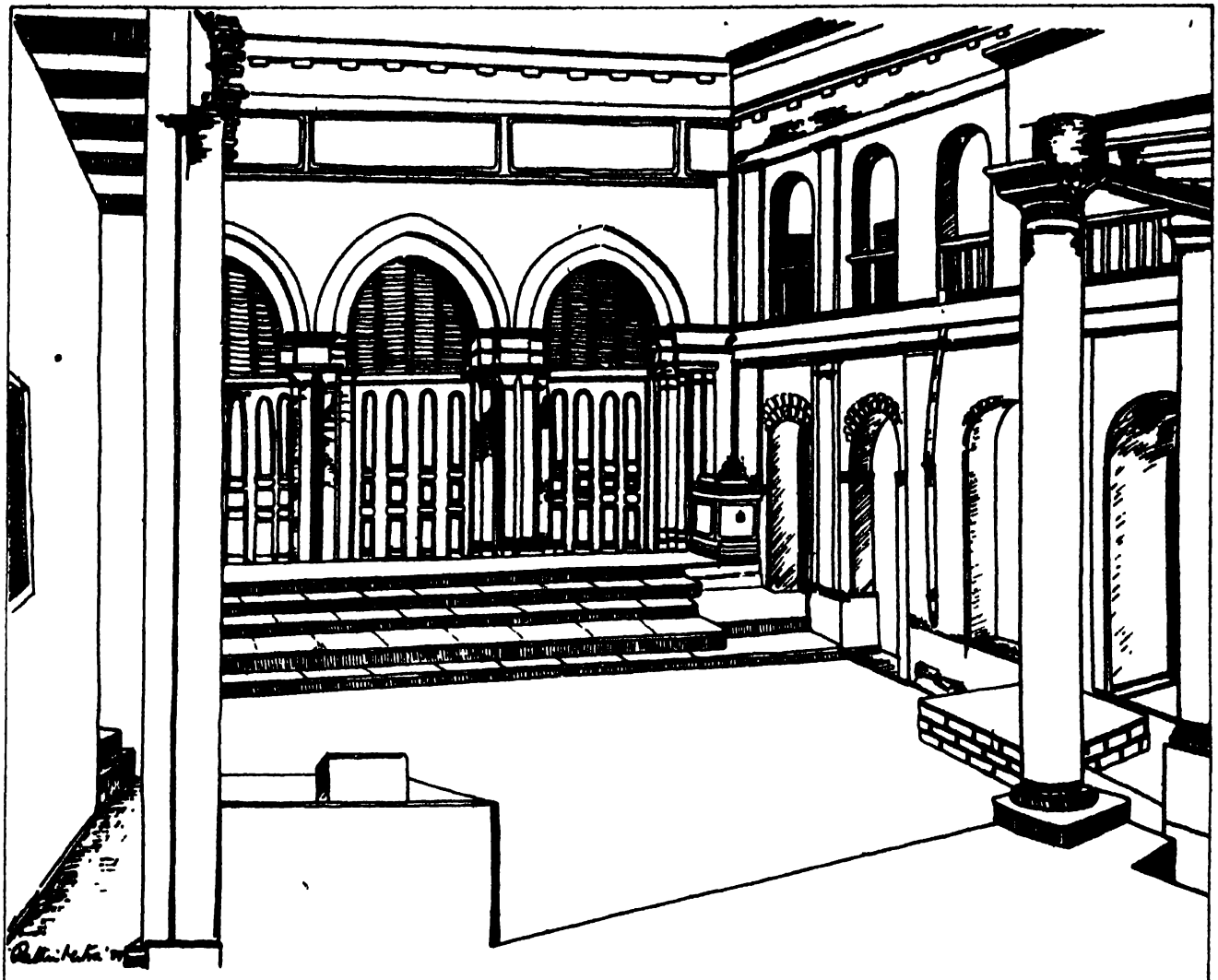


Interest was keen in the young (above) and old alike





AKSHOY CHANDRA SARKAR (1846-1917)



Born on December 11, 1846 in a Kayastha family of Chinsurah, noted writer and journalist Akshoy Chandra Sarkar spent his childhood in Birnagar. He moved to Chinsurah when he was 10 and joined the Hooghly Collegiate School. He passed his Entrance Examination in 1863, followed by FA in 1865 and BA in 1867. He studied law at Presidency and after passing out began practising at Baharampore where his father was the sadar munsiff. He developed a long-standing association with Bankimchandra; and the first edition of *Bangadarshan* (edited by Bankimchandra) carried Akshoy Chandra's piece, *Uddipan*.

Akshoy Chandra started the weekly *Sadharani* from Chinsurah. With the outbreak of malaria, he moved to Calcutta. Later, *Sadharani* merged with *Nababivakar* (edited by Prof. Gangadhar Banerjee of LMS College, Bhowanipore). Eventually, Akshoy Sarkar himself began to edit *Nababivakar-Sadharani* and carried articles by Bankimchandra, Indranath Banerjee and some well-known writers of the time. Subsequently, Akshoy Chandra launched the monthly, *Nabajeeban*. He also served as the vice president of Bangiya Sahitya Parishad for three terms.

Akshoy Chandra had a good number of publications to his credit of which *Shikshana-bisher Padya, Prachin Kabya Sangraha, Gocharoner Maath, Hatey Hatey Phal, Sankshipta Ramayan, Alochana, Sanatani* and *Kabi Hemchandra* deserve mention. Among his post-humous publications were *Mahapuja, Rupak O Rahasya, Sahitya Sadhana* and *Sahitya Paath*. He died on October 2, 1917 at his Chinsurah house (sketched above).

SPORTS



Ashoke Mitra

In memory of glorious days

In 1893, with the formation of the Indian Football Association in Calcutta, the IFA Challenge Shield was officially kicked off. In the years that followed, the Shield grew in stature to become one of the blue riband tournaments in the country, along with the Durand Cup and Rovers Cup. Crack British regimental teams like the Royal Irish Rifles, King's Own Regiment, Sherwood Foresters, Gordon Highlanders and East Yorkshire Regiment took part in the tournament, as did other leading clubs of the day such as the Calcutta Football Club.

And when the barefoot brigade of the Mohun Bagan Club, comprising of only Bengalis, won the Shield in 1911, beating East York, the tournament's popularity went through the roof. Later came Mohammedan Sporting Club, with their maiden win in 1936 and East Bengal, who had their first taste of success in 1943.

The dominance of the British clubs wore off in the late forties and the local clubs stepped in to fill the breach But, by and large, the standard remained high. The first part of the sixties belonged to Mohun Bagan, the latter part to East Bengal.

With the advent of the seventies, foreign teams once again started participating and competition became very keen. Pyongyang City Club of North Korea enthralled the soccer-hungry people of Calcutta in 1973, reaching the final in style before losing 1-3 to East Bengal. In 1978, under the newly-installed floodlights of Mohun Bagan Club, superleaguers Ararat Yerevan of the Soviet Union braved incessant rain and slippery ground conditions to emerge joint winners with Mohun Bagan.

The decline and fall of the Shield has been rapid thereafter Today, things have reached a stage where the 1989 tournament is being held this year, from March 20. Still worse, the IFA authorities have (at the time of going to press) been able to confirm only one top team for the tournament—Mohun Bagan. Let alone attracting foreign or, for that matter, leading outstation teams, the IFA has this year been unable to get all the Big Three of the Maidan to participate. The absence of East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting must be one of the severest blows the IFA has received in its 97-year-long history. The once premier tournament has to content itself with the participation of district clubs and the Tata Football Academy juniors. Nobody else is interested and indeed, the Shield itself has become a mere formality that must somehow be got over with every year.

Several factors have contributed to the virtual demise of this tournament, but in the main, it is the "couldn't-care-less" attitude of the men who matter—officials of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the IFA and the clubs, and even the players.

The proliferation of football tournaments throughout the country has also played a big role in drastically reducing the Shield's importance. Till the mid-seventies the Shield, together with the Durand and Rovers Cup and, to a certain extent, the DCM Trophy, formed the circuit that no leading club wanted to miss. But in 1977, the AIFF, as the apex governing body for football in the country, decided to start its own tournament. By virtue of its AIFF tag, the Federation Cup came to be considered as the official all-India club tournament and the winner was accorded the status of champion club for purposes of representation abroad. Obviously, no club worth the name wanted—or could afford to, for fear of the AIFF—bypass the tournament.

With participation in the Federation Cup becoming virtually compulsory, the DCM Trophy, by being the least important of the big tournaments, suffered. The DCM authorities did some quick thinking and came up with the solution: cash incentives to the top clubs. A team reaching the final even a decade ago could gain up to Rs 1 lakh. Not surprisingly, the teams started flocking back to DCM.

With more money coming into the sport, suddenly, there were new tournaments like the Bordoloi Trophy and Sanjay



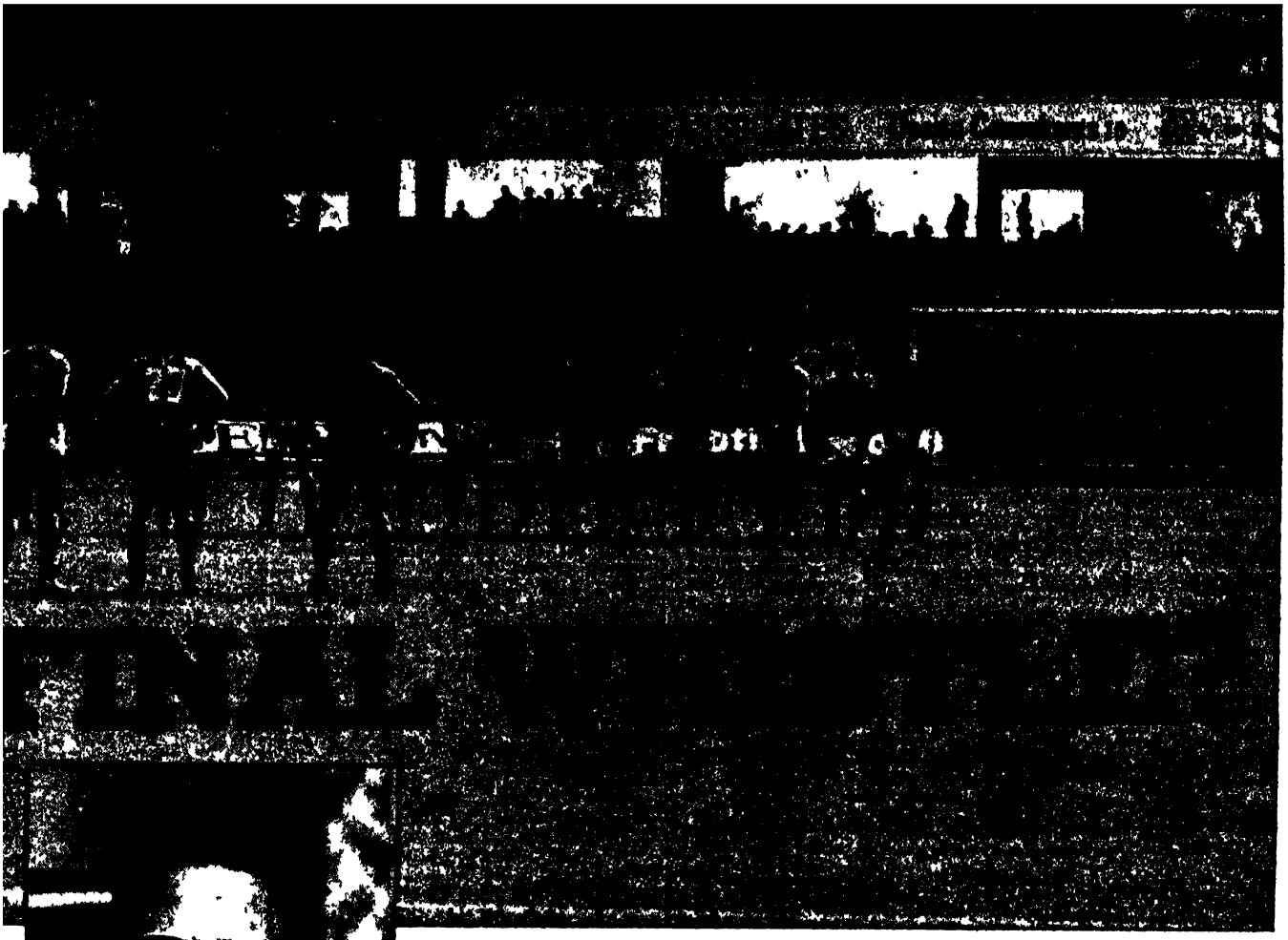
Ashoke Chakraborty

Ashoke Ghosh (left) and Pro

Gandhi Memorial Trophy, while some older ones like the Sait Nagjee Trophy were brought out of the mothballs. They all offered handsome participation fees and fat winning purses. Last year, the organisers of the Naidunia Trophy and Nizam Gold Cup, too, decided to raise the financial stakes substantially. With so much money flying around the clubs could now pick and choose the tournaments they wanted to participate in.

Coupled with the national championship for the Santosh Trophy, the coaching camps for the 1982 Delhi Asiad and the Nehru Gold Cup, which took off that same year, the eighties have brought in round-the-year football.

With so many tournaments and other commitments vying with each other, the IFA shield began to be sidelined. Leading clubs found they had neither the time nor





Santosh Ghosh

ta (right): Foul play

The once-blue riband IFA Shield is today in a total mess, writes **Sujit Bhar**

the financial incentive to participate in the tournament, which offered prestige—or so the organisers thought—and little else. The Shield refused to change with the times, depending more on charity than anything else.

With the fortunes of the Shield taking a nosedive, the newly-elected IFA secretary, Prodyut Dutta, tried to inject some life into the tournament in 1985. Three foreign teams were invited—the famed Penarol of Uruguay, Sakhtyor Donetsk of the USSR and another Uruguayan team made up of mostly juniors. The media build-up was good; so was the initial crowd attendance. But it transpired that Penarol had come with only their second string players and as a result, failed to impress though they did win the Shield with Sakhtyor finishing runners-up.

The tournament failed to bring in the kind of money IFA had hoped for. With several of Dutta's new programmes for improving football in the state backfiring and funds being frittered away on unplanned activities, the Shield became almost a white elephant for the organisers.

To add to the Shield's woes, the association decided to allow the All Airlines Recreation Club to hold the Airlines Gold Cup at the beginning of the session, prior to the league. The IFA had been promised by the club a large sum of money for its 'developmental programmes'. That, as it seems now, was an eyewash. All that happened was that the teams had another tournament to play and at the end of it all, were too tired to participate in the IFA Shield, or if they did, performed well below their best.

The IFA's coffers, even after offering memberships, were empty. Whatever little money came IFA's way was mainly utilised to keep the association afloat, the rest going to the districts. The IFA Shield was nobody's child.

To make matters worse, relations between the AIFF secretary Ashok Ghosh and Dutta were steadily deteriorating. The elections that had brought Dutta in as IFA secretary had been acrimonious and as the months went by, the schism between the IFA and AIFF grew wider. With each trying to hinder the other, football, in general, and the Shield, in particular, suffered.

In 1988 came the big blow. The IFA was to organise the Nehru Gold Cup and Dutta decided Siliguri would be the best venue since "spectator turnout in Calcutta was dropping". The Kanchanjunga Stadium in Siliguri was renovated for the purpose, but even before the tournament could get under way, Dutta had created an unwanted adversary, the West Bengal government. A long-time ally of Dutta, the state sports minister Subhas Chakraborty launched a bitter tirade against him, while government representatives boycotted the Cup functions. The alienation of the state government also ensured that the local businessmen stayed away. Sponsorship was low and the tournament was a financial disaster that brought IFA to its knees. The IFA building had to be mortgaged even as the banks started applying

pressure for repayment of the Rs 20-lakh loan the association had taken to organise the Siliguri meet.

As a last ditch effort, Dutta decided to contest the secretaryship of the AIFF. A victory, he thought, would give him a chance to wriggle out of the tight corner in which he found himself. Ashoke Ghosh's term was over, but he wasn't going to let Dutta take over from him. So, while Dutta aligned himself with Santosh Mohan Dev, who was in the fray for presidentship, Ghosh supported the rival group of Priya Ranjan Das Munshi and P.P. Lakshmanan. Extensive tours were undertaken by both parties in their efforts to lobby for support, and if necessary, buy up votes. Money was spent at random. Rooms with tarrifs upto Rs 1600 a day were booked at a five-star hotel in Bombay for long periods and a glittering banquet hall was booked for the election. But at the last minute, Santosh Mohan Dev withdrew from the race and the poll was dispensed with. The AIFF office bearers were simply nominated and with the Das Munshi group applying the steamroller, Dutta was denied of even the crumbs, let alone the secretaryship.

He returned to Calcutta a defeated and broken man. But by then, irrevocable damage had been done to the Shield as well as the Calcutta League, which were completely neglected in the stampede for the plumbs of office.

The league failed to move along as the clubs demanded a larger share of the revenue from the exhibition matches (as opposed to ordinary matches where the gate receipts are lower). Since the Shield matches are also 'exhibition', the IFA found itself in yet another fix. Last year, neither could the league be completed, nor the Shield held.

According to Dutta, efforts are on to "sabotage" the Shield. "I see our rival group's (referring to the Ashoke Ghosh faction) hand in all this. They have teamed up with the state government in deliberately trying to destabilise us," he alleged.

"The big clubs are also taking undue advantage. In their list of demands, they have asked for free entry for their members. The Shield is not a league, it is a tournament, and depends on gate receipts. If the IFA does not get anything, what's the use of holding the tournament?"

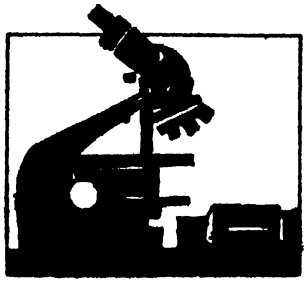
Besides the row over revenue-sharing, the state government directive that all matches must be held at the Salt Lake Stadium and that only two of them can be billed as exhibition ties has hit the IFA very hard. Says Dutta, "By insisting on Salt Lake the government is killing the tournament. Without proper transport to and from the stadium, there will be no spectators. We have already had proof of that. Where are we going to get the necessary funds from? All these problems have been brought to the notice of the state sports minister, but he's not willing to listen. We have our backs to the wall, and everyone is trying to hit us under the belt."

Dutta claims the big clubs have ganged up against the association "primarily because we have decided to introduce from next year the super league system, leaving them with little scope for playing around with points. Competition will be much tougher since the top 10 will fight it out among themselves. The Big Three want an easier route to the title."

Clearly, the IFA is in a mess, which is largely of its own making, but compounded by external pressures. And this is reflecting on the Shield. Poorly financed and ineptly organised, the Shield today stands shorn of all its glamour, making a mockery of its glorious past. And there's still no light at the end of the tunnel. The question the IFA must ask of itself is: Why continue with this farce? The least it can do is give the Shield a decent burial. ■

Stop this farce





HORIZON

Registering a Dispute

Patent disputes have a way of hitting headlines. The last big row that drew international attention was over who should get the credit for identifying the virus that causes AIDS in human beings. Two researchers in Paris and Washington came out with articles about their discovery almost at the same time. The dispute dragged on with the two researchers threatening to move the international court. The case was eventually resolved through the intervention of the French and US governments and the researchers were granted the patent jointly.

Another controversy has now gone to a Japanese court, this time over the discovery of TPA (tissue plansminogen activator), the enzyme that dissolves clots in blood vessels. The parties in this case are two companies, Genetech and Sumitomo. Interestingly, the suit is not over who should be credited with the discovery of TPA. Genetech prepared the enzyme by manipulating genes and a number of drug companies all over the world bought the know-how for mass production. Now, Sumitomo argues that TPA is naturally available and no company should have a patent on its artificial production. The case is of special interest because of the far-reaching implications that it is likely to have on drug manufacturers the world over. The hearing has just begun; so, let's wait for the verdict.



Monster Makers?

Gone are the days when science reporters used to blow out of all proportions the fallout of genetic engineering. It was feared that any misadventure while tinkering with the genes would let loose monsters that could wreak havoc. Newer findings, however, have proved otherwise. Not only physiologists but also science writers have realised that those monsters are hard to come by. But the realisation has not dispelled fears of health hazards. Scientists are afraid that a virus created by mistake could lead to diseases with no antidote.

Such fears have compelled lawmakers in the UK to issue a fresh stricture to medical researchers. The law makes it compulsory for scientists to notify the Health and Safety Executive, a governmental wing, 90 days before testing the efficacy of a genetically altered micro-organism in atmosphere.

Glow Plants

Farmers may some day plant crops that glow like a firefly when attacked by pests. According to a report in *BioScience*, the gene that makes fireflies blink in the dark has become a useful laboratory tool for biologists. By inserting the gene for bioluminescence into plant cells, tobacco plants can be made to glow. This has encouraged scientists to 'cultivate' plants that blink for help.

According to the plan, the firefly gene would be inserted so as to activate a plant's self-defence system. When pests attack the plant, it would immediately start emitting a light, warning farmers of their presence.



Making Crucial Noises

What do nuclear power plant maintenance and pest control have in common? Noise, it seems. Physicists have so long been using devices to detect sounds that indicate defects in power. The technology is now being copied by some US scientists to develop a tiny sound detector to catch onrushing swarms of killer bees. The detectors have been miniaturised to the size of a half-a-carat diamond so that they can be tied to the back of a captured killer bee. The piggy-back noise-detector, once it reaches a bevy, would alert scientists much in advance so that they are ready to destroy them with chemical sprays.

Compiled by Pathik Guha

Illustrations: Subrata Gangopadhyay

The Reel

The great poet had once directed a film—with disastrous results. Ashoke Nag digs out some nuggets about one of the earliest Bengali talkies, *Natir Puja*

In late 1931, Rabindranath Tagore arrived in Calcutta with a Visva Bharati drama troupe to put up a stage production of his musical opera, *Natir Puja*. It was a big event for Calcuttans. The Old Empire Theatre (later rechristened New Empire) was spruced up for the grand occasion. The show, predictably, was a roaring success. For Tagore though, it was only the beginning of a mission to raise money for his dreamed-of Sriniketan. In the twilight years of his life, he was set to undertake an arduous drama tour of the country.

But before Tagore could embark on the next leg of his schedule, his secretary received a call from B. N. Sircar of the legendary New Theatres Studio (NTS). The week that followed saw history being made. For the first and only time, poet-dramatist-novelist-painter Tagore turned film director. Sadly, nothing remains of that remarkable and little-known chapter of his life, save the memories of one man and a rare photograph.

Seventy-nine-year-old Subodh Mitra is the lone survivor of the group that assisted Tagore in the making of his film. Mitra, who became a director in the mid-forties and is now director-in-charge of India Film Laboratories (erstwhile NTS), was responsible for editing the film.

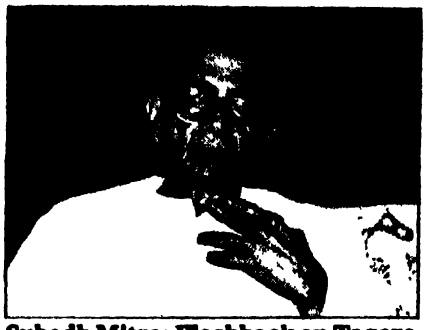
The overwhelming public response to *Natir Puja* had fired the imagination of the men behind NTS. Floor manager Chakai Bose, in particular, took the initiative in getting B. N. Sircar to think of filming it, according to Mitra.

Sircar did not need much convincing. "It was decided that 50 per cent of the film's proceeds would go into funding the Sriniketan project. In any case, NTS did not view this venture purely from a commercial angle and even gave Rs 10,000 as donation," says Mitra. For Tagore, the offer not only meant money for Sriniketan, but also the chance to try his hand at something new.

For five days, Tagore worked with a 20-member NTS crew, which included literateur Premankur Atarthi, cameraman Nitin Bose and sound engineer Mukul Bose, besides Mitra himself. "Throughout the shooting, Rabindranath had Dinendranath Tagore to carry out his directorial instructions and take care of the overall supervision, including song arrangements," recalls Mitra.

Props conceived for the film were similar to those in the Old Empire drama. A rostrum was constructed on NTS' floor no.1. And the entire play was shot without deviating the slightest bit from Tagore's directions. "That is what made it Gurudev's film. Structurally, the execution was totally stagey. There were longish takes (with three cameras positioned at angles) as the players enacted the scenes. Later, I reviewed the rushes at the editing table to cut and juxtapose and sift out defective takes which called for repeats," says Mitra.

As a tribute to Tagore, NTS had planned a documentary capsule to go with the 11-reel *Natir Puja*, beginning with Gurudev's reflections on his long years of creativity and closing with him presenting the film to the viewers. "After we had



Subodh Mitra: Flashback on Tagore



Premankur Atarthi, B.N. Sircar and N

The Burmese-style Gol Ghar on the New Theatres complex





Courtesy Subodh Mitra

se (with camera) shooting Tagore for the introductory piece: Rare photograph

Tagore



Photographs of Tagore and B.N. Sircar adorn the Gol Ghar's interiors

finished shooting the play itself, Tagore came over to NTS to help Nitin Bose complete the capsule," says Mitra.

His voice chokes with emotion as he remembers his encounter with Rabindranath Tagore. "It still comes back to me as clear as daylight. There was the great man sitting by my side as I pored over the rushes in the editing room. Eventually, he nodded his approval. I kept looking at him, awestruck. Nandalal Bose (the renowned painter) was also there. For a young man of 20, it was a dream experience.'

Once the 10,577-foot long cinematic version of *Natir Puja*, the fifth Bengali talkie to be produced, was ready, Rabindranath left for Bombay with his artistes. And there, his fund-hunt was fated to end. According to Mitra, "Mahatma Gandhi, who happened to be in Bombay at the time, was shocked to hear of the reasons for Tagore's embarking on such an exhausting journey. He telephoned the poet and persuaded him to drop his plans. A cheque of Rs 50,000 (Gandhiji's handiwork, as everyone guessed) reached Santiniketan soon after Tagore's return."

Meanwhile, with the Bengal Film Censor Board certifying *Natir Puja* (certificate no. 12101 dated 14.3.32) the stage was set for its release. An organised publicity campaign was launched and handbills and streetposters were distributed through the city. On March 22, 1932, *Natir Puja* was premiered at north Calcutta's Chitra (now Mitra) Theatre. It was an era of single-hall film distribution. The inaugural day's reaction to the show took the wind out of NTS' sails. The hooting audience was unmoved by Tagore, the filmmaker. *Natir Puja* ran for barely a week. For once, Tagore had flopped.

Says Mitra, "For one, the film's theme was beyond the 'grasp of the average cinegoer. The elite who had flocked to Old Empire were nowhere to be found at Chitra. After all, there was the added draw of Tagore's own presence in the stage production. Also the audience was probably unprepared for the stylised *Santiniketani* form of acting. I must admit that in those nascent years of sound cinema we had also not given thought to cinematically reorienting a stageplay."

The film was shelved. The positive print remained in the custody of the distributors, Arora Film Company, while a negative copy was stocked in NTS' film repository. "In August 1940, a huge fire at NTS destroyed a large number of films. The commercially successful films were in time duped (duplicated) from their positives. Others, including the unsuccessful *Natir Puja*, were ignored," says Mitra.

In the mid-fifties, Arora Film Company returned *Natir Puja's* positive to NTS, for destruction. Nevertheless, Subodh Mitra held this final act at bay. "I travelled abroad in connection with my film, *Raikamal*, in 1955, postponing the decision on *Natir Puja's* fate. When I came back, NTS was embroiled in liquidation proceedings. The scene was one of total disarray and the film had disappeared," he says.

Natir Puja, which was made on a budget of Rs 15,000, was lost forever. Today, only the Gol Ghar (a thatched open-air sitting enclosure built specially for Tagore) in the New Theatres complex stands solitary testimony to a story long banished into oblivion.

The opening words of Rabindranath's filmed discourse still echo in Subodh Mitra's mind: *Aaj sattar bachhar baeshe, sadharaner majhe aamaar parichay ek parinaam e eshe thekeche.*" (Today, at 70 years of age, I feel the warmth of my people's recognition). A priceless motion-picture footage we will never see.■

Photographs Ashoke Nag



QUIZ ◻ Neil O'Brien

If I were asked what are the most frequent questions put to me either through letters of this column or verbally by people I meet in all sorts of places, I would say it would be something on these lines: "What should I do to be good at quiz? Can I attend a quiz course?" and less frequently, "How do I become a quizmaster?"

It's very difficult to give a proper and brief answer to these questions, but perhaps I have an answer which will go someway in satisfying these enquiries from parents and students.

"Calcutta Quiz Corner (49B, Ballygunge Place) are organising a quiz course for young people, school students to be precise, to be held from April 1990 till March 1991. The course is designed to develop a pupil's general awareness and knowledge. Pupils will also be coached in the art of conducting quiz contests with special emphasis on public speaking. Conceived and conducted by Barry O'Brien, special sessions will be taken by Neil O'Brien and other leading quizmasters of the city. Classes: There will be one session a week from 5 pm to 7 pm. School examination periods will be excluded. Enquire at your school office for admission forms or go directly and get yourself enrolled."

Niren Bismakar of Siliguri asks about the black box on an aircraft. By a coincidence, Philip Elisha, Calcutta 16, has sent this information on Black box



the "box".

"The black box, measuring 8" × 12", is in fact coloured fluorescent orange for easy identification and retrieval in the event of an air crash. It comprises the cockpit voice recorder (CVR) and digital flight data recorder (DFDR). This emits signals for one month after a crash and records a continuous input of flight data: fuel flow, oil pressure, engine rpm, acceleration, outside air temperature, inside air temperature, speed, climb, cruise, descent and bank angles, in total, 65 parameters on an Airbus. The DFDR weighs 40 lbs of which the CVR accounts for 220 lbs. The DFDR costs the equivalent of Rs 8,00,000 to instal in an aircraft. It records 25 hours of flight on playback tape and can remain submerged in salt water for up to 30 days, protected against impact, fire over 1000°C, chemical attack by hydraulic, deicing and fire extinguishing fluids, fuels and acids.

"The DFDR became mandatory in 1958 in the US and 1965 in the UK. The data is recorded on magnetic aluminium or high-nickle content steel foil tape which is 200' long, 5" wide and 0.001" thick and wound on supply and take-up spools, sprockets and guide rollers contained within a magazine assembly. The tape moves 6" an hour. It has 400 recording hours on it. There is an indicator window showing the amount of tape remaining.

"The CVR has a highly sensitive microphone which picks up, apart from voices, the sound of any warning device in the cockpit and it records on four channels.

"The DFDR is usually mounted in the tail cone of an aircraft as this area has the highest chance of survival in a crash."

A quiz report from S. Gandhi, Burnpur:

"A quiz has become an annual affair at the Asansol Book Fair. Organised this year by Graduates' Association, Burnpur, Quiz 1990 received excellent response from the school students of Asansol and Burnpur. Quizmaster Biswajit Basu was in great form. The winning team comprised T.Goswami and K.S.Ganguly."

Postscript: *A reminder:* Tomorrow is the last day for receiving entries for the Sportsworld Round Table Quiz for the Dunlop Spectrawide Trophy. Rush your entries to Sportsworld, 6 Prafulla Sarkar Street, Calcutta 700001.

An apology. In the Percy Baptiste Quiz 1989 (*The Telegraph*, February 25, 1990), St Xavier's edged out, St James by ½ point to win and not as reported.

CBS

11th Question: **About whom did Picasso say, "—is the woman who has loved me the most"? (Pulak K Das, 6/2 Kamar Danga Road, Calcutta 700 046)**
Ans: **Interestingly, the name mentioned by Picasso, in the blank, was not any one of his many wives, mistresses or female associates, but Georges Braque, Picasso's partner in Cubism.**

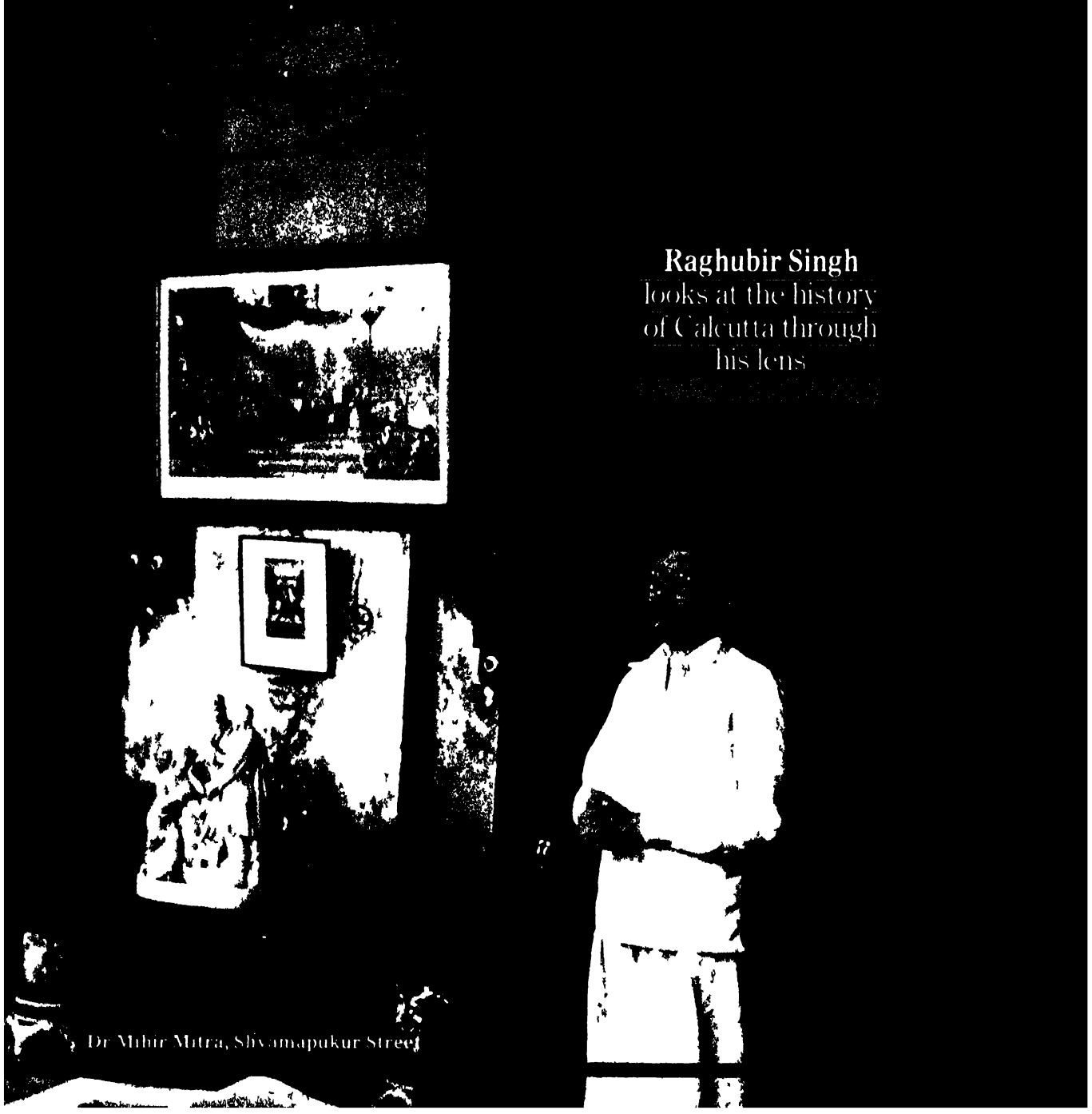
QUESTIONS

1. What was Romania's dreaded secret police known as? (Ruhbib Najnas, Bhubaneswar 12)
2. Linford Christie won the men's 1000 metres at the Commonwealth Games at Auckland with a Commonwealth Games record of 9.93 seconds. But the timing did not go into the record books. Why? (S. Surendra, BIT Sindri)
3. Which ruler also worked as a barber, dentist and shipbuilder? (J. Omprakash Rao, Jharsuguda 2)
4. Which Indian actress recently said: "I am among the very few heroines who look beautiful even when they cry."? (Mohan Kr Agrawal, Bargarh 28)
5. Yoko Ono was the second wife of John Lennon. Who was the first? (Subrata Halder, Tribeni 3)
6. Which well-known novel is subtitled *Life Among the Lowly*? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Bhubaneswar 4)
7. Which politician said, "For every British politician there is a dedicated taxpayer, for every enemy there is a friend."? (Nirmalya Mukherjee, Nabadwip)
8. In boxing what was referred to as the "Bum of the Month Club"? (Niraj Kumar, BIT Sindri)
9. Albert Camus and Richard Wright wrote two different novels with what same title? (Othello Mazoomdaar, Calcutta 61)
10. What kind of person is "pusillanimous"? (Dipankar Dasgupta, Rourkela 3)

ANSWERS

Poetry of the Past

Raghubir Singh looks at the history of Calcutta through his lens



Dr Mihir Mitra, Shivamapukur Street

Calcutta attracts or repels. It never leaves anyone indifferent. The city has attracted me ever since my first visit in 1961. Then I witnessed the last of the Calcutta Englishmen playing polo, managing James Finlay, Balmer Lawrie and other companies. I got a taste of life at Prince's and Firpo's. Flury's still stands but it is not what it was then. Even the cakes are different. They are closer to Indian sweets now. In fact, all of Park Street has radically changed. The European bands and shops have Indianised.

But the anglicised world of Calcutta is not what now attracts me. For me what is really Calcutta is what is left of the age of Bengal Renaissance and the world of the babus. Foreign writers have relegated the important past of the city to history and find it irrelevant today. But, what is irrelevant to foreigners is quite relevant to us. For me the Bengal Renaissance is still very meaningful.

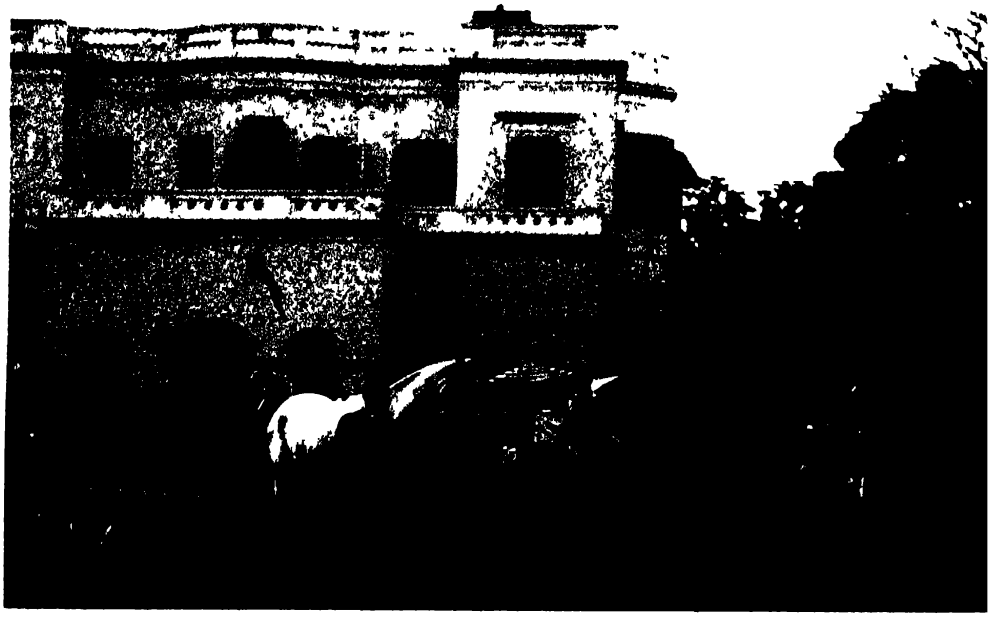
Recently there was a sati in my home state of Rajasthan. It received national attention. In Rajasthan's cities demonstrations for and against sati were held. Some of those who supported sati had studied with me in school. I was appalled. What happened in Bengal 200 years ago came to my mind. The era of Rammohun Roy had wrought a major change in Bengal where sati was then as popular as it has been in Rajasthan. Sati, purdah, child marriage and other socially retarded practices have long since died in Bengal but they are still alive in Rajasthan.

I have visited the ruins of Rammohun Roy's residence in Calcutta's Amherst Street,now occupied by a company of armed constabulary. I have stood there shocked at the way Calcutta has treated this great visionary. And why do his remains lie buried at Bristol in England, I wonder.

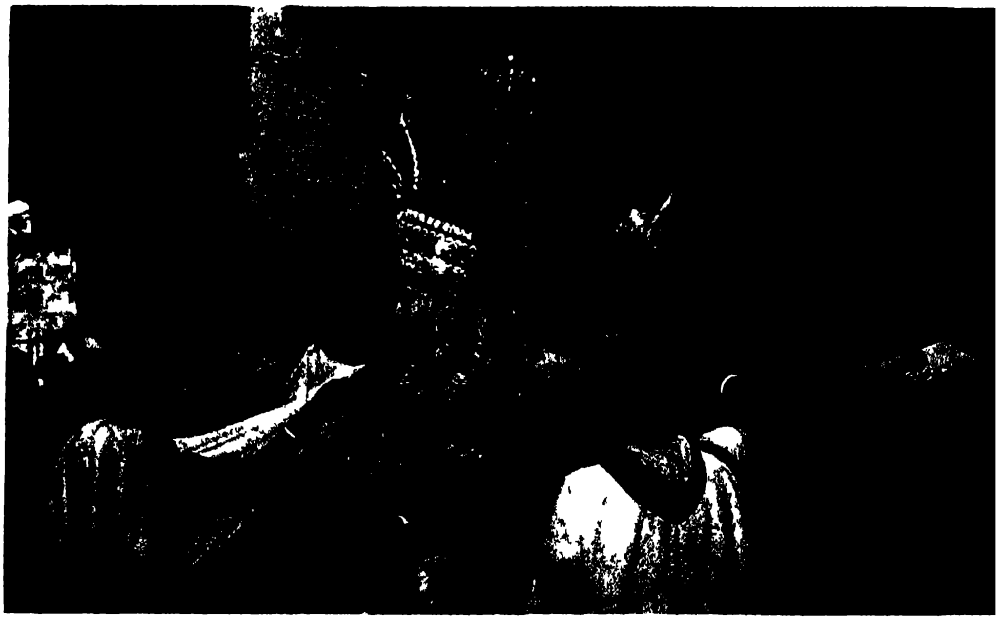
Rammohun Roy's house sits in north Calcutta, not too far from other grand houses. These are historically less important but are still full of the mood of earlier eras. I have taken a tram down Bowbazar to Pathuriaghat Street and



Ganga water for the Tarakeshwar temple



Tollygunge Club



Worshipping Annapurna in the Dutt Sen home



Paritosh Sen at home

there stood before the portraits of classical Indian musicians in the house of Manmanto Ghosh. To stand in that room is to stand transfixed. Those silent portraits bunched together on walls have a music of their own. Across the street stands the house of Ramen Mullick. In his dark living room decorated with classical European statues, chandeliers enclosed in cloth covers and mirrors reflecting bric-a-brac I have been served tea and *san-*



A hoarding

desh. There I have chatted with the gracious Ramen Mullick, one of the babus. He has told me at length how their family worships the Devi and how every 12 years a special puja is performed.

I have visited Jorasanko too. There I have peeked into the room where Tagore lived. A statue of Tagore graces the lawns of Jorasanko which is now a university and museum.

These houses, these statues, these rooms and the descendents of once great families are important to me as they strongly evoke the splendid past of Calcutta.

The past resides too in a large and rambling house in Shyambazar, the home of the Dati Sen family. While the joint families of my native Rajasthan



Calcutta port

have broken up, gone into litigation and quite often made fools of themselves through their feudal fights, here in Calcutta over 90 members of the Sen family live in harmony. They even have an in-house dramatics club. They rarely look to outsiders for company. On holidays 40 of them travel together.

The past is also present in south Calcutta. For me, notably in the flat of R. P. Gupta. Once a public relations executive, he is a writer, collector of books and old prints, an excellent raconteur of stories and a fine storehouse of knowledge on Calcutta. He knows both the Bengali face and the Anglo-Indian face. RP is a character who is hard to find in the city. His conversation is spiced with quotes from literature and poetry. At the mention of Sweden (quite common now with Bofors) RP becomes angry because his favourite novelist P.G. Wodehouse was never awarded the Nobel Prize.



Mullick house in Pathuriaghat Street

Paritosh Sen is a close friend of R. P. Gupta and mine. He is the painter I know best in Calcutta. Paritosh and his wife Jayashree live near Rashbehari Avenue in a modest middle class flat which as befits a painter's residence has both light and air. I never tire of sitting in Paritosh's living room and chatting with him because his conversation sparkles with a deep knowledge of the visual arts, particularly painting. In the room

[illegible] are stacks of books on painting and sculpture. Many of these reflect Paritosh's close affinity with France. He is among those Bengali painters (the late Nirode Mazumdar was another one) who went to study and live in Paris in the late forties and early fifties. Yet, Paritosh's work reveals a deep interest in the past of Calcutta, among other things the writings of Ramakrishna. Sitting in that room surrounded by books on Michelangelo, Degas, Picasso and other painters I have listened to Paritosh talk of Ramakrishna and other men from Calcutta's past. Paritosh's room itself reveals how well the Bengalis can mix East and West.

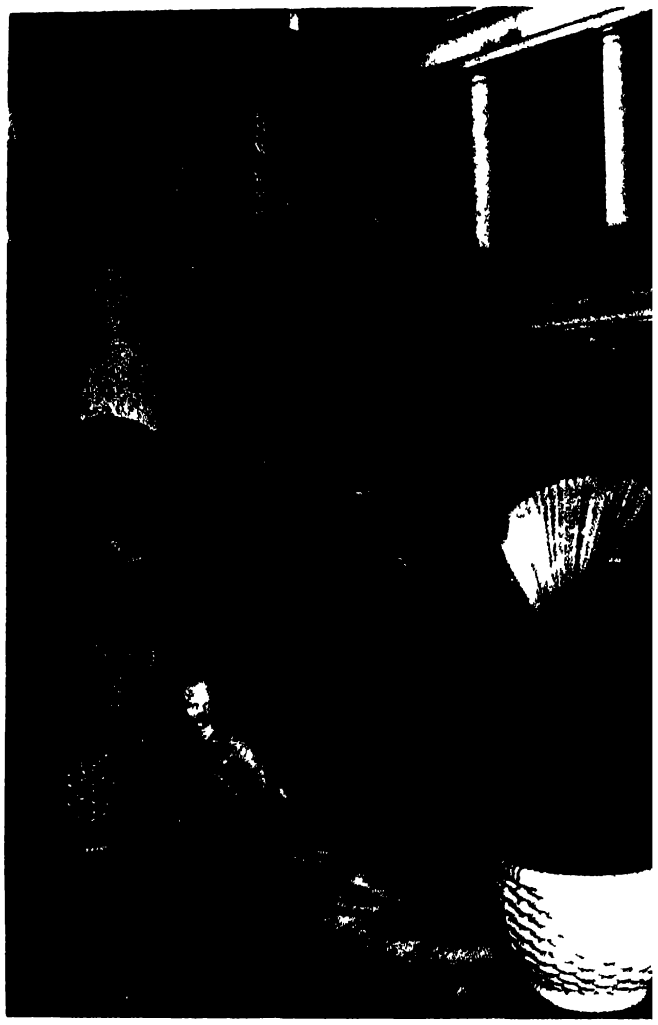
The past of Calcutta also resides in the residence and the person of the sculptor Mira [illegible]. There is [illegible] her [illegible] presence. Her metal sculptures have a direct affinity with the soil of rural Bengal and the folk culture of Bengal's riverine land. To me the rough-edged surface of the sculptures is reminiscent of the cracked and dry river banks of Bengal during the summer. Her idea of using rural Bengal as a source is perhaps derived from Jamini Roy.

Fortuitously, it was in her residence and from her that I heard of the death of Jamini Roy in 1972. I rushed to his house and silently paid my homage to the artist who pointed his peers and his visual inheritors towards the culture that lives along the rivers, the palm trees and the thatched huts of Bengal.

Finally there is the great



Sculptor Mira Mukherjee's washerwoman



The Mullick Rajbari in north Calcutta

Satyajit Ray, who is a true product of the Bengal Renaissance and yet has his two feet planted in today's world. In his second floor flat, in a rambling house, where he sits often with his feet stretched out and propped up on the living room table, a good measure of the world is present in the form of books, maps, records and magazines. That room has an international presence and is yet very Bengali. The windows are often open and past the wooden slats the cawing of crows or the singing of a *baul* or the cry of a hawker floats into the room. He works to the sounds and music of his city.

For me, these men, their mansions and homes and the coffee houses are important, for they are a personal symbol of the fusion of East and West. That fusion began with the Bengal Renaissance and still continues today Calcutta may not be its centre. But the city is still blessed with the spark that fired the movement which has been so important to our lives all over India. Therefore, for me, to know India today is to know the Calcutta of yesterday.

When I see the old houses and buildings come down and modern blocks of flats, offices and shops come up, a common sight today, I feel sad because there is no character in these structures or in most of the people who reside in them. For that reason, to me, much of the best of Calcutta resides in the past. The poetry of Calcutta is the poetry of the past. ■

SPACE INSIGHT



Scheduled for launch next month, the Hubble Space Telescope is expected to zoom in on the distant corners of the universe with far greater power and accuracy than ever before, writes Donald Frederick

A 12.5 tonne bus size telescope should begin orbiting Earth this spring and it may forever change the way people view the universe and their place in it

The celestial observatory expected to function for at least 15 years may settle the question of the speed at which the universe is expanding find black holes and search out other solar systems with planets that could support life

The very notion of planets around other stars is a revolutionary idea says Robert Brown an astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute in the US Just finding the first planet around another star would be a psychological blockbuster It would change our sense of place and raise questions as to human experience and the uniqueness of life in the universe

Scheduled for launch in April aboard the space shuttle *Discovery* the Hubble Space Telescope is expected to provide the best images of stars ever seen Far above Earth's obscuring atmosphere the giant eye in the sky will see images 10 times clearer and detect objects 50 times fainter than today's earthbound telescopes can

The space telescope is named after American astronomer Edwin P Hubble who in the 1920s was the first to determine that the universe is expanding It will be like going from the naked eye to a zoom lens says University of Colorado astronomer Alan Stern

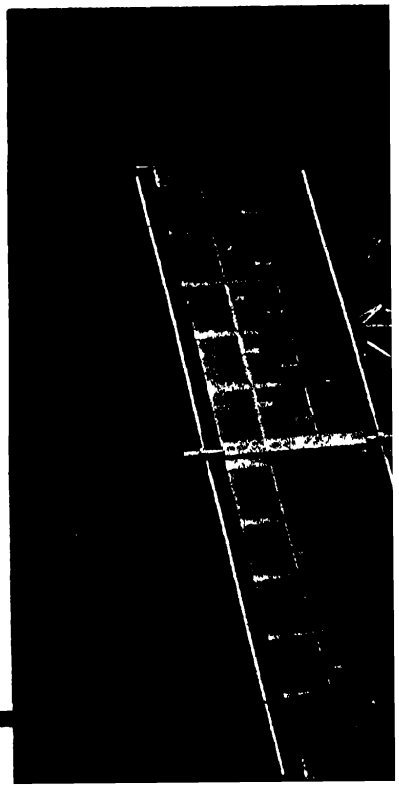
The first image from the telescope is expected here at the institute about a month after launch The institute on the campus of Johns Hopkins University is operated for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration by a consortium of universities We'll be going right for the jugular says senior scientist Eric Chaisson We hope one of our first images will give us a look at the core of the Andromeda Galaxy

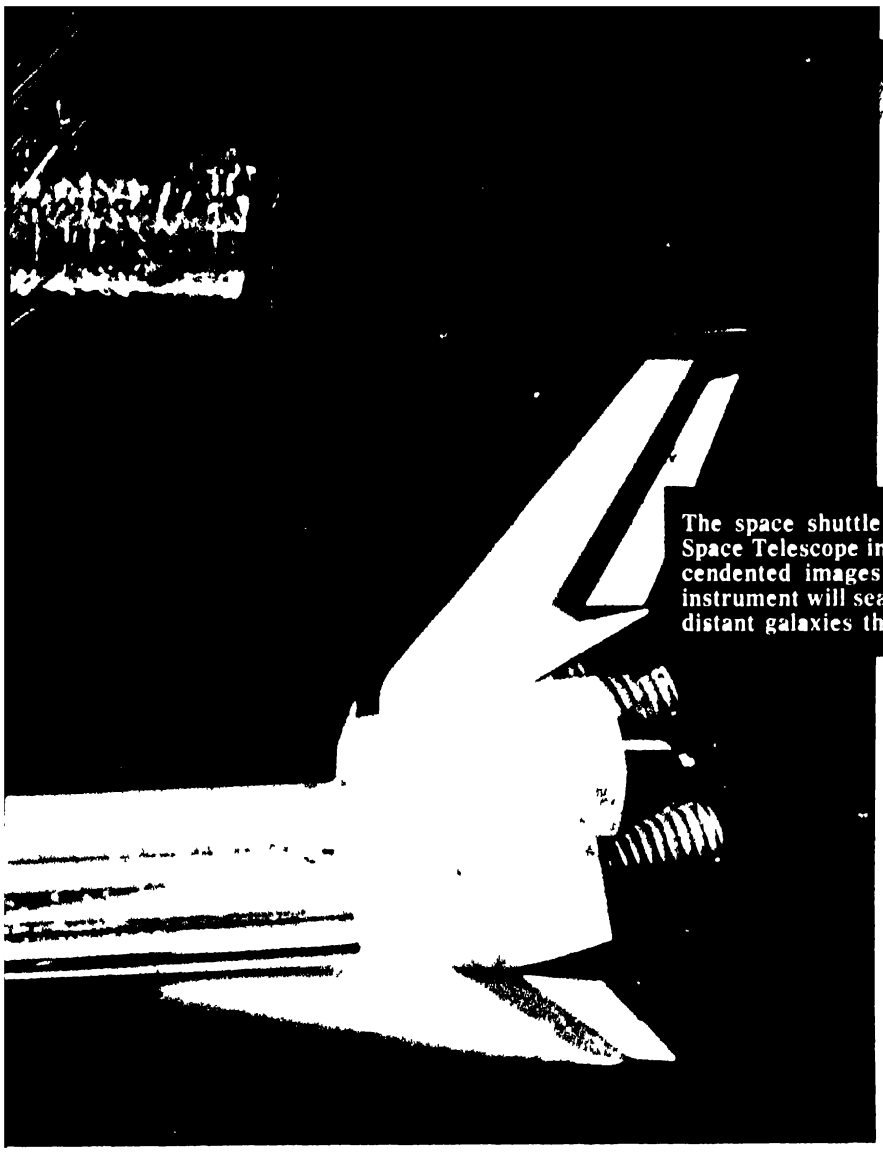
Hundreds of star clusters and dust clouds lie within Andromeda a sister galaxy of the Milky Way A massive black hole an invisible star that has collapsed into a source of intense gravitation—may lurk at the galactic centre working as a cosmic vacuum cleaner constantly sucking up dust gas planets and stars

Looking much further back in time sensitive instruments and cameras on the telescope will search out galaxies and quasars that formed 14 billion years ago The observable universe may have begun in an explosion known as the big bang about 15 billion years ago

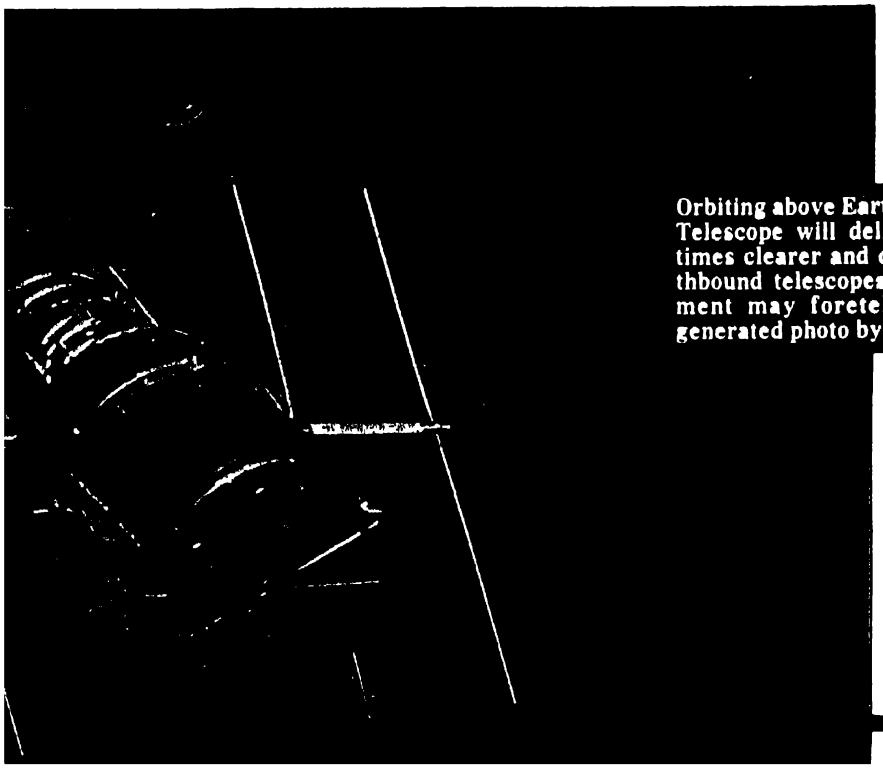
One of the most luminous objects in the universe a quasar can release as much energy in one second as the sun does in 10 million years yet no one knows exactly what quasars are

John N Bahcall an astrophysicist at the





The space shuttle *Discovery* is expected to put the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit in April, giving astronomers unprecendented images of stars and other celestial objects. The instrument will search for other solar systems, black holes and distant galaxies that formed 14 billion years ago



Orbiting above Earth's obscuring atmosphere the Hubble Space Telescope will delight astronomers by producing images 10 times clearer and detecting objects 50 times fainter than earthbound telescopes. By analysing distant galaxies the instrument may foretell the fate of the universe. (Computer-generated photo by Dana Berry, Astronomy Visualization Lab)

Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton hopes to determine whether quasars rep resent the birth pangs of galaxies or the death throes of old ones '

Like early fossils buried in ancient geologic strata, these quasars and distant galaxies offer valuable clues to the early evolution of the universe

"To look at such objects is to see the universe as it was billions of years ago says Bahcall The telescope has the potential of answering a number of tanta lizing questions about the size and struc ture of the universe and whether it will continue to expand '

But astronomers still debate what came before the big bang and how it will all end They raise the possibility that in billions of years gravity will overcome the expansion and pull all matter back, collapsing the universe upon itself in a big crunch

By studying the velocity of older, dis tant galaxies and comparing them to near er younger ones scientists using the tele scope hope to measure more precisely by how much the expansion of the universe is slowing and whether it will someday im plode

To help zero in on celestial objects both near and far scientists have assembled a catalogue of more than 19 million guide stars signposts in the heavens—to help them guide and stabilise the telescope

Northern Hemisphere stars were sur veyed by the Schmidt Telescope at the Palomar Observatory in California The survey was partially supported by the *National Geographic Society* The South ern Hemisphere was covered by the Un-ited Kingdom Schmidt Telescope on Siding Spring Mountain in New South Wales, Au stralia

Orbiting Earth at five miles a second, the space telescope will prepare for an observation by slowly pivoting in the direc tion of a deep sky object

The telescope holds steady for an observation by locking onto a predeter mined pair of guide stars located on e'ther side of its target Astronomers compare the focusing ability of the telescope to training a laser beam on a dime 400 miles away

(National Geographic News Service)

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133) 4 shows

Directed by Mukul S Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi, Neelam, Danny Goga Kapoor, Archana Puran Singh Aloknath, Rohini Hattangady and Tinnu Anand The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Bahurani:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138) Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515), Purna (S P Mukherjee Road 474567) 4 shows

Directed by Manick Chatterjee the film stars Rekha along with Rakesh Roshan Devan Verma Aruna Irani and Utpal Dutt The music is by R D Burman

• **Jeene Do** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 351382)

Sunjay Dutt Jackie Shroff Farha Shakti Kapoor Kulbhushan Kharbanda Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri comprise the main cast The film is directed by Rajesh Sethi and the music is by R D Burman

• **Kishen Kanhaiya.** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917) Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 244822) Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue 390762) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 484808) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 311922) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554033), Madhuban (Regent Park) Alochhaya (Behighata Main Road 356059)

A film by Rakesh Roshan starring Anil Kapoor Madhuri Dixit Shilpa Kader Khan and Amrish Puri The music is by Rajesh Roshan

• **Maine Pyar Kiya.** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383) 10 45 2 15 5 30 9 Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street 552270) Indira (Indra Roy Road 471757) Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108) 4 shows

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Raam Laxman

• **Pyar Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 391090), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464440), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932)—4 shows

Directed by K Bapaiah and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Dharmendra, Mithun Chakraborty, Meenakshi Seshadri, Neelam, Sonam, Kader Khan, Shakti Kapoor and Asrani

• **Reshma Ki Jawani (A):** Society (Corporation Place, 241002)—4 shows

A film on love and sin, starring Silk Smitha

• **Shandar:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 274259), Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road, 474403) Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046), Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 250437) –4 shows, Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417) noon

A film by T C Dewan, starring Mithun Chakraborty, Meenakshi Seshadri, Mandakini, Juhi Chawla, Sumeet Saigal, Kader Khan, Jagdeep and Danny The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

Bengali Films

• **Aalingan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—3 shows

Directed by Tapan Saha and with music by Manoranjan, the cast includes Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Banerjee, Sumitra Mukherjee, Dilip Roy, Subhendu Chatterjee, Biplab Chatterjee and Shakuntala Barua

• **Byabodhan:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 474686) 1, 4, 7

Directed by Dilip Mukherjee and with music by Ajoy Das, the film stars Victor Banerjee, Moon Moon Sen, Indrani Dutta, Kali Banerjee, Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury and Tapas Paul

• **Ekaki (A):** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080), Aleya (Gariahat Market), Mini Jaya (Lake Town)—3 shows

Moon Moon Sen, Ayan Banerjee, Dilip Roy and Sumitra Mukherjee are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Panna Hossain. The music is by Shyamal Mitra.

• **Hirak Jayanti:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2 30, 5 30, 8 30

Ranjit Mullick, Chumki Choudhury, Joy Banerjee, Dilip Roy, Soumitra Banerjee, Kali Banerjee, Sumitra Mukherjee and Ratna Ghosal star in this Anjan Choudhury film whose music is by Goutam Basu

• **Mandanda:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani, 553045)—2 30, 5 30, 8 15, Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 271282)—2, 5, 7 45

Aloknath, Benjamin, Subhendu Chatterjee, Biplab Chatterjee and



Farha and Sunjay Dutt in *Jeene Do*



Prasenjit and Satabdi Roy in *Aalingan*

newcomer Urmi star in this film, directed by Phaki Choudhury. The music is by Swapan Chakraborty.

Special Events

18-21 March: 3 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Nripen Nath, Achintya Haldar and Subrata Biswas in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

20 March: 6.30 pm

Sohini presents *Basantotsav*—a programme of Tagore songs, recitation and reading from his works. Direction: Prasad Sen.

At Birla Academy of Art & Culture (Southern Avenue; 467843/9802).

21 and 22 March: 6.30 pm

'Padatik Nrityotsav—Calcutta 300': A creative dance programme based on Kathak on the 21st, and traditional dance (Kathak and Odissi) with new choreography in Odissi on the 22nd, organised by Padatik Dance Centre.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

22 March: 6.30 pm

Silpi presents Joyoti Das in her



Joyoti Das

debut Odissi solo, *Manchs Prabesh*, under the guidance of Sanjukta Panigrahi.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

23 and 24 March: 6 pm

The first two evenings of Anamika's *Natyotsav*, in memory of Jaishankar Prasad, features Anamika's *Prem Kathayen* (written and directed by Jaishankar Prasad and Bimal Lath, respectively) on the 23rd and Padatik's *Adhoy Adhurey* (written and directed by Mohan Rakesh and shyamanand Jalan, respectively) on the 24th.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

24 March: 6.30 pm

South India Club presents a Bharata Natyam recital by Tomiko Furumoto and a Mohini Attam recital by Radha Dutta.

At South India Club Hall (70B Hin-



Tomiko Furumoto

dustan Park; Calcutta 29).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7). AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily). IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-265 at 0900; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-266 at 0820.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-272 at 1915.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-243 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1720; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545, Arr (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830, Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569833.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

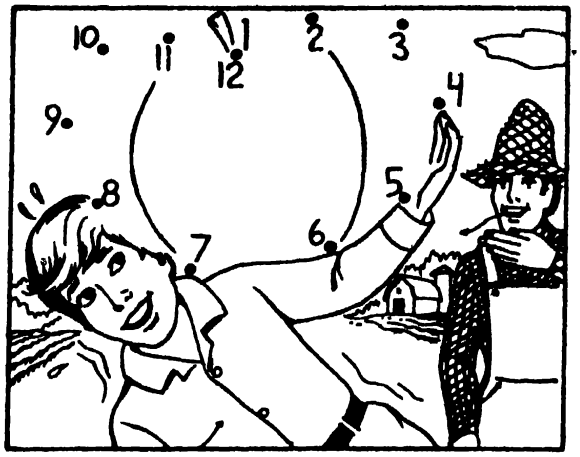
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed, Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



FIELD DAY! What is the young man toting above? To find out, draw lines from dot to dot. Afterward, add colors.

• CITY TOUR! Find a world capital in each sentence. 1. Pa rises early. 2. The Eskimo scowled. 3. It was a mad ride. 4. Toxic air overcame him.

1 Paris 2 Moscow 3 Madrid 4 Cairo



WELL VERSED IN FAME!

Each of the four missing words in this amusing jingle is spelled with the same six letters, but with their order rearranged.

I must (1) myself to this,
Mused the pop (2), blowing a kiss
I'm a (3) of cards, a nodder of nods
Energy drains, but my public (4).

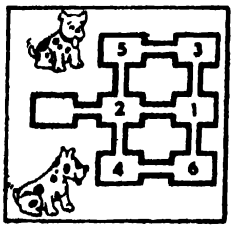
These are the missing words (but not in order): Singer, reigns, singer, resign. How quickly can you insert them correctly?

1 Resign 2 Singer 3 Singer 4 Reigns

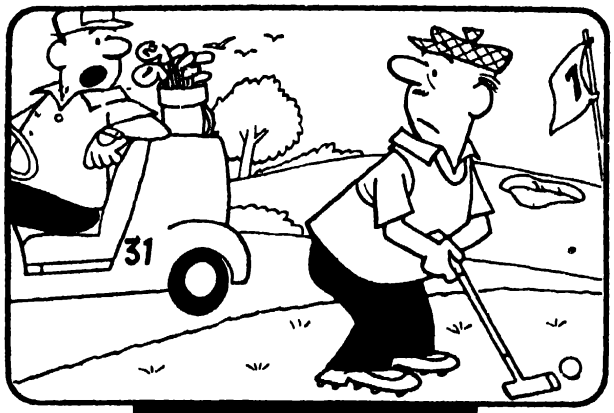
• ***DOG DAZE!*** *Five dogs have individual kennels, below. One kennel is empty. Dog 2 is in the right place, but dog 1 belongs where 5 is, dog 3 where 4 is, dog 4 where 6 is, 5 where 1 is, and 6 where 3 is.*

Using vacant kennel as necessary, move the dogs one a time to proper kennels in 10 moves.

One possibility: Move 2, 1, 6, 4, 1, 6, 3, 4, 6, 2.



HOCUS-FOCUS

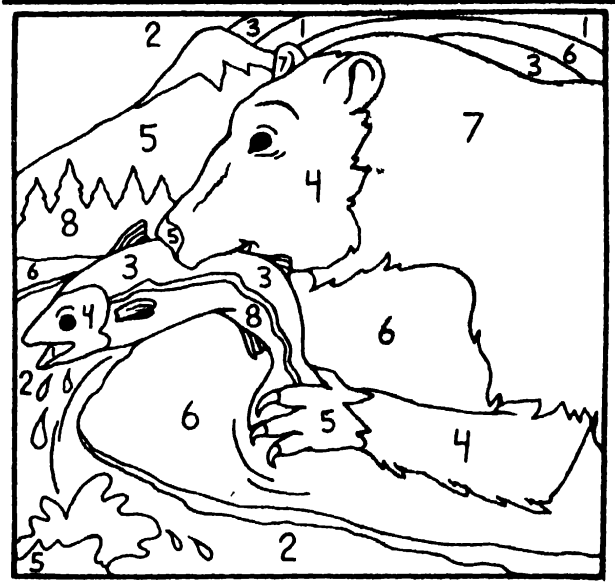




CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1. Clubs are missing. 2. Glove is missing. 3. Number is different. 4. Flag is different. 5. Band trap is missing. 6. Putter is shorter.

FUNSPOT



BEAR CHANCE! Does yon bear have dinner at hand, or will its prey wriggle free? Code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Purple. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

PODIATRY

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram: Pay, road.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

A burst of self-confidence and vigour helps you to get things done on March 22 and 23. Through travel and correspondence you win your lady love. Expenses will be heavy. New opportunities definitely unfold for you Thanks to your confidence, you manage very well this week.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Gains from collaborations, investments, socialising, religious rites and business transactions are predicted. The mid-week as well as the weekend are ideal for romance. Overheads and other expenses need careful watching. Learn to plan carefully and organise tightly. For the next 21 days, you must safeguard your health and that of your loved ones.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Marriage, official engagement, travel and legal matters keep you completely occupied. Loved ones respond magnificently. Socialise, be friendly and thus win over new customers and patrons News of a lucrative contract or tender may reach you. Watch your steps on March 20 and 21 Travel will lead to pleasure as well as profits On the whole, you will be in high spirits

CANCER

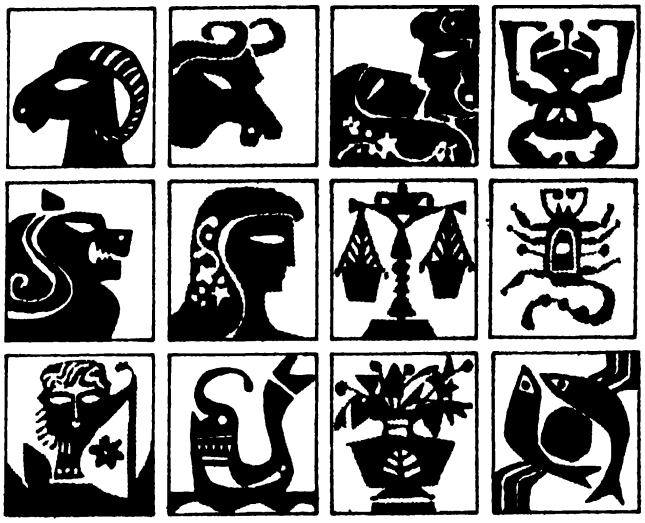
June 21—July 20

The focus is on work, health, promotion and perks. Work first and use the weekend for a little bit of well-deserved fun. Rewards in cash or gifts greet you Job satisfaction will be there Go in for a checkup of a nagging health problem. Take time off for leisure Travel only for business and/or professional purpose

LEO

July 21—August 21

Romance, marriage, creative pursuits, childbirth/conception and socialising are this week's main trends. Your overtures will be heartily welcomed Aloofness melts into sweet invitations Expenses could eat into your income or profit Costly repairs are likely; installation of new gadgets or machinery is also foretold. Health takes a turn for the better and this makes you more productive Requirements for closing a property deal or a collaboration keep you hopping.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Home, property, funds, loans, investments, shifts and transfers will have inter-related effects. An old flame rekindles, though temporarily, and while attending to a sick friend you meet someone interesting A plot of land purchased as speculative property proves its worth. Plans for a dream home take shape In search of superior health care, you may have to travel to a distant place. Visits to sites and property inspections require much outstation activities.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Those in invention, research, innovation, sales and distribution set the pace and tempo. Journey and communication will be your main programmes. You will be passionate, intense and highly charged with chivalry and savvy. Even if you have to entertain to secure a business deal or a big show, it will be worth the cause. Do not be upset by criticism or temporary neglect, otherwise your health might nosedive. Travel is an exceptionally positive and strong pointer.

BIRTHDAYS

March 18

Sagittarius moon, Western astrology: You will be ambitious and enterprising. A foreign connection in your work or personal life is likely. On and after August 19, you will push forward like a rocket in space.

March 19

Moon's quarter Sagittarius: This quarter helps you in travel, trade, sales, distribution and communications with distant places. It would be proper to plan for the future right now. Your family must be consulted and taken into confidence.

March 20

Moon conjunction Uranus: This conjunction will make you optimistic, independent and innovative. Also, obstinate and impulsive. Efforts and progress will be rewarded. Romance is possible.

March 21

Moon conjunction Saturn: This

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Health, employment, loans, funds, home and recreation are the paradoxical directions. As far as romance goes you have your slice of cake, though sweat and toil keep you rather busy. Investors, those in land and property deals, and the employed can look forward to happy prospects. Except from March 20 to 22, you should be in pretty good shape.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

The moon's quarter in your sign makes you enterprising, restless, victorious and exceptionally lucky. Romance is your rightful due and you shall claim it. For the immediate, however, you may be afflicted by a love triangle. Children and creative pursuits will consume your finances but make you proud and triumphant.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Expenses and income even out, home and journey claim your attention strongly and simultaneously. You will make crucial decisions between Thursday and Sunday. Romance will be sudden and explosive. Therefore, wildly exciting. Foreign goods or merchandise, sales and distribution, trading and commerce will come alive. Health safeguards are essential during the early part of the week, after that smooth sailing.

AQUARIUS

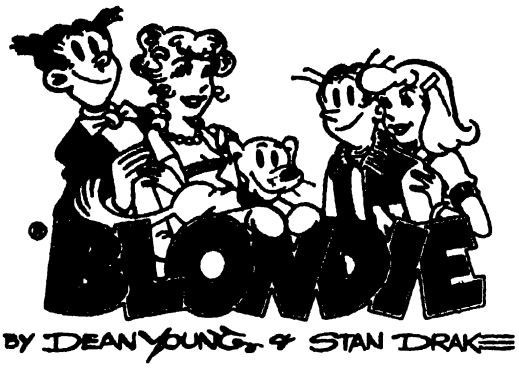
Jan 20—Feb 18

Negotiations, settlements and success in enterprises are predicted. Your style and grace will overrun any opposition to your romantic plans. You recover lost ground towards the weekend and create new opportunities. Contracts and negotiations will be to your advantage. Health problems should be happily resolved

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

The main trends of the week are mighty ambition , great inner drive, buying/selling/investing and shopping sprees. Secret ties and romantic places entice you. Memorise a few love poems. You score in the financial area. You will have much to do in a very short time. Calls, communication and correspondence will be ideal substitutes for travel.

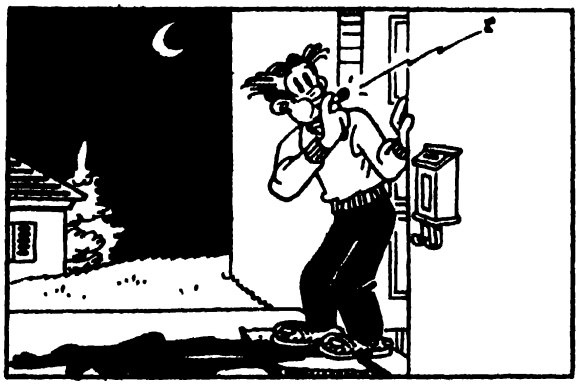




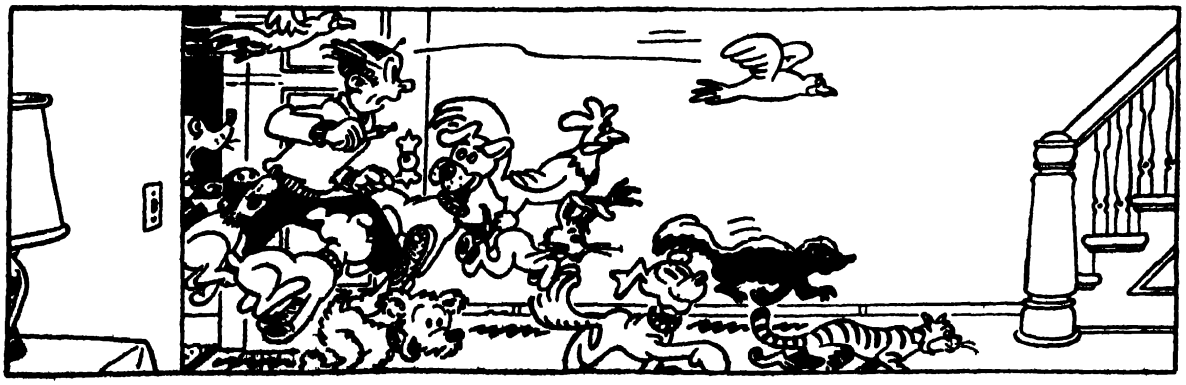


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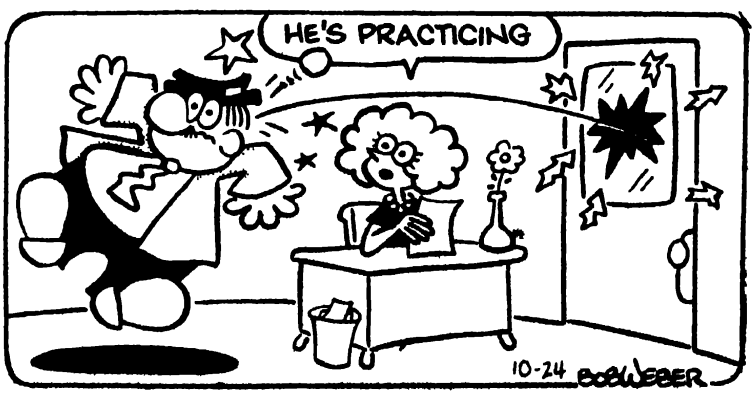


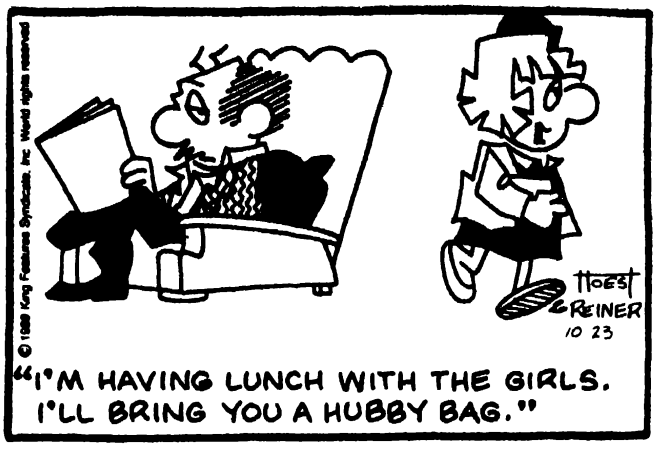


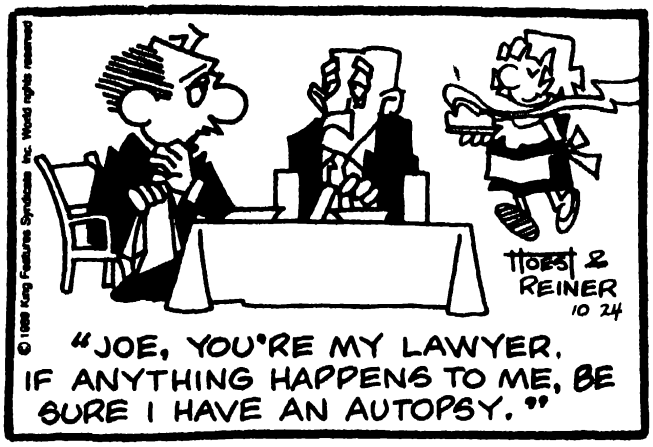




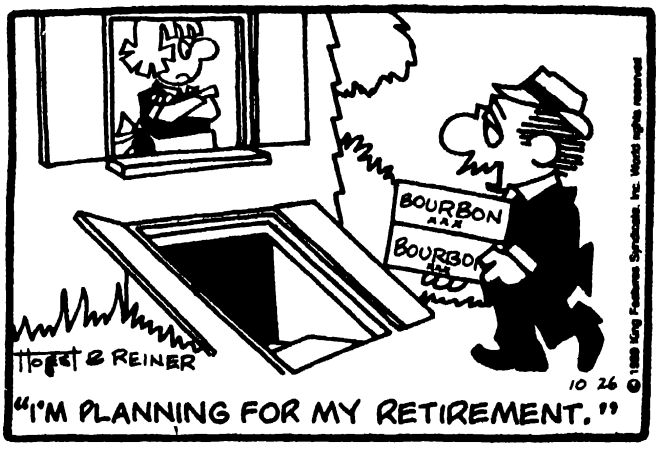
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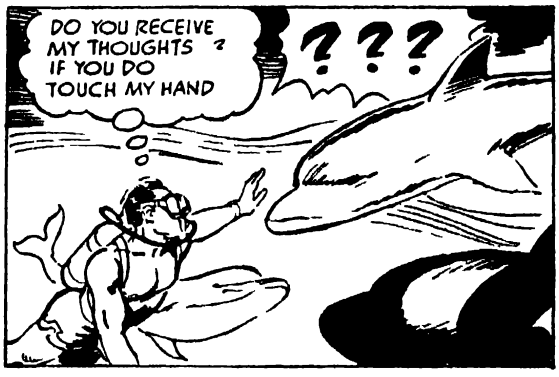






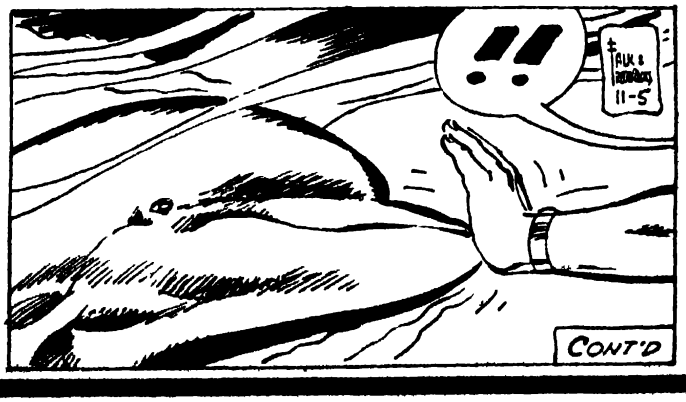


MANDRAKE By Lee Falk





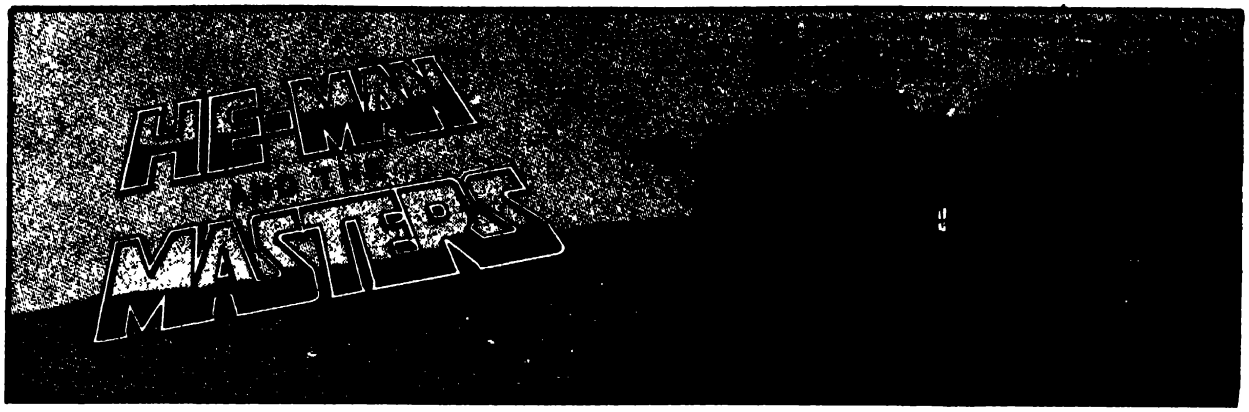


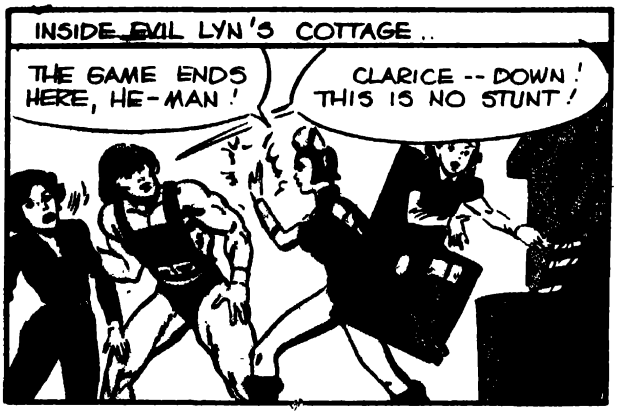


THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAUPEEP



The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special







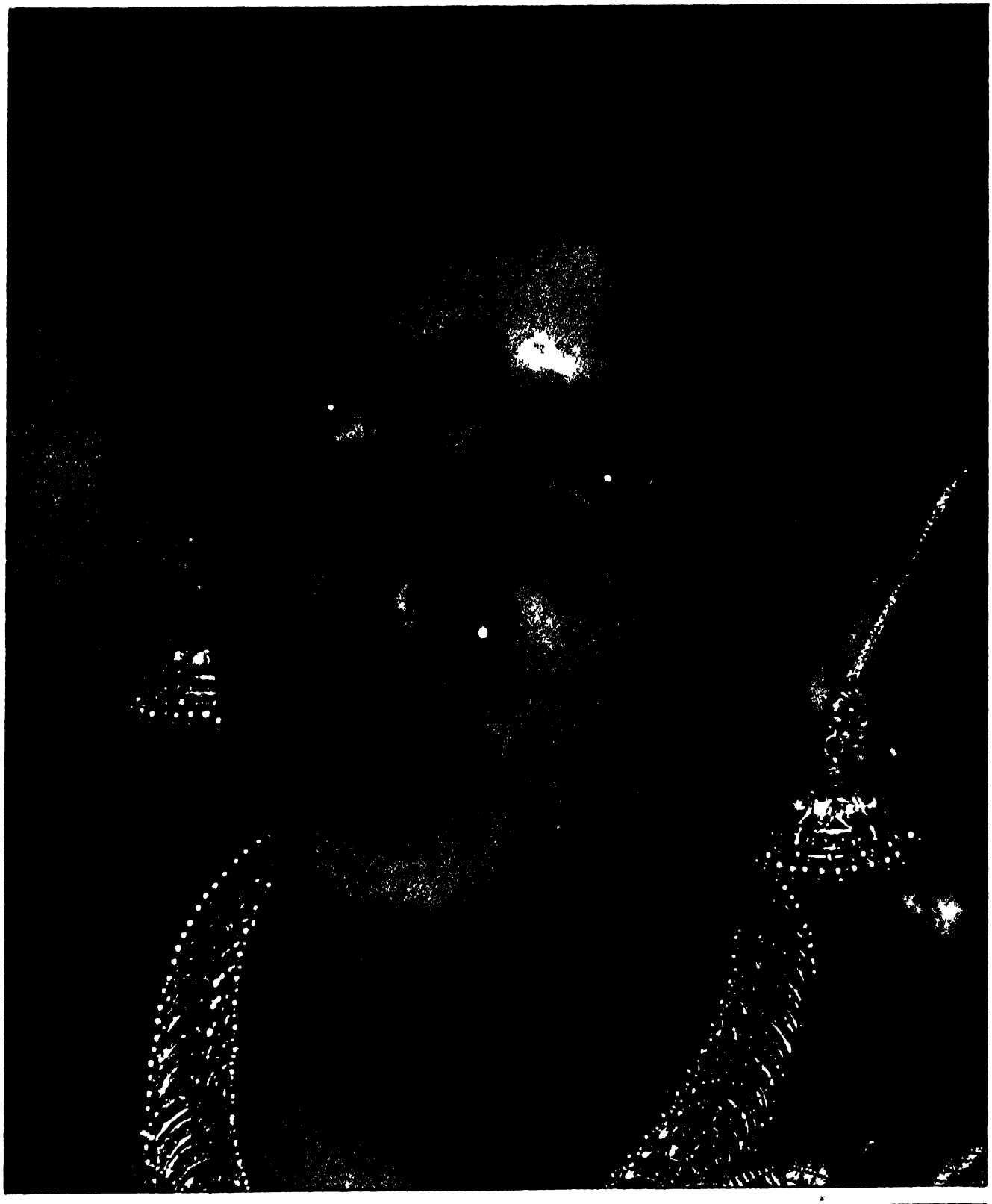






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There comes a time when even a **Rekha** says, "*Maang bharo sajna*".
Photograph by JAGDISH YADAV



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that's a situation none of us would like to get into But then, one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment. Or a major ailment one never dreamt of.

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for. With Mediclaim from New India. A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits. Including cover for hospitalisation at home, under special circumstances. For a premium as low as Rs.200 per annum (at the minimum). It also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate.

Show how much you love and care for your family. Get New India's Mediclaim Policy. It offers you so much for so little!

Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Rs	Rs
200	10,500	3,100
250	17,600	—
350	25,500	—
600*	37,750	5,250
840*	52,750	7,400
1300*	82,500	11,500

Age limit: 5-70 years * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium

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More on the Rat Race

Thank you for exposing teaching shops like the infamous one run by Paul Roy on Park Street ('The Rat Race Begins', March 4). In the absence of enlightened government intervention, education has gone into the hands of street smart businessmen.

I happen to be one of the people who visited Paul Roy's dismal, couped up flat which he passes off as a tutorial home. Sitting behind his desk he pointed to five bundles of books in front of him and said when my child went from first to fifth bundle he would be fit to get into any school.

I did not put my child in such crushing hands, but many harassed parents do. What they do not realise is that tutors who claim to work wonders are really responsible for causing irreversible damage to the child. The high levels of anxiety and stress and a mutilated learning process are scars which a child carries through life.

There is little doubt that schools which claim to have nothing to do with these teaching shops are only putting up a facade. There is definitely an unholy nexus which exists as can be seen from admissions to any of the big schools.

Unfortunately, education is not even what it used to be 20 years ago. Values have vanished. If teachers can be accused of spending more time taking tuitions there is also a long list of charges to which the administrators must answer. The wining and dining which goes on, the lobbying and donations are no secret. Paul Roy was at St Xavier's and it is this same school in which he virtually guarantees to admit children. And apparently he is not the only one. The St Xavier's headmaster says he knows of someone else who earns Rs 7 lakhs a year from getting children into the school. The nonchalance with which all this is admitted to is really quite frightening. The question we must ask ourselves is what can we expect from our children if this is the example their teachers and parents are setting?

Kanan Chandra,
Calcutta

■ I was surprised to see how what I told your reporter was cut and changed. I feel horrible because Paul Roy not only worked for me for many years, but is also my friend.

I encouraged him to teach. Sometimes when a teacher was absent, I sent him to a class, specially Bengali 3rd language in classes 6 and 7. He had a knack for teaching and was one of the best teachers though he was not a matriculate.

He took some tuitions and from the very beginning he was a success. Soon, he resigned his job because some jealous people attributed his success to his working in the school. He preferred to resign rather than cast a slur on the school.

He did not need any advertisement. His conscientiousness, his method of teaching, his sincerity, brought him more pupils than he could accommodate. Once a child had passed through his hands, others of that family also wanted their children to be taught by him. In all these years, I can say in all sincerity, he did not approach us for a single admission, but his children got admitted in all the better schools.

It is a pity that he was the only one to be singled out by name and his reputation spoiled when he should have been quoted as an example of what hard, conscientious work and sincerity can achieve.

Fr C. Bouche, S.J.,
Headmaster, St Xavier's Collegiate School, Calcutta

■ With reference to the article your reporter appears to have over-used his imagination. I take strong exception to the remark that I have "managed to buy three flats in the Park Street area". This is totally false. I happen to own only one flat of 1000 sq ft which was bought by me in 1978 for Rs 80,000.

You will appreciate that this type of reporting without ascertaining the facts is damaging to my reputation.

Paul Roy,
Calcutta

Prove Us Wrong

The article on Leander Paes (February 18) was timely. But the problem with Indian tennis stars is that they easily burn out after initial promise and flamboyance.

We all hope Leander proves every one of us wrong and emerges a top class tennis star, winning more laurels.

Prabal Guha,
Guwahati



The Telegraph

25 MARCH 1990



Aloke Mitra

4 Biju Patnaik returns as chief minister of Orissa after 27 years We profile the man and the politician and find out if he can make any difference to the state.

13 Dutch artist Cornel Bierens has created a gigantic collage in homage to Vincent van Gogh, who turns 100 later this week. We take a look at this unusual work of art.

18 A report from the Iskcon headquarters in Mayapur speaks of East European and Soviet Union devotees who have embraced Krishna Consciousness

SECTIONS

12 Quiz
16 Panorama
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover Aloke Mitra

THE JUGGERNAUT

Time for breakfast



Biju Patnaik in his Kalinga Rath, the station wagon in which he campaigned

The 1958 Willy's station wagon is a well-preserved warhorse of many campaigns, but its current sheen is virile and exciting. *Malas* of marigolds adorn its flagstaff, *Kalinga Rath* is emblazoned across its body and in command on the front seat, young at 74 and raring to go, is the indomitable Biju Patnaik. Twenty-seven years ago he left the office of chief minister by the fall of the dice of the Kamraj Plan. Now he is back, king of all Kalinga, waving benevolently from his green Willy's, holding early morning durbars at his sprawling residence, letting fly bursts of imperious anger at a tremulous secretary.

Biju Patnaik, tall, imposing, expansive is once again where he naturally belongs: at centrestage, the cynosure of the arc lights. Ten days after his victory, Biju Patnaik is Orissa and Orissa is Biju Patnaik. This is an election he has fought singlehanded, in his shining Willy's, the Kalinga Rath which roved from one constituency corner to another. Ten days and he is the only minister in his government, in no hurry to appoint others, basking in success, at once the Opposition and the government, smugly using the office the Congress(I) forfeited because it got only 10 seats. No one else mattered. Certainly not the discredited Congress(I), with its leaders girding themselves for battles on home fronts. Nor for that matter the contending lobbies in the Janata Dal, waiting for the booty of power, but humbly agreeing to be seen and not heard in Biju Raj.

The day begins early at the chief minister's residence. Retainers in white flit about serving a frugal breakfast and taking out the remnants. A toast burnt during the picture session is carried away amid happy titters. Applicants are in queue on the groundfloor, some in the corridor, others in a sitting room chitchatting, gazing at family portraits, flipping through outdated magazines. The durbar is upstairs, on the balcony overlooking the spacious lawn.

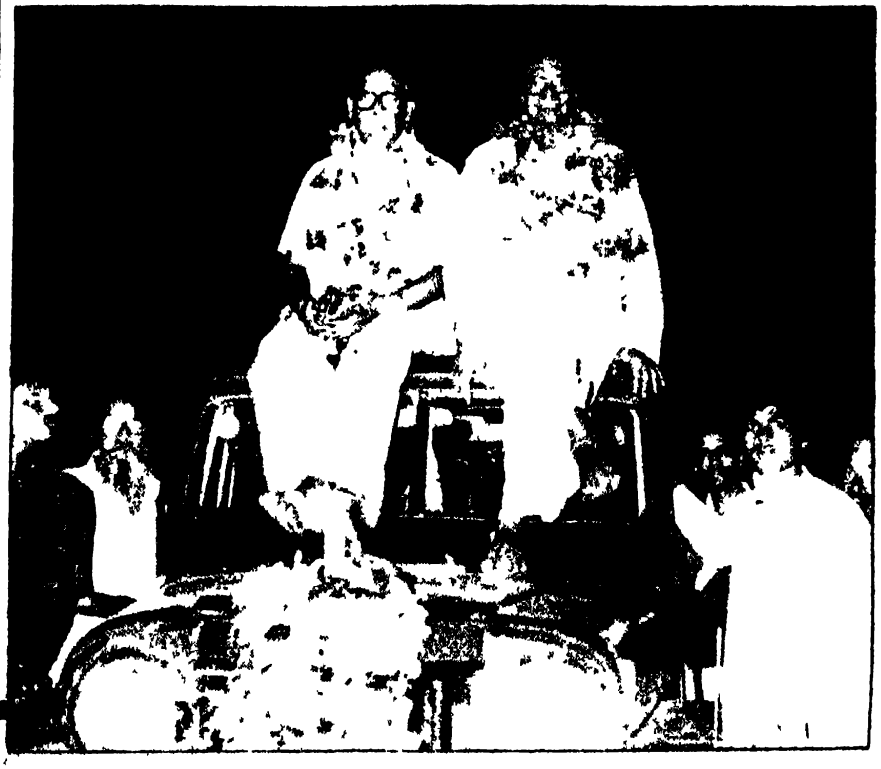
Petitioners go up by turn. Everyone is barefoot. We wait for the stragglers to be heard, for breakfast to be over. Minions pit-pat around, talking in hushed voices, everyone is bubbling on this brisk morning. Our interview will be at the house, we have been told. But just as it seems we are going to get the big man to ourselves, there is a change of venue, to the party office. Biju Patnaik gets up and a flurry of activity follows. People rush forward as he takes the stairs. A few supplicants who missed the durbar take up a few more minutes, falling at his feet, sticking out hysterical petitions for help. We scurry to our car so as not to be left behind by some siren-guided convoy. But to our surprise the chief minister is off with the minimum of fuss, not even a red light flashing on his official Ambassador. The office of course knows that the boss is on his way. Nervous aides receive him fidgeting and fumbling as the car stops in the porch. There are yet more petitioners waiting here: no one wants to miss the ready largesse of a big victory. A middle-aged man has a problem, something to do with law and order. Biju Patnaik listens, one foot in the car, the other on the ground, elbows resting on the roof and ajar door. He is almost youthful in his manner, though so obviously worn down by the years.

Minutes later we troop into the office behind him. A portrait of Vivekananda rests on the floor against the wall, the Janata Dal's Sudarshan Chakra occupies a corner on a pedestal, a map hangs on one wall. An inverter and tubelight are in place for power cuts, and cardamoms and cloves sit in a saucer on his desk. This is the office the Congress(I) would have got if it won the 15 seats required for recognition as the main Opposition party, but so sweeping a victory has the Janata Dal had that the Congress(I) got only 10 seats. It is between here and his chief minister's chambers that Biju Patnaik divides his time. Party aides flit in and out. A press release has to be vetted. He takes a quick look and asks for a point to be highlighted. A well-meaning secretary is roundly fired for his bureaucratic ways: "Don't you know a chief minister's orders have to be implemented." A girl and her parents leave beaming after being told that the job she wanted is hers. This is Biju Patnaik in full flow, seizing the moment, haunted by age and a bypass surgery and the ambition that just this once he should succeed in leaving behind an immutable legacy.

If 10 years of mounting corruption and very little development had alienated people from the Congress of J.B. Patnaik and Nandini Satpathy, they were easily drawn by Biju Patnaik's flambouyant appeal for a "last chance" to build a prosperous Orissa, a state now plagued by unemployment, failing industries, and power shortages. Both in victory and defeat, Biju Patnaik's image has been larger than life in Orissa. In the sixties, as a Congressman, he was swept to power and by the end of the decade he was being publicly denounced as the fountainhead of corruption. With a non-Congress government came the Khanna Commission which absolved him

After 27 long years, Biju Patnaik has returned to power in Orissa, crushing everyone and everything that came in his way. UMESH ANAND and S.P. NANDA found him in a now-or-never mood as he plunged headlong into the real battle ahead

'No one but no one will be spared, however highly placed he may be'

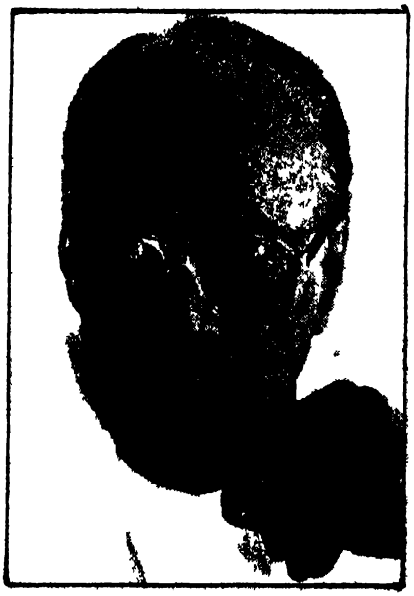


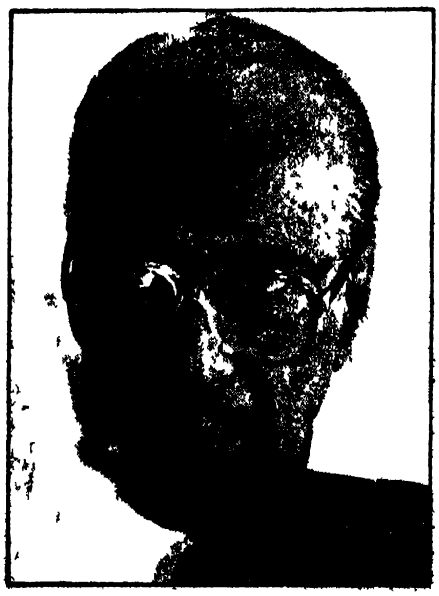
Photographs: Aloke Mitra

'MY SENSE OF ADVENTURE

In an interview spread over two days, Orissa chief minister Biju Patnaik spoke on a wide range of subjects, both personal and political. Following are some excerpts:

Q: *How do you feel about having staged a comeback as chief minister after 27 long years?*
A: I have not (really) staged a comeback I have always been with the people. They have just appointed a new servant.
Q: *What do you think led the people to give you such an overwhelming mandate in the (Assembly) elections?*
A: Ask the people It is not my decision.
Q: *What do you hope will be the landmarks of the Janata Dal government?*
A: Read our 18-point election manifesto
Q: *What is the order of your priorities?*
A: There are many priorities All the programmes are being clubbed together and we are dealing with them
Q: *What is your strategy for dealing with unemployment?*
A: We are trying to explore new avenues of employment Do you think unemployment is only among the educated?
Q: *No, but what do you propose to do in the villages? On the one hand, the Janata Dal indulges in large-scale eviction for a Disneyland in Haryana and on the other, you talk of generating employment in rural areas.*
A: I don't know much about the Disneyland. I must ask Chautala (the Haryana chief minister) about it. As for providing employment, a Bill is being introduced in Parliament to grant the right to work. The right to work will be a constitutional right.
Q: *What would be the means to provide jobs ?*
A: Means have to be found.
Q: *Since corruption in the Congress(I) government was a major plank of your poll campaign, what do you propose to do about some of your partymen who are facing charges of corruption?*
A: Except Sarat Kar, there is no allegation against anyone I had asked him (Kar) about already owning land before acquiring a government plot. He said he had surrendered his right over the land before acquiring the government plot
Q: *What would be the mechanism through which you propose to curb corruption? You have been repeatedly stating that you would probe the illegally acquired assets of the politicians and officers and confiscate them.*
A: We will go to any length to remove corruption which has struck deep roots in all spheres of the administration. No one but no one will be spared, however highly placed he may be I have already formed six special vigilance squads under the control of superintendents of police to inquire into the cases of corruption (all over the state). Chargesheets in these cases will be produced before the Lok Pal and other courts The Lok Pal is going to be a very busy person these days
Q: *Are you going to evolve a code of conduct for your ministers?*





A: Naturally. The code of conduct will be slowly evolved. I have already announced that ministers or anyone else in the government will not organise foundation stone-laying ceremonies which will now become a thing of the past.
Q: *You are on record saying that there may be inaugural ceremonies for the projects on their completion.*
A: It may be only in case of very major projects. They wanted me to inaugurate the Mahanadi-Birupa barrage project. I said let any cat or dog do it. I have no time, but I told them (the project authorities) to put up a toll-gate on the barrage (to collect money to meet the construction cost).
Q: *What would be the relation between the party and the government under your chief ministership?*
A: The party and the government will work in close cooperation with each other and jointly enunciate policies. The party hierarchy will closely associate itself with the implementation of the policies and programmes, especially to meet the interests of the common man I have called a meeting of the state party executive committee to choose a new president (Patnaik is now holding both the posts of the party president and the chief minister An ad hoc president will take over on March 23 till organisational elections take place)
Q: *A major reason why the Congress(I) was routed in the elections was the loss of its government's touch with the people...*
A: I have given directions at the level of secretaries to suggest ways of streamlining the administrative set-up so as to effectively deal with people's grievances I am waiting for their report. At the ground level, malpractices continue
Q: *Are you thinking of having a minister to exclusively take care of public grievances?*
A: Let's see what the secretaries first suggest. Special vigilance squads have been set up. Corruption has gone down deep everywhere and must be uprooted. You find a lot of corruption in the employment exchanges too.
Q: *What is your plan to revamp the bureaucracy so that it can match your*

KEEPS ME GOING'

...speed in implementation of your programmes?

A: I have told them (officers) to shun sycophancy and develop an independent mind, the mind of an entrepreneur and a promoter. The bureaucracy is being reorganised so as to be result-oriented, without shirking its responsibility. Major tasks are ahead—the second steel plant, railway extensions, deepening of Paradip port, creation of massive employment potential, availability of foodgrains at reasonable prices. Secretaries will be divested of their additional charges of heading the corporations. The departments have to be reorganised into functional units.



Q: *Do you propose to appoint some of yours MLAs as heads of government corporations/undertakings?*
A: Yes.
Q: *How are you going about to fulfil your promise to waive loans?*
A: Already done. We promised to write off loans up to Rs 10,000 to each farmer, rural artisan and landless labourer.
Q: *But the Government of India has stated that the waiver of loans would be in phases.*
A: That is a matter (to be settled) between the two governments (the Union government and the Orissa government). As far as we are concerned, [illegible] waived in one [illegible]. The decision has been taken.
Q: *One of your major election promises was against the Baliapal national test range. What will now happen to the project ?*
A: There is no test range in Baliapal as yet and there will not be one. Let the sleeping dog lie.
Q: *In the elections in Orissa, you took the CPI and the CPI(M) as your allies and excluded the BJP. The CPI(M) is now alarmed at the growth of the BJP in the country. Are you alarmed too?*
A: I am not alarmed. Why should I be alarmed? A country lives through ages. India has been known for its religious tolerance throughout its long history. The BJP's thinking has a religious overtone. As far as India is concerned, there is no room for religious fanaticism.
Q: *Some personal questions.*
A: Smiles.
Q: *You belong to a category of leaders who have become part of legend. You are known for your daredevil feats as a young man. You have been an industrialist and a senior politician all these years. What motivates you now to be in office ?*
A: A sense of adventure. Thirty years ago (referring to 1961 when he first became chief minister) the administration was geared up to exploit the state's abundant natural resources, to lift its people from the morass of poverty. The same administration has gone into decay. It has to be pulled up and set in motion. The people have proved beyond any doubt that they not only want a change, but are prepared to work hard to bring about a change. I am going to be their ally in their task.
Q: *In the late forties, your were emerging as a top industrialist of the country. What prompted you to give up industry to become a full-scale politician?*
A: I found industry an inadequate apparatus for serving the people.
Q: *You are one of the few politicians who have not promoted family members in politics.*
A: Why promote? Anyone (in the family) is free to be in politics in his own right.
Q: *Your wife does not stay most of the time with you in Bhubaneswar. Don't you feel the lack of family support?*
A: She has seen enough over the years, right from Indonesia (where she joined Patnaik on a daredevil mission to rescue the Indonesian nationalist leader Shahariar).
Q: *With your popularity why did you need so much money to fight elections?*
A: It is petrol and diesel and not popularity which moves jeeps.

of personal gain but found him guilty of administrative improprieties.

Biju Patnaik, of course, promptly declared that he would happily commit thousands of such improprieties if Orissa stood to gain. His achievements during the short spell of chief ministership between 1961 and 1963 were to be landmarks: Paradip port, the expressway linking its hinterland, the Sunabeda MiG factory. But no one really believed that he had not stashed away a personal fortune too. In 1963, the Kamaraj Plan robbed him of the job. His loyalist, Biren Mitra, managed to stay in office till 1964 and the powerful student movement and his successor, Sadasiv Tripathy, lasted till 1967 when the Congress was decisively voted out.

Then came the 1971 elections which saw Biju Patnaik defeated in all the five constituencies he contested, even though his breakaway Utkal Congress succeeded in setting up a coalition with the Swatantra Party. The ministry was headed by Biswanath Das. There was an opportunity for him to be chief minister when he entered the Assembly with a byelection victory. But he lost that opportunity too when Nilamoni Routray took a decisive chunk of the Utkal Congress back to the Congress and helped Nandini Satpathy become chief minister. Thereafter it seemed that, after the brief spell of 1961-63 Biju Patnaik would never again get to rule his home state.

But Biju Patnaik has rarely let the world overtake him without masterminding a few eyecatching sideshows of his own. When he has been left behind in the hurly burly of politics, he has survived on his image. He is one of the few leaders who at once belong to legend and reality. In the forties he flew a Dakota with his wife, Gyan, to Indonesia to rescue a nationalist leader there from the Dutch. As an industrialist, he founded the Kalinga group of companies and built up a fortune before he settled for a future in politics. Being in politics in no way reduced his elan. He has always cut a dashing figure, making no secret of his penchant for all things bright and beautiful. Even today he declares it is a "sense of adventure" that keeps him going. He could still be piloting his Dakota over unknown Indonesian jungles or savouring the thunder on a good business deal. Life never loses its magic more him.

In 1971, when he was defeated, he was denounced as a braggart. He had promised in 1961 a tiled roof and safe drinking water for every house in Orissa. Instead, at the end of 10 years, people were wanting to know where his private fortune came from. Almost three decades later, Biju Patnaik has won an election by promising to wipe out corruption, forgive small rural loans and provide more jobs.



'Let some cat or dog go for inauguration ceremonies'

The victory is already beset by nagging doubts. Can a party swept to power by the strength of one man remain in power? Almost everyone believes that Biju Patnaik wants to leave behind a milestone with his signature for posterity. But will the Janata Dal endure in power or will it fall apart just as summarily as it was cobbled together? The Congress, even after its humiliating exit, believes that it can return to government. "Defeat is not new to us. We have faced it in 1967 and 1977," says Basant Biswal, the newly elected legislature party leader. "Biju has been in politics for 40 years, but in office for just four. I give his government two years. Then the Janata Dal will be hounded out for not keeping its tall promises."

It is not, however, entirely true that the Janata Dal in Orissa depends solely on Biju Patnaik for its survival. While it may have flourished in the last elections because of his charisma, the nationwide wave against the Congress(I) and the poor performance of the J.B. Patnaik government were also factors. Translating anti-Congress(I) sentiments into votes for the Janata Dal was a second line of leaders who are going to matter in strengthening the party as Biju Patnaik gets down to the business of everyday governance.

The second line is young and eager to wield its influence. There are Bahanaman Behera, Trilochan Manungo, Bhagat Behera, Ashok Das, Srikant Jena, Bijoy Mohapatra, Nalini Kanta Mohanty, Damodar Rout, Bhakta Charan Das and Bhabani Shankar Hota. They each owe their allegiance to Biju Patnaik, though in certain configurations they rival each other.

The most influential among them is Srikant Jena, who has with him Bijoy Mohapatra and Nalini Kanta Mohanty. Together the three have been in the vanguard of the Janata Dal's offensive against the Congress(I) since 1980. They have a loyal following among the youth wing of the party and have earned further prominence as active legislators. Jena was the architect of the Yuva Janata's "Save Orissa" programme through which he highlighted the Congress(I)'s neglect of the state. He also guided the campaign for having Congress(I) ministers disclose their assets. These were all important scoring points as popular support coalesced around the Janata Dal and Biju Patnaik's charisma.

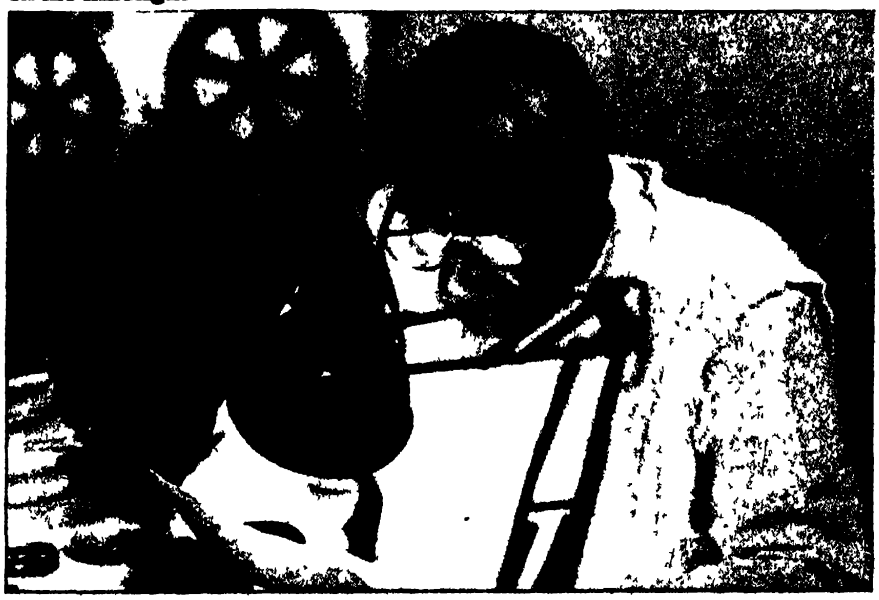
There was little surprise, therefore, when Biju Patnaik chose to appoint Srikant Jena as the chairman of the Janata Dal's campaign committee. Jena then played a decisive role in fashioning the party's electoral alliance with the CPI and the CPI(M), steering clear of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Further evidence of Jena's clout came when his recommendations brought in nominations for the Assembly elections to the exclusion of the erstwhile Jana Morcha and socialist groups. Biju Patnaik, too, has an aversion to these groups. Where Jena could not prevent nominees of rival camps from securing nominations, he succeeded later in getting almost all of them defeated in spite of the wave in the Janata Dal's favour. Thus it was that Trilochan Kanungo and the wife of Bahajaman Behera, MP, were not elected. Behera happens to be the chairman of the Orissa Janata Dal Parliamentary Board and like Kanungo he belongs to the former Jana Morcha. The high point of the Jena camp's campaign against the ex-socialists was its success in depriving Banka Behari Das of a nomination.

Jena has won seats in the Assembly thrice: 1977, 1980 and 1985. In last year's parliamentary election, he defeated the wife of the chief minister, J.B. Patnaik, by a record margin of 2.5 lakh votes. Other Biju Patnaik loyalists have been trying hard to rival his prominence. A challenge is posed to him by Sarat Kar, Ramakrishna Patnaik and Damodar Rout and whether he will be able to retain his clout will depend on his continued closeness to his mentor and his equation with Bijoy Mohapatra, Nalini Kanta Mohanty, several other young MLAs and the youth cadre of the party.

But while the second line grows in stature and experience, there is no real talk of the mantle passing. Everything right now depends on Biju Patnaik and his stature. What the party needs more than anything are symbols of change, dramatic statements of intent. Only Biju Patnaik has the panache for achieving this. Decades have past since he shocked Nehru by declaring that the state government would fund the Paradip port project because the Centre would not. Biju Patnaik has aged and mellowed since then, but no one believes that he has lost his magic. Having hit the road once again in his trusted Willy's, he is ready for the hairpin bends of office. ■

In the limelight



VOICE

Fair Deals

Acknowledging efforts by women is a rare phenomenon. It came as a rare surprise, therefore, to find a fair entitled "Women 88" gracing the exhibition ground opposite the Birla Planetarium last month.

Women 88 is actually a social action programme, initiated by a group of "socially-conscious" women in 1988. It aims at encouraging entrepreneurship among the less privileged women and is a project of Swayambhar (which literally means 'self-reliant').

The fair, with 130 entrepreneurs this year, was held with the objective of highlighting products and services by women producer groups or individuals and to provide an opportunity for them to interact with the government, private marketing agencies and the public. Although the term '88 is retained as the year-mark, the fair is an annual venture and helps evaluate the progress of the form over the years.

Love and Let Live

Iraq has scrapped all punishment for men who kill close female blood relatives for adultery. The *Al-Ittihad* weekly said on March 12 that the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council had issued a decree to this effect on February 28 "with an aim to improve moral standards." It, naturally, made no mention of pardoning women who killed male relatives involved in similar cases.

Of Female Bondage

March 8 was observed around the world as International Women's Day—a token day in the year 1990—the year dedicated to the girl child. To mark the occasion, the women's Consortium for Development, the Young Women's Christian Association, India, and the Joint Women's Programme sponsored the revelation of startlingly poignant data on the distressing plight of the female sex right from birth.



Comparing the girl to a wild rose, they pointed out that like the uncared for flower, she is "grudgingly given space in a flowerbed lovingly created for prize blooms—allowed to stand, but seldom watered.

"Some wild rose plants wither away, some survive, pale and undersized. Such is the early life of the Indian girl, struggling towards adulthood." And such it remains—during a teenage generally burdened with a women's workload, ingrained with values that teach her to dream of and pray for a son. And if that prayer is rejected, she does to her daughter what her mother did to her, and the girl child is relegated to a life of neglect, not unfrequented by torture.

The scenario shifts but slightly in the urban areas—the literate (as opposed to educated) mother having simply mastered the art of masking her craving for a son with stoic grace. Every year, 12 million girls are born in India; 25 per cent of them do not make it to their 15th birthday. This, despite that girls are biologically stronger than boys. Of all the Indian states, only Kerala has a sex ratio that favours women. While most nations in the world have a more-or-less equal sex ratio, the 1981 census indicated an excess of 23 million males in India. And with the recent alarming trend in female foeticide (40,000 girl foetuses were aborted in Bombay in 1984 alone), India seems poised on the threshold of a major demographic imbalance. It is evident that religious and cultural norms play a key role in checking this trend, for the lower the status of women, the higher is the number of female deaths. A most paradoxical state of affair in a land where the majority seek solace in the worship of a female deity or power!

Let us, in the year of wild roses, help convince women bonded to a life of dependence and discrimination that disparities are not their due, nor disrespect, but the right to self-determination as human beings. A stepping stone as it were, towards acquiring a sense of their own worth.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee

THE GREEN CARD NATIONALIST

Or, how yesterday's patriot turns coat tomorrow

His friends described Madan Mohan as a nationalist, though he preferred to be called a patriot. As a boy, he joined the civil disobedience movement, made a bonfire of his foreign-style clothing and participated in all the Quit India demonstrations. His greatest regret was that he was never sent to jail. "Then I would be entitled to a freedom-fighter's pension," he would tell me in jest.

He lived at the other end of town, but made it a point to come all the way to see us twice or thrice every year. On each such occasion he would come laden with goodies—a box of sweets ("pure *desi* ghee) or a basket of fruits in season. "Why do you take all the trouble, Madanji?" I would ask him.

"What trouble-shrubble, yaar? After all, we are old friends." He insisted that we were in college together and that I used to help him out with his papers. "Don't you remember when you wrote that essay on Longfellow for me?"

I didn't remember any of this, nor did I see the connection with English literature, because he ended up as a doctor. He married into a rich family, established a flourishing practice and acquired several properties and a fleet of cars, including an imported one.

He came to see me a few days after I retired from the Foreign Service. "Quite a Marco Polo you'd become," he said, embracing me like a long-lost brother. "But now you're back. That's good. There's no place like home." I murmured something appropriate in reply.

"I've retired, too," he went on. "No practice. I keep the clinic open for two hours every morning. No fees. Strictly for the poor. This way I feel I'm contributing to the national cause."

I demurred when he brought me a pair of Kolhapuri chappals on another occasion. "Don't forget the Sulka ties you brought me from Paris," he countered. He went back to wearing European clothes around 1950 and was always smartly turned out. Later, he wore *kurta-pyjama* in khadi, only at home and in summer.

Madan Mohan was scandalised by anything that could be construed as against the national interest, and he riled against "useless pursuits" such as dependence on foreign aid. "God helps those who help themselves," he was fond of quoting. He was specially severe on those who went abroad for medical treatment. "We've got the best doctors here. What we may lack is specialised equipment. But we're getting all this, and making our own."

His pet peeve was against the "brain drain". "Look at the amount of talent we're wasting. The cream of our crop is going over to those Yanks. And what do they give us in return? Spies disguised as missionaries, while the Pakis get the fighter-planes and the radar!"

"But our chaps are doing all right in the States," I would tell him. "And look at all the dollars they send back. And the good name our scientists are giving to Mother India." He would only hum in reply.

Madan Mohan's two sons, Vishnu and Vijaya, both IIT graduates, were doing advanced training in aeronautical engineering with the Boeing company in Seattle. "On aviation depends much of the future," he said one day. "We may buy any number of the latest aircraft, but unless they're properly maintained, they are next to useless." Besides, he added in a sly aside, aviation could throw up an occasional Prime Minister!

"These machines depend on maintenance more than anything else," he said, with special fervour. "That's where my Vish and Vij will come in. They'll plug all the holes. Whatever they're learning is dedicated to the nation. After all, as the poet said, this is their own, their native land."

We lost touch for a while. I was abroad for most of last summer, and Madan Mohan was visiting his sons on the free ticket to which he is now entitled. He came over during the Christmas holidays, bringing an enormous basket of golden oranges. "I have a friend in Nagpur who has an orchard. He grows some specially for me. You'll find them quite above average."

"But why so many?"

He dismissed my protest with a wave of his hand. "Nothing, yaar. What are a few oranges between friends?" He paused for a long moment, and I sensed that he wanted to make an announcement.

"This is also a farewell visit," he said at last. "I'm leaving next month to join the boys in Seattle. They have Green Cards now, and assure me that I can spend the years of my old age in comfort and close to my next of kin. Besides, they've married American girls. Living is good out there, and the pay is fabulous."

"But what about your dream, the contribution you wanted your children to make to the national welfare?"

"Things change, yaar," he replied. "Tomorrow is another day. Let someone else look after the national welfare."

P.L. Bhandari

BARTER BANK

• **Tape-recorder** and **magazine:** I would like to exchange a Philips mono tape-recorder (AM 125) in good condition and about 100 issues of *Sportsworld* (January 1988 to January 1990) for anything of corresponding value. Write to Amit Sengupta, 12/13 Fern Road, Calcutta 700019.

• **Camera:** I would like to exchange an Agfa Isoly II camera for a two-band radio or anything of corresponding value. Write to Saibal Chatterjee, W-29/2 Kankhuly Road, Calcutta 700018.

• **Newspaper** and **book:** I offer the first issue of *The Sunday Telegraph* (London) and a *Book of Punch* (early 19th century) for anything of equivalent value. Contact S.S. Dutt, 53 Bakul Bagan Road, Calcutta 700025.

• **Books, LPs, magazines, cassettes, coins, Walkman, umbrella, album, negatives** and **aquarium:** I offer several books, imported LPs, cassettes, coins, a Walkman with two pairs of headphones and a stabiliser, a Malayasian umbrella, some negatives of the UK, an aquarium (15' × 9'), an album and a few imported magazines on various subjects for anything of corresponding value. Write to Othello Mazoomdaar, 137 A.B. Nagar, Calcutta 700061.

• **Bullworker:** I offer an almost new Bullworker 3 with power metre, wall chart and carrying case for a flashgun which can be fitted to a Snapper 300 camera or for 15 novels by Sydney Sheldon. Contact Debabrata Mukherjee, 27/1 Northern Avenue, Calcutta 700037.



ST OLAF CHURCH, SERAMPORE

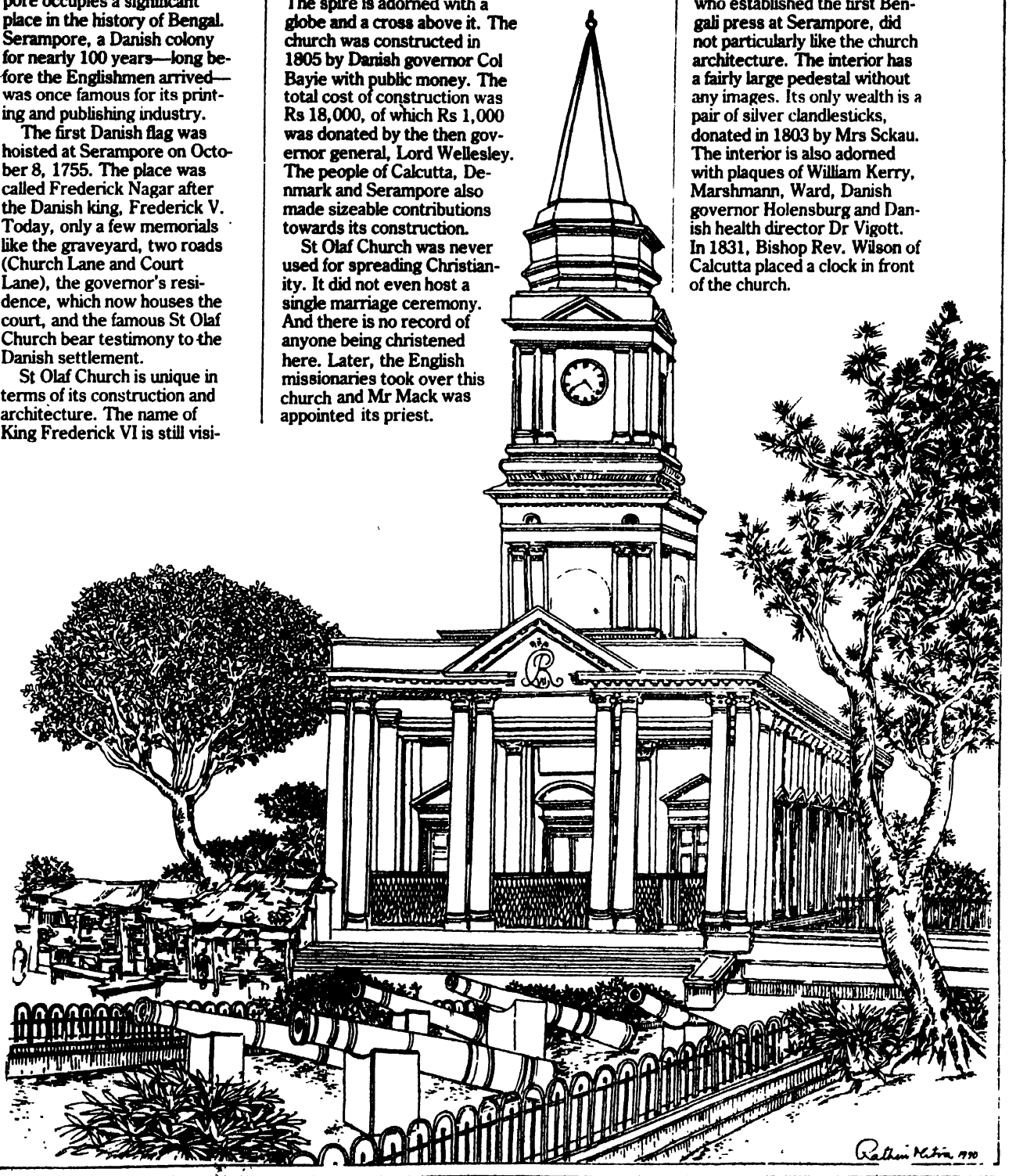
St Olaf Church in Serampore occupies a significant place in the history of Bengal. Serampore, a Danish colony for nearly 100 years—long before the Englishmen arrived—was once famous for its printing and publishing industry.

The first Danish flag was hoisted at Serampore on October 8, 1755. The place was called Frederick Nagar after the Danish king, Frederick V. Today, only a few memorials like the graveyard, two roads (Church Lane and Court Lane), the governor's residence, which now houses the court, and the famous St Olaf Church bear testimony to the Danish settlement.

St Olaf Church is unique in terms of its construction and architecture. The name of King Frederick VI is still visible at the gate of the church. The spire is adorned with a globe and a cross above it. The church was constructed in 1805 by Danish governor Col Bayie with public money. The total cost of construction was Rs 18,000, of which Rs 1,000 was donated by the then governor general, Lord Wellesley. The people of Calcutta, Denmark and Serampore also made sizeable contributions towards its construction.

St Olaf Church was never used for spreading Christianity. It did not even host a single marriage ceremony. And there is no record of anyone being christened here. Later, the English missionaries took over this church and Mr Mack was appointed its priest.

However, William Kerry, who established the first Bengali press at Serampore, did not particularly like the church architecture. The interior has a fairly large pedestal without any images. Its only wealth is a pair of silver clandlesticks, donated in 1803 by Mrs Sckau. The interior is also adorned with plaques of William Kerry, Marshmann, Ward, Danish governor Holensburg and Danish health director Dr Vigott. In 1831, Bishop Rev. Wilson of Calcutta placed a clock in front of the church.





A quiz report from far-off Karnal (Haryana).

"This is to inform you that the Literary Society of National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, organised an inter-college literary meet, Congregation 90. Various teams in and around Haryana participated. The winners were NDRI, Karnal. Congrats to Debashis Sarkar; he must be the best Quiz Master in Haryana."

And one from Dhanbad on Scolomin Saturnalia '90—the spring fest of Indian School of Mines.

"ISMITES witnessed some fantastic quizzing. It was superbly conducted by Terry O'Brien. Quiz enthusiasts witnessed a keen tussle. The denouement was a treat to watch. BIT, Mesra were knocked down in a sudden death. Well done, Patna College! The hosts finished third. They could have greened the valley more."

Satyabrata Mahapatra, Berhampur, Orissa, has sent a list of **phobias**. Here is a selection: Ecclesiaphobia (Church), Stygiophobia (Hell), Osphresophobia (Body odours), Cynophobia (Dogs), Femiphobia (Becoming a woman), Phonophobia (Speaking aloud), Thanatophobia (Death), Siglanophobia (Sailing), Synnophobia (Committing sin).

I've just finished reading an entertaining book, *They Never Said It* (OUP, Rs 140) To illustrate what it is all about I reproduce what it has to say about Abraham Lincoln's Fool-All-of-the-People quote: "You can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time."

"Lincoln was supposed to have uttered these words when speaking in Clinton, Illinois, on September 8, 1858, while campaigning for the Senate against Stephen A. Douglas. But the *Bloomington Pantagraph* made no mention of the remark in its report of the speech, and it cannot be found in any of Lincoln's printed addresses. In a book, *Lincoln's Yarns and Stories*, appearing around the turn of the century, Colonel Alexander K. McClure of the *Philadelphia Times* reported that in a conversation with a White House caller about the virtue of dealing honestly with the American people, Lincoln said:

"It is true that you may fool all the people some of the time; you can even fool some of the people all of the time; but you can't fool all the people all the time." But McClure gave no source for his story. In 1905, nearly half a century after Lincoln's Clinton address, the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Brooklyn Eagle* attempted to prove the authenticity of the quotation by citing the testimony of witnesses, all of them past 70, who expressed the belief that Lincoln had said something generally of this nature. Evidence for the quote remains extremely weak; but Lincoln expert Albert Woldman came to the conclusion that the epigram would probably continue to be accepted as authentic because it was "so Lincolnesque"

CBS

11th Question: **In medicine what is the Bible Treatment? (Raja Biswas, Green View (IIME), 119 Southern Avenue, Calcutta 700029)**
Ans: **It's the bursting of a swelling (*ganglia*) by hitting it with something solid. It comes from the older days when priests used to burst such swellings by hitting it with a Bible.**



Abraham Lincoln

QUESTIONS

1. Who got the first hat-trick in World Cup Cricket? (Nirmalya Sarkar, Asansol 1)
2. Recently Golden Tobacco Corporation (GTC) launched a new cigarette brand, exclusively for women. Name it. (Sanjay Dayal, Ranchi 2)
3. In Andhra Pradesh the Archaeological Survey of India has successfully transplanted a sixth-seventh century temple to a higher location as the area of original location was to be submerged by the Srisailam Hydel Power Project. Name the temple. (Debboo, Calcutta 14)
4. Who scored the very first goal and recently, the 1000th goal in World Cup Hockey? (Jitendra Kr Biswal, Bargarh 28)
5. What is "xerostomia"? (Manoj Kr Singh, Ranchi 4)
6. A beagle is a small hound. What is a "porbeagle"? (Sk Abdur Rab, Burdwan 61)
7. Who was called 'The Black Napolean'? (Yudhisthira Kuanr, Balasore 47)
8. What is a 'dragon's blood'? (Abhik Majumdar, Calcutta 64)
9. Which three of a legendary pop-group were penalised £6 each for urinating in a prohibited area? (Subrata Haldar, Triberi 3)
10. The language of which Red Indian tribe was used as a code by the Allies during World War II? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Bhubaneswar 4)

ANSWERS

1. Chetan Sharma.
2. Ma.
3. Sangameswar Temple.
4. Tarvin Der of Pakistan scored the very first goal and Floris Bovelander of Holland, the 1000th in the recent Lahore World Cup.
5. It is abnormal dryness of mouth due to insufficient secretion. It is also called 'Dry Mouth'. It is brought on by sudden shock or fright.
6. A harmless shark found in North American and Mediterranean waters.
7. Jean Jacques Dessalines of Haiti.
8. Resin obtained from Malay palms used in block printing.
9. Paul McCartney, John Lennon and George Harrison (Beatles).
(Wonder where Ringo Starr was?—O.B.)
10. The Navaho.

VAN GOGH, LARGER THAN LIFE

The angular physiognomy, the unkempt beard, the haunted look, the bold ferocious brushstrokes Is this Vincent van Gogh?



Bierens' 3-d model of Van Gogh's *The Bedroom at Arles*

Dutch artist Cornel Bierens has put together a giant collage of the great painter who turns 100 this month. SHAMLU DUDEJA spoke to him in Amsterdam

Additional reportage by Priya Saran

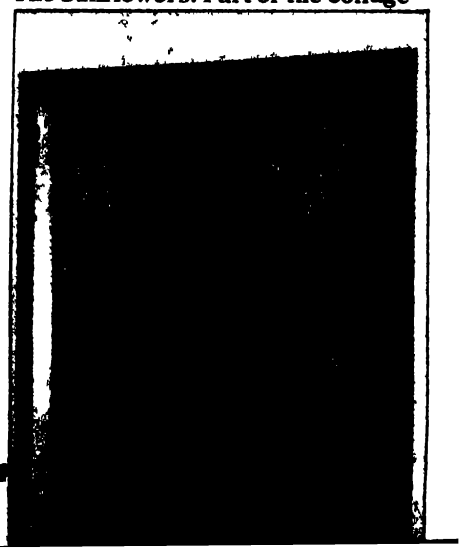
To a number of art lovers and critics, this portrait of Vincent van Gogh, readily recognisable, yet not quite right, may appear to be something of a mockery of the great artist But, to Cornel Bierens (40), a contemporary Dutch artist, the creator of the original collage, it is an art form *A Hommage to Van Gogh,* this 6 5m × 5m gigantic reproduction of the famous *Self portrait in front of the easel,* is in fact a collage made from 3,000 postcards of the artist's paint ings Surprisingly, scissors were rarely used and most of the postcards are intact One hundred and six different paintings and drawings, each of them painstakingly picked for colour characteristics, went into the making of this sensational reproduction of the oft-copied master

Yet, a reproduction it is, and a revolu tionary one at that Like all other revolutionary ideas, Bierens' work was the butt of a great deal of criticism by art critics in the Netherlands, and the Bureau of Tourism, who were themselves responsi ble for commissioning Bierens At home, they called the collage a "rape", but abroad, particularly in the United States, it received rave reviews Last September, this collage was inaugurated at the McCor mick Hall in Chicago by the Dutch born Miss Universe Angela Visser, and is currently touring Hong Kong and Tokyo, en route the US There it will be auctioned on March 30, the day of Van Gogh's birth Kirk Douglas, the veteran Hollywood actor, reliving a few moments of his role as Van Gogh (in *Lust for Life),* will preside at the function, which is expected to attract many art collectors

Cornel Bierens, although born nearly a century after Van Gogh, is able to draw a certain parallel between the life of the great Dutch master and his own Both were not born artists, and started painting late in life Like Van Gogh, Bierens also has a brother who played an active part in the artist's life "That is where the similar ity ends," said Bierens in an interview with this writer Vincent Van Gogh sold only one painting in his lifetime, Bierens expects to sell more, and it seems certain that he will Trained to be a psychologist, he spent the first few years of his life working with young people At the age of 30, he took to art, art, not in the conventional meaning of the word, but art in the broader perspective, as "the use of skill and imagination in the creation of aesthetic objects that can be shared with others" It is his analytic approach that has been put to clever use in carrying out the various projects he has conceptualised in the last year or so

The Netherlands Bureau of Tourism commissioned Bierens to use his imagination and talent to carry out several projects to promote Vincent van Gogh abroad Bierens was delighted He had always been attracted by what he refers to as the enigma of Van Gogh's pictorial spaces and paradoxes in the famous artist's forms With his projects, the collage in particular, Bierens hopes to comment "on the global cult that has risen around the Dutch Vicar's son" He wants

***The Sunflowers:* Part of the collage**



to present to the world "Van Gogh, at a glance'

One of Bierens earlier projects was an enlargement of the masterpiece *Self portrait with a Felt Hat* Using pieces of board, coloured according to a border code by his assistants, and fitted together like a jig-saw, he was able to "construct" the *Self portrait* (or indeed any other form that he chose)

The Bedroom at Arles, like some other works of Van Gogh, lack the classical one-point perspective, and has often been under scrutiny According to Patrick A Heelan, "For Vincent, the possible and the true is clearly not the realm of scientifically exact Euclidean forms ' In an effort to highlight the "distorted' characteristic of *The Bedroom* for the lay person, Bierens constructed a life size 3 d model of *The Bedroom* Walls, windows, furniture all have been scaled to a perfect degree of distortion to synchronise with the perspective depicted in the painting As a result, the bedhead is not parallel to the wall, the chair does not 'sit" parallel to the floor, the table is not a rectangle, and so on Yet, Van Gogh's painting looks very real, and is most pleasing This model travelled through Europe last year, and was given an award for excellence by the minister of tourism, in Paris

A Hommage to Van Gogh, the 12 panel collage of the *Self portrait*, was the third project undertaken by Bierens He, in reply to criticism says, "This collage is not meant as a cynical comment If one looks at it closely, it has to be clear that the maker loves Van Gogh " The poster size does no justice to the original work Further reduced and reproduced on postcards, it looks as if it had been made "from banknotes" and Bierens is not pleased with this

It is unlikely that this collage will match the price obtained by for any Van Gogh recently, but it has certainly stirred up a great deal of interest And Bierens realises the opportunistic aspect in doing this collage at the right time "If I had come up with this idea three years later, it would not have created so much interest he admits

It was a difficult task to select the postcards to be used for this creation The huge canvas had to be roughly divided into colour zones, and paintings with matching colour characteristics had to be chosen For the background, Bierens picked a number of drawings by Van Gogh—still life, landscapes, self portraits—all in black and white This helps throw into sharp relief the brightly conceived figure at the easel The ginger-blonde hair and beard are made up of Van Gogh's works with yellow either in the background or in the compositional elements *The Sunflowers, Potatoes in a yellow dish, Le Pont de l'Anglois, Self Portrait with a Straw Hat, Still life with Lemons* and others In the buttoned up jacket one can pick out hundreds of different self portraits "in blue painter's smock", and several other characteristically blue works *The Reclining Nude* and the *Plaster Statuette* are scattered all over, along with dozens of other paintings, the size of a postcard Flashes of red are often provided by *The Zouave*



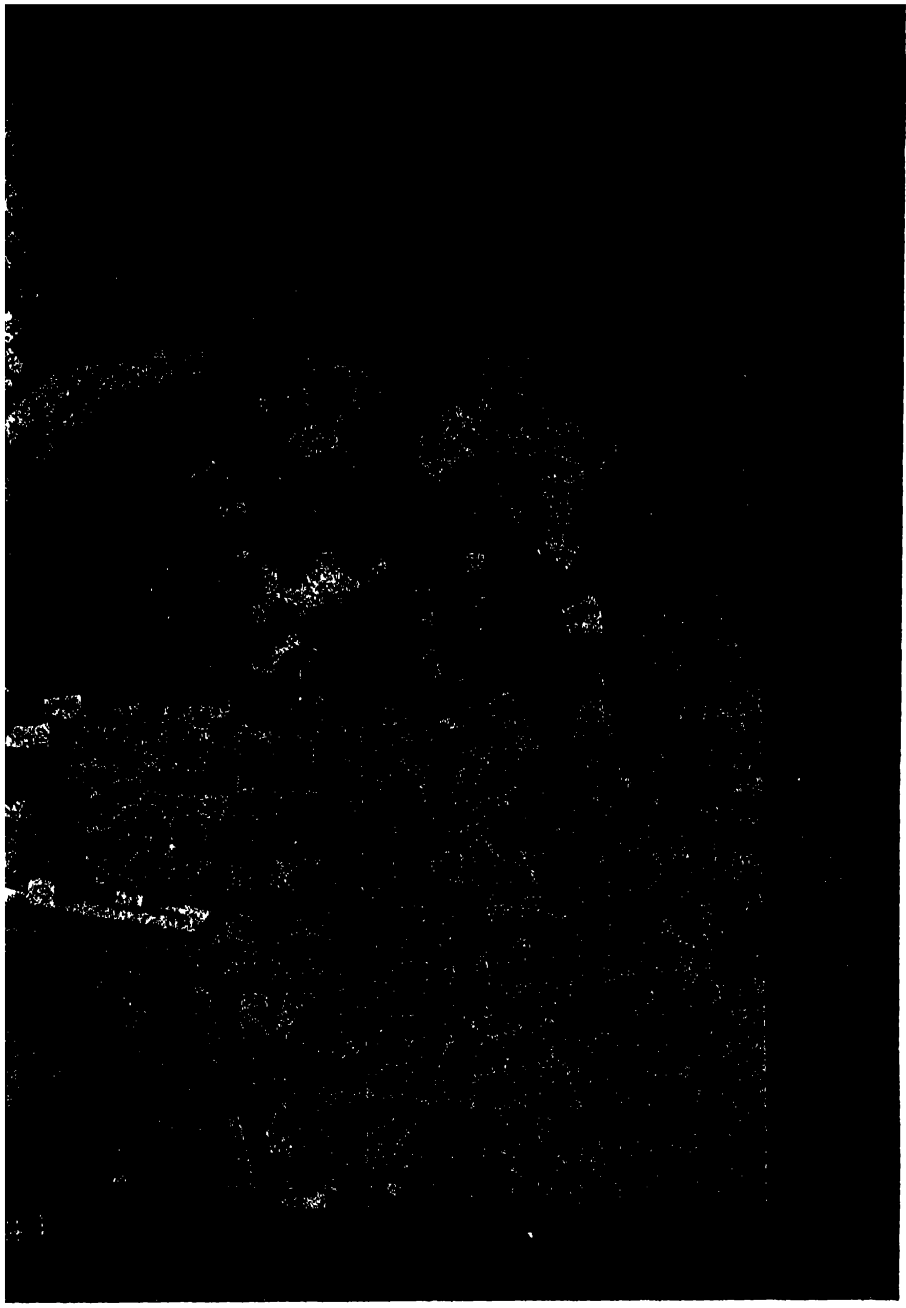
Cornel Bierens sits in front of the giant collage, *A Hommage to Van Gogh:*

Bierens tried to explain how he worked on such a huge scale "I put together an apparatus comprising a videocamera mounted on wheels This camera could move back and forth, and would flash on the screen the overall view of the collage, while I was working in one place This meant that I did not have to go backwards and forwards all the time to get a good look the camera was doing it for me "

"Why did you go into this form of art? Does it have something to do with your background of psychology?" he was asked "I did not want to solve problems I wanted to create 'puzzles', artistic puzzles, as food for thought I tried to make art in my own way," Bierens said

Not content with all this, Bierens is going ahead with his fourth project for the Van Gogh year—a textured 3-d version of *The Potato Eaters* made from sand and clay, with real life potatoes in the dish The potatoes will give root and eventually die, with the enmeshed roots forming the contours of the picture—a birth to death saga

The Potato Eaters is perhaps one of the paintings Van Gogh was very proud of. "I intended to keep conscientiously in mind the suggestion to the spectator that these people eating their potatoes under the lamp and putting their hands in the plate,



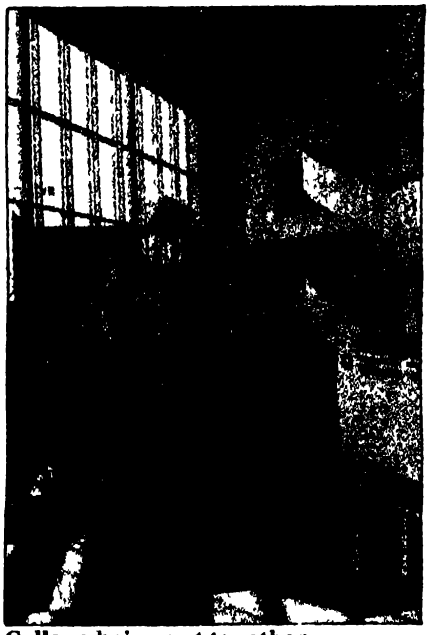
have also tilled the soil so that my picture praises both manual labour and the food they have themselves so honestly procured. I intend that the painting should make people think of a way of life entirely different from our own civilised one. So I have no wish for anybody to consider the work beautiful or good..."

Having successfully attracted the attention of the world to the Van Gogh year, the Netherlands Board of Tourism is planning a big *tamasha* for the Van Gogh enthusiasts who visit the country where Van Gogh was born and bred. Amsterdam, and its surrounds, are buzzing with activity. Receiving the final touches, is the most dazzling extravaganza that the art world has seen. A tourist will get more than what he can cope with; and he will be able to "sense" Van Gogh wherever he goes.

The visitor can see Van Gogh in every nook and cranny available. The focus of the centenary celebrations is the major two-part retrospective of his work beginning March 30, going on to July 29. The first part, the 130 paintings, displayed at the Rijksmuseum Vincent van Gogh, Amsterdam, has scores of masterpieces, often in series, hanging side by side, for the first time, with his favourite but perhaps lesser known works. The second part comprises 250-odd drawings at the Rijksmuseum Kroller-Muller in Otterlo. "The world concerns me in that I have a certain *obligation* and *duty*, because I have walked this earth for 30 years and from gratitude I want to leave a souvenir in the shape of drawings and paintings—not made to please a certain taste in art, but to express a genuine human emotion." This quotation from one of Van Gogh's letters forms the theme of the exhibition.

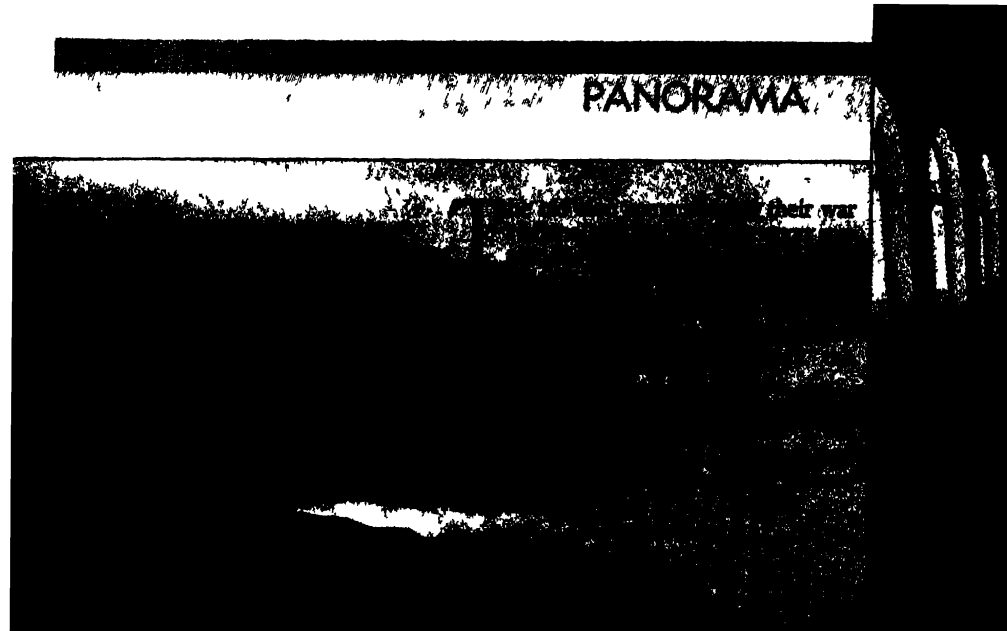
The visitor can see Van Gogh's inspirations. Works of artists and others (like Matisse, Picasso, etc.) who influenced and inspired Van Gogh, along with those of the artists who were inspired by him, photographs of places where he lived and worked, adaptations of Van Gogh's originals...all these and more will be highlighted. The visitor can read Van Gogh. A *complete* collection of his letters to his brother, Theo, and other members of his family and friends is being published, and many of these never before exhibited, are now on show. Going through this exceptional exhibition is a treat and further confirms the fact that Van Gogh was as prolific a writer as he was an artist.

The visitor can hear Van Gogh. Opera, dance festivals, film festivals, TV programmes, poetry recitations.. all centre around the Van Gogh theme. The visitor can feel Van Gogh. The Van Gogh Village created on the Museumplein, (the Museum Square) in Amsterdam, extends the interiors of the Museums out into the open, with an abundance of sunflowers, blue irises and other flowers dancing attendance.



Collage being put together

In a letter to his brother Theo, in 1888 Vincent van Gogh says, 'I can't help it if no one buys my paintings; I know that one day people will realise that they are worth more than the price of paint and canvas." He was not far from the truth when his *Sunflowers* fetched an astronomical amount at a recent sale. Yet he himself could never have dreamt that a hundred years after his death, his works—letters, sketches, paintings—would be so sought after and priceless. ■



Three Allied leaders—Stalin, Churchill, Roosevelt—sat around a table like this at the February 1945 Yalta conference in the [illegible] Hall of the former czar's Livadia Palace. The table pictured is a reproduction.

SUN, SEA AND SEX

Sand is the only 'S' missing in Yalta where the Big Three (Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill) once met and which is now being plugged as a sanitarium

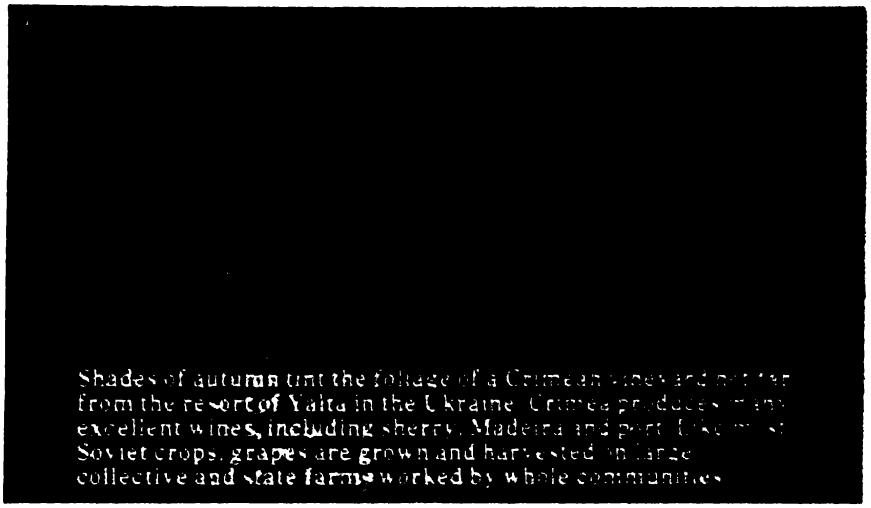
Swallows S[illegible] the Black S[illegible]

has been debated vehemently ever since.

Last December, nearly 45 years after that summit on the Black Sea, another meeting of Soviet and American leaders revived memories of the Yalta conference.

Presidents Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush met aboard ships at Malta in two days of sessions described by some observers as the most important since Yalta's. They met against a backdrop of the stunningly swift disintegration of communist regimes in Eastern Europe.

The decades-old controversy is not mentioned in Natasha's lecture, which dwells on the prosecution of World War II, not the subsequent communist takeover.



Shades of autumn tint the foliage of a Crimean vineyard near the resort of Yalta in the Ukraine. Crimea produces many excellent wines, including sherry, Madeira and port. Like most Soviet crops, grapes are grown and harvested in large collective and state farms worked by whole communities.

Livadia's table and chairs are copies. The palace was turned into a workers' sanitarium after World War II. It did not become a shrine until 1974, and by then the originals had vanished.

A tour of Livadia and its spreading gardens is not the main event for Soviet citizens trooping to Yalta and nearby cities on the rocky coast. As gloomy winter approaches in Moscow or Leningrad, many bureaucrats dream of the Crimea's 'velvet season,' autumn, when the air is warm and the sea is soft, when plane trees shimmer like shafts of gold and vineyards turn scarlet on the slopes.

Gorbachev is said to enjoy the pleasures of a dacha near Yalta, complete with swimming pool and tennis courts. Bus loads of workers come to be restored by the sun and the care of nutritionists and physical therapists in dozens of sanitariums. Trade unions bear much of the cost of a two-week regimen for their members.

In Odessa, another popular Black Sea resort, tired bodies are treated by immersion in mud and various mineral waters, some laced with pine extract or sulfur, some mildly radioactive. Such treatments, a major branch of Soviet medicine, are offered for ailments as diverse as rheumatism and skin disorders.

At Yalta the sanitarium philosophy is simpler. "The sun, the sea water, the air—that is our prescription," a physician declares. While partaking of these, guests dine under a dietitian's care, with fresh cucumbers and tomatoes from local gardens. They are expected to shun tobacco and alcohol.

There is no sandy beach here; the coast of the Crimean Peninsula is rocky, with precipitous cliffs. The vacationers roam those cliffs and wander in the excellent arboretum. And perhaps, despite sanitarium rules, they sample the sweet muscat wine barrelled at a vineyard that was once the property of a Russian nobleman.

At the time of the Yalta conference—and out of sight of the Allied leaders—the Crimea was being brutally depopulated, including Tatars whose ancestors had once been subjects of Mongol khans.

Stalin accused the Tatars of collaborating with the German occupation forces, only recently driven from the Crimea, and deported 300,000 of them to Soviet Central Asia in 1944-45. In 1967, 13 years after Stalin's death, the Soviet government exonerated the Tatars—but did not allow them to return.

Recent protests by Tatars in Moscow have revived this homeland issue, and indeed a few Tatars have gone to live again in the Crimea, without official sanction. But there is no mosque here for these Moslems and, as a young man remarks, "I only hear the Koran at funerals. Only the old men know it."

Ukrainians have largely supplanted Tatars on the peninsula now, and the care of vacationers is supplanting the old Tatar occupations—farming and shepherding. Officials hope to lure tourists from Western Europe to new hotels that look out from the rocky coast.

A journalist reminds one of these developers that Western resorts consider the four S's—sun, sea, sand and sex—crucial to attracting visitors. He answers confidently: "We are only lacking sand."

GAURANGA YATRA

The Iskcon headquarters in Mayapur is crawling with Soviets and East Europeans disgruntled with communism. Srinjoy Chowdhury met some of them



Tarapada Banerjee

Glory be to Krishna

Arms raised in supplication, their curling *tikis* prominent against the blond stubble on their scalps, they swayed before the images of Krishna, Radha and the cavorting *gopinis*. *Hare-Krishna, Hare Krishna, jai, jai, Prabhupada jai* sang the men in saffron-pink robes. Behind the blur of the men, danced the women in colourful sarees, their blonde tresses peeking out of the saree-ends covering their heads. A few children, half-aware of the occasion, strayed from their mother's sight. And only a handful of Indians were present at the early morning service at Iskcon's *mandir* in Mayapur, in rural Nadia.

The music, insistent and repetitive, swelled, the castanets shrill, the drumbeat hypnotic. The devotees turned to dance before the bronze statue of Prabhupada (founder of the Iskcon movement), seated on a marble throne. Among them were devotees from the formerly atheistic Soviet Union, and the East European countries of Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. The 100-odd devotees from the Soviet Bloc and Yugoslavia visiting Mayapur, the Mecca of the Iskcon movement, form the second wave from the communist world. They and hundreds of others, Balts, Georgians and even the Muslims from Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan have embraced Krishna Consciousness, defying the KGB and their masters in the Kremlin.

Hare Krishna has flowered in the Soviet Bloc from 1986. "President Gorbachev is really Gour-bachev," said Kirti Raj Das or David Japuko, Iskcon's high chamberlain in East Europe and the USSR. "The new openness has greatly facilitated the spread of Krishna Consciousness. We have even got devotees in the predominently Muslim republics of Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan," says Kirti Raj, an American of Polish-Russian origin.

Many Hare Krishna followers are unlikely recruits. A chemistry student of Moscow State University (Gorbachev's *alma mater*), and member of the Komsomol (the communist youth organisation), Vladislav Blinov was destined to be an ideologically sound Soviet technocrat. But four years ago, he renounced his comfortable future. In the order's coloured robes, this young convert preaches to would-be converts and distributes pamphlets in Soviet cities. "My parents are very happy that I have a clean life (Iskcon prohibits the use of any stimulants including tea, coffee, tobacco, and alcohol, illicit sex, and mundane—read popular—music)," says Blinov who first came across Iskcon in the *samizat* (underground) press.

Like Blinov, the few hundred Hare Krishnas in Moscow have greeted Gorbachev and *glasnost* with open arms. "It was dangerous to be a Hare Krishna till 1986. We were all afraid of the KGB. People were prosecuted," remembers Nityananda Avadhoot Das (Audrius Paluminskus) of Lithuania, who wears a necklace and carries a little cloth bag for his prayer beads.

A devotee for over a decade and one of the 40 initiates in his town in Lithuania, Nityananda regrets that his movement lacks money to build a temple in Lithuania. Cradling a child in his arms, Ramabhadra Acharya Das (Rimantas Damukas) from Vilinus, Lithuania admires the consistent philosophy of the movement. "The era of persecution is over. People can now express their feelings," he says.

In the difficult times under former general secretary Chernenko, when the Soviet Union was leached of religious faith, Govinda Dasi (Ms Mishutina Galina) of Kiev, first met an Iskcon devotee. "I saw some happiness in her eyes. Now I have faith in Prabhupada and Krishna." Pretty in her printed saree, 28-year-old Galina confesses in halting English that she isn't completely happy now. Brought up as a Christian, this Ukranian will be "completely happy in Brindavan." "I will be happy when I die and go back to Krishna."

After years of oppression, the Hare Krishnas are in an upbeat mood. Carved marble domes and arches will be imported from India when construction work on the first Radha-Krishna temple in the USSR, on a five-acre plot in Moscow, begins. Already over two lakh copies of the Gita have been distributed and Krishna's message of everlasting love and just war can be read not only in Russian but in a breathtaking array of languages. Very soon, Armenians, Lithuanians, Latvians, Georgians, Uzbeks, Ukranians and Azerbaijainis will be reading Krishna's message to Arjun before the massed armies in Kurukshetra in their mother tongues.

For Iskcon's saffron-pink crusaders, driving home Chaitanya's message is the final goal. They have permission to print five million copies of the Puranas, the Gita and other books by the Soviet govern-

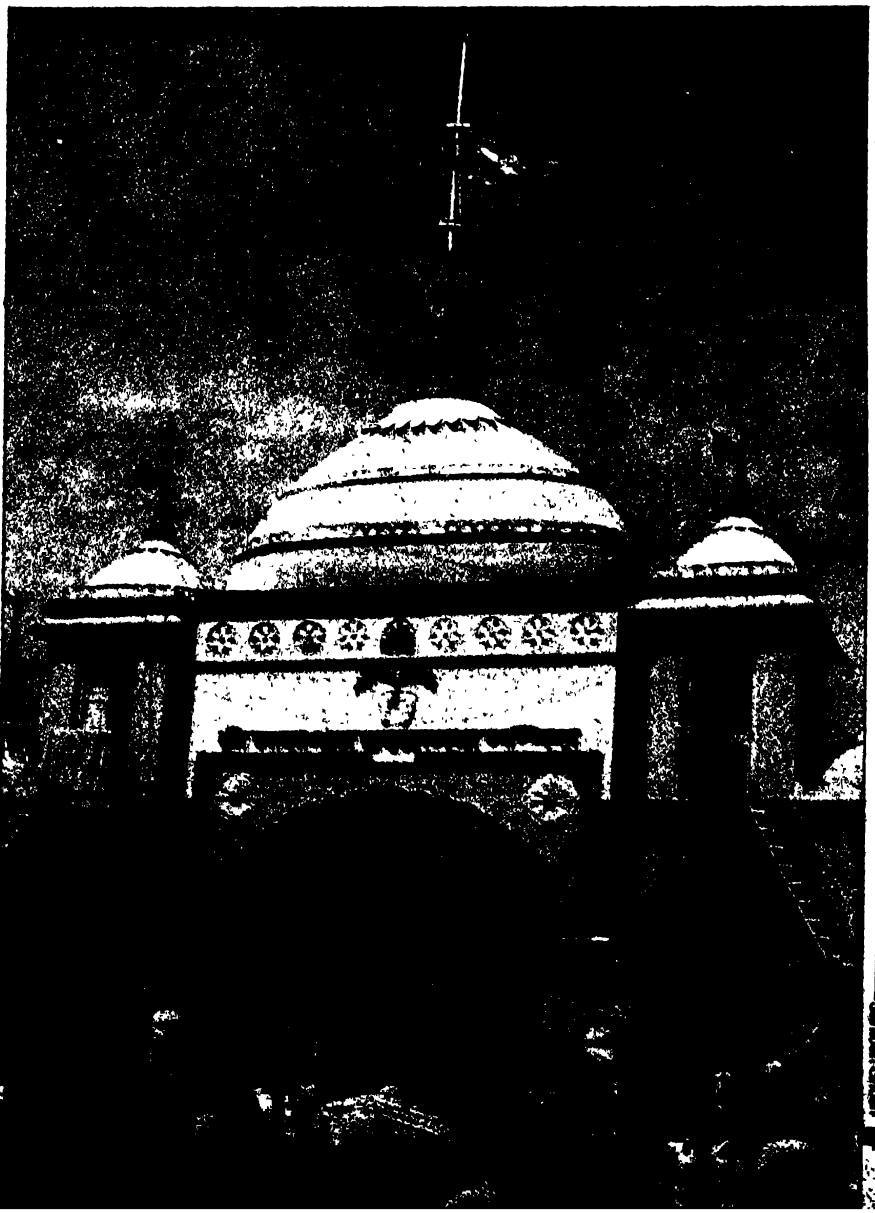
ment. The teachings of Chaitanya are accepted by the scholars, and since religious activities of any kind invited reprisals till recently, the attraction to Iskcon seems stronger here than in Western Europe, believe senior leaders.

The East European governments have also followed the Gorbachev model of religious toleration. When Nenad Jaric (now Nabadwip Das), a physicist, encountered some of the first Yugoslav disciples on the beach in Dubrovik, the police intervened. Dissatisfied with the emptiness of affluent societies, Jaric longed for a philosophical model. "Opulence cannot bring happiness, only comfort," is his shopworn argument. But Yugoslavia is Iskcon's best bet in Europe. "We have four temples. There are no restrictions now. We can sing *bhajans* and distribute books in the streets." Music, in fact, brought Akrura Das (Aleksander Todorovic) of Belgrade closer to Krishna Consciousness. Resident of the Hare Krishna temple, Todarovich (32) now lectures on the Gita and the Puranas. "There are 22 full-time devotees in my temple, but many, many friends."



Roll over commissar, the *yogis* are here

While most communist leaders are at best ambivalent about Iskcon, Mr Kuron, the labour minister of Poland, is proud of his Hare Krishna affiliations. "He wants us to start a food for life programme. He eats our *prasadam* and visits our centre in Warsaw," says Patri Dasa (Pavel Rachwal) of Poland, a former architecture student. "My parents were die-hard communists and were difficult in the beginning. But they saw my determination, and the charges, and now realise that Marx did not have all the answers," says Karuea Valvlov of Sofia, Bulgaria. Iskcon is a registered religion in Hungary. "There are many Hungarians who are vegetarian and interested in yoga. Hundreds of people are coming to us," says Baladev Das (Czipo Bela), a former philosophy student at the University of Budapest.



Though the commissars of Eastern Europe are in retreat, the Iskcon's *yogis* may never gain much ground there. As a result, the Hare Krishnas are likely to remain a miniscule albeit visible minority. Their inflexibility (devotees have to say no to even minor intoxicants like tea and coffee) and their unfamiliar sartorial style, are counterpoints to their infectious enthusiasm for conversions. A Yugoslav journalists, in Mayapur during the 504th birth anniversary of Chaitanya, is critical of the commercial spirit of some of Iskcon's devotees and the subservience demanded of the women. "It may not be easy for a Western woman to sit behind the men at functions and eat after them," she says. In the Mayapur campus, cotton T-shirts sell at Rs 125 each. Advertisements for "real Italian pizza" and Narottam's incense jostle with notices saying "do not pluck Krishna's flowers." But no salesperson is as elaborately polite as the Hare Krishnas. Every potential buyer is greeted with folded hands and a "Hare Krishna." Hare Krishna! ■



Sound of freedom

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133)—4 shows Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417)—3 shows

Directed by Mukul S Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi, Neelam, Danny, Goga Kapoor, Archana Puran Singh Aloknath, Rohini Hattangady and Tinnu Anand The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Bahurani:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515)—4 shows, Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—3 shows

Directed by Manick Chatterjee, the film stars Rekha along with Rakesh Roshan, Deven Verma, Aruna Irani and Utpal Dutt The music is R D Burman

• **Izzatdaar:** Hind (Gamesh Chandra Avenue, 272473), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 250437), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141)

Dilip Kumar, Govinda, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher star in this K Bapaiah film whose music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Jeene Do:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132),, Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266), Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 351382), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046)

Sunjay Dutt, Jackie Shroff, Farha, Shakti Kapoor, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri comprise the main cast The film is directed by Rajesh Sethi and the music is by R D Burman.

• **Kishen Kanhaiya:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street, 554033)—4 shows, Madhuban (Regent Park), Alochhaya (Behaghata Main Road, 355059), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828)—3 shows

A film by Rakesh Roshan, starring Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Shilpa Shirodkar, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri The music is by Rajesh Roshan

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)—10 45, 2 15, 5 30, 9, Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108)—4 shows

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Raam Laxman

• **Pyar Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 391090), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue,



Mel Gibson and Michelle Pfeiffer in *Tequila Sunrise*

Satabdi Roy in *Aalingan*



A scene from the Hindi play, *Guinea Pig*

464440).

Directed by K. Bapaiah and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Dharmendra, Mithun Chakraborty, Meenakshi Seshadri, Shakti Kapoor and Asrani.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417).

A film by Harmesh Malhotra, starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Raj Babbar, Poonam and Neelam. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Kroadh:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—4 shows; Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 351382), Jaya (Lake Town; 573936)—3 shows.

Directed by Shashilal Nair and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Sunjay Dutt, Sunny Deol, Amrita Singh, Sonam and Anupam Kher.

Special Events

25 and 31 March: 6 pm

As part of Anamika's *Natyotsava 1990*, Rangakarmee will stage *Lok Katha* (written by Ratnakar Matkari and directed by Usha Ganguli) onthe 25th, and Anya Theatre will stage *Madhab Malanchi Koinnya* (written and directed by Bibhas Chakraborty) on the 31st.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

25-30 March: 7 pm

Concern for Calcutta presents a theatre festival featuring Padatik's *Adhey Adhurey* on the 25th, Abhiyan's *Guinea Pig* on the 26th, Sundaram's *Alakanander Putra Koinnya* on the 27th, Workshop's *Bhutto* on the 29th, and PLT's *Kallol* on the concluding evening.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

27-29 March: 6.30 pm

Anamika Kala Sangam presents Abhiyan Theatre Group (New Delhi) in the Hindi play, *Guinea Pig*, directed by Rajinder Nath and with Kulbhushan Kharbanda in the elad.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Queens Park).

30 March: 6.30 pm

Padatik Music Circle presents a sitar recital by Ashish Chatterjee.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

31 March: 6 pm

The inaugural evening of Utkal Dibas, organised by Utkal Shiksha Sansad in collaboration with the government of Orissa, department of culture, features bhajans by Sunanda Patnaik and an Odissi dance recital by Aloka Kanungo.

At Sri Shikshayatan Hall (Lord Sinha Road).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6). AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7). AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7). AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1200, Dep. (2, 3): BG-094 at 1730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1115, Arr. (2, 3): BG-093 at 1645.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1245; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1145.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340., Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily). IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845, Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-265 at 0900; Arr (3, 5, 7). IC-266 at 0820.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-272 at 1915.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-243 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1720; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4) IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5,. 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5). PF-715 at 0600; Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-716 at 1025
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along. Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5). PF-724 at 1950
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-725 at 0550 Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta Dep (1, 3, 5) PF 737 at 0600 Arr (1, 3, 5) PF 738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20 45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6 30	6004
8002	20 15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7 10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21 30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



MIRROR IMAGES! How many faces do you see in the mirror above? Our artist says there are 31 Can you find them?

• POST SCRIPT! What U S government Cabinet Secretary is in charge of 1 Gates? 2 Shabby goods? 3 Punctuation? 4 Jokes? 5 Pushy people?

1 Secy of Defence 2 Secy of Interior 3 Secy of Commas 4 Secy of Gag routine 5 Secy of the Navy

10		2

CROSS-NUMBER CHALLENGE
Two numbers—10 and 2—appear in the diagram above together with seven blank spaces You are asked to fill these blanks with numbers 3 through 9 so that all three-number rows-horizontally vertically and diagonally-total 18

All seven numbers, 3 through 9 are to be used No number is to be duplicated

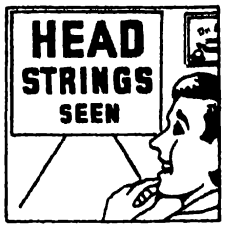
Start by inserting the centre number, which is obviously 6 Then proceed to fill blanks by trial and error

How quickly can you find a solution?

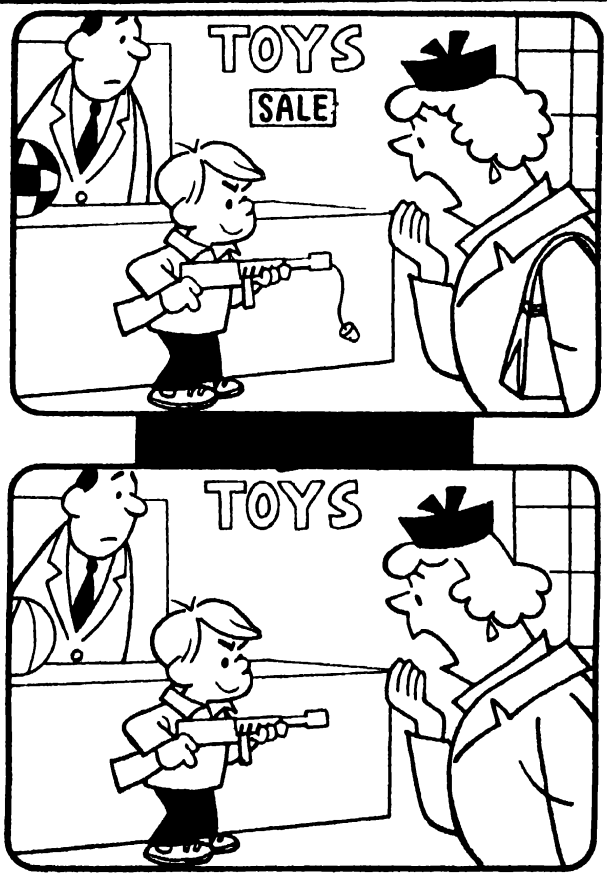
Across Top—3 8 7 then 1 0 6 2 and 5 4 9 will do it.

• **EYE TECH! An eye doctor who is also a puzzlist has set up this optical anagram, see below, to name a condition that is common among patients To discover what condition this is, simply rearrange letters shown on the chart to form a single 18-letter word. Hint: A more technical name of it is myopia.**

The word is nearsightedness



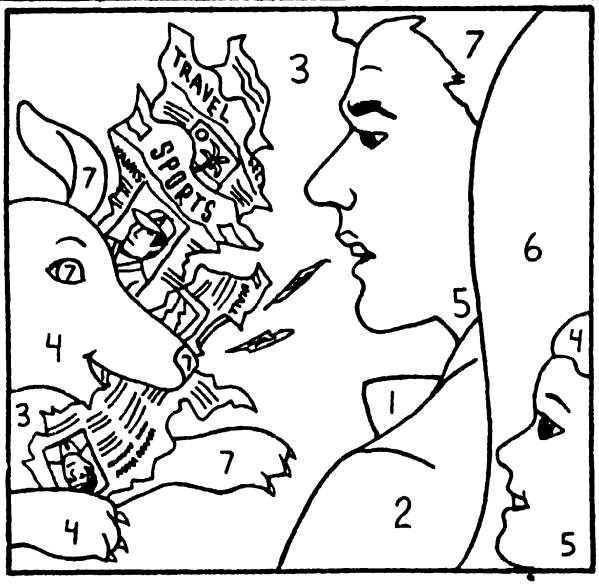
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Ball is different 2 Arm is missing 3 Sign is missing 4 Cork is missing 5 Hairdo is different 6 Pocketbook is missing

FUNSPOT



PAPER ROUTE! Fido may mean well delivering the paper, but. Add the following colors neatly 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt. brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

REPRISAL

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible bonanza Rare slip

ARIES
March 21—April 20

Expenses, trips, ties, secret connections, collaborations and rendezvous are the main trends of the week. Watch your health. As far as romance goes, an old flame rekindles. Prepare for major investments. The mid-week is the best time to stake your claim. Minor financial losses on prior speculation are possible.

TAURUS
April 21—May 20

The main trends are recovery, reunion, visits and gifts. Legal settlements may go in your favour. An old friendship escalates into something more. Those involved in legal tangles may be happily rewarded with monetary settlements. The salaried may be greeted with increments or bonus. Your health remains fine.

GEMINI
May 21—June 20

Confrontations on the work frontier are likely. Expenses eat into your income. You will enjoy an excellent health. Romance goes as steady as ever. Business associates, financiers, partners and superiors may be in a mood to fire you. It is best not to make excuses. You may have to pay a fine as a result of carelessness.

CANCER
June 21—July 20

Hard work, contacts, contracts, documents and investments all combine in a hectic week. Your income increases. Men find acceptance from the opposite sex, but more luck holds for the ladies. Shares and other investments promise good returns. A lucky week for bagging lucrative contracts. You will hardly find time for leisure. Much reading of the fine print is foretold. Those in sales enjoy wider markets and increased profits.

LEO
July 21—August 21

Marital relationship, travel, job satisfaction and research work are well signified. Some soul-searching will be inevitable as a heated conflict with your spouse distracts you from attending to other matters. Those eligible find the mid-week lucky for romantic activities. You may be introduced to your future life partner in a business conference or a visiting research or sports team. Because of an attractive pay packet offered by another job you feel dissatisfied mixed bag of mostly cancellations and postponements. Taking spouses for granted may cause ripples and undercurrents at home. Do something that makes deeds match words.



VIRGO
August 22—Sept 22

Awards, ceremonies and travel are the week's main trends. A native of a distant land attracts your fancy. A lasting friendship or marriage is the likely result. Purchase of gifts and clothings bites chunks out of your resources. You will not, however, regret it as you are in for a happy round of activity. You will be fit as a fiddle. Travel is indicated in connection with some ceremony or courtship.

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22

New projects, business ventures, research work and creative activities are the key features of the week. A son or a daughter may distinguish the entire family by winning in a sport or topping in a competitive examination. Romance for the eligible and fancyfree. Do not neglect your health and that of your family. Journeys, ties and meets are the other salient features of the week.

BIRTHDAYS

March 25

Moon trine Pluto: This trine helps artists, industrialists, writers, traders, teachers and financiers. It is a good birthday to start a new business or expand the existing one.

March 26

Moon square Jupiter: You will have to play safe in your personal life as well as in your business dealings. It is not the right time to take chances.

March 27

New Moon Aries: It is best to be conservative and traditional. Older Arians could be in for retirement. On and after February 9, 1991, the situation eases.

March 28

Moon sextile Jupiter: Those in business, property, chemicals, travel and commerce do wonderfully well. Business transactions will come through. Buying or selling is definitely emphasised.

March 29

Moon trine Uranus: Romance and good fortune make your year memorable. A wish-fulfilment is predicted for Arians. Children and entertainment complete the picture.

March 30

Moon trine Saturn: You will consolidate your business, improve upon your social standing, make financial gains and be popular. A good birthyear to start an enterprise.

March 31

Sun sextile Moon: Opportunities on the job front and personal relationships will be there. It is up to you to grab them. Travel, children, communication, correspondence and contacts lead to comfort and happiness.

SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 22

Stormy romantic seas, impulsive decisions and mounting expenses dominate the week. Although your intentions may be good your actions towards the sweetheart of a friend may be wrongly interpreted. Look before you leap into a financial transaction. A change of residence or acquisition of property may call for increased expenses. No serious health problem this week. Avoid impulsive travel decisions.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23—Dec 20

A project begins, business expands and visitors drop in. A week of hectic but happy activity. Project funds, loans and contributions will be available. Pay close attention to outstation development in your business. Elderly people need to take health safeguards. Problems of a cardiovascular or pulmonary nature are likely. Travel is on the cards. A new arrival in the family is indicated.

CAPRICORN
Dec 21—Jan 19

Plans, negotiations, trips and ties are the main trends. An engagement or a marriage proposal for the eligible. Romantic involvement with a foreigner is also indicated. The week shows more expenses than income. Do not keep things unattended. Delays may prove costly. Knees and stomach may trouble some, but will pass over before the weekend. Expect some opposition to your foreign ties.

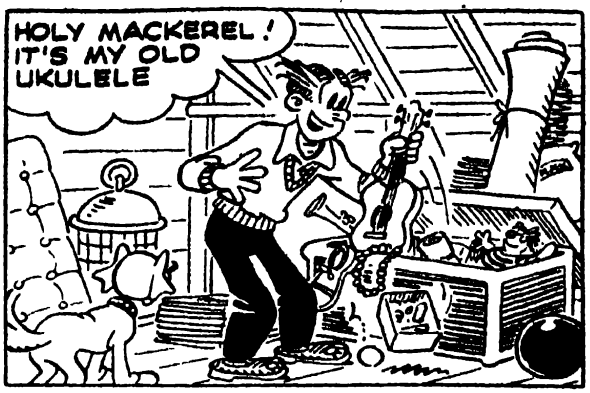
AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18

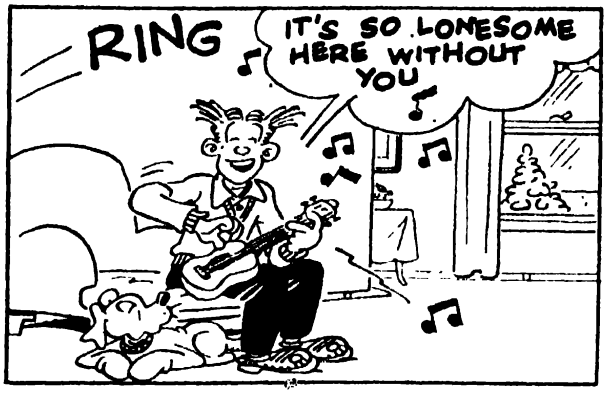
Unexpected visitors, sudden travel, entertainment and shifts are the main features of the week. A younger individual impresses you. Allergies and eye infections may pester you for the next 10 days. Travel for business purposes is probable. The home front remains happy and peaceful.

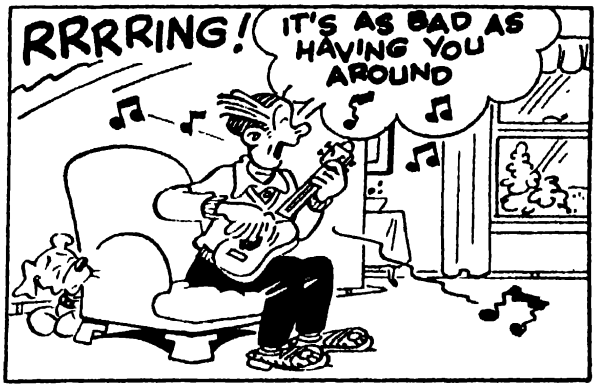
PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

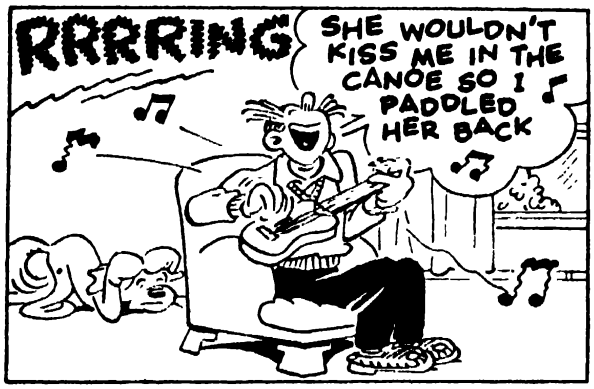
Loans, funds, deeds and property matters occupy the week. An outing clinches a romantic deal. A long awaited deed or document comes your way. Health remains steady. Property matters will make you travel. Purchases, social gatherings, renovations and decorations are the other salient features of the week.

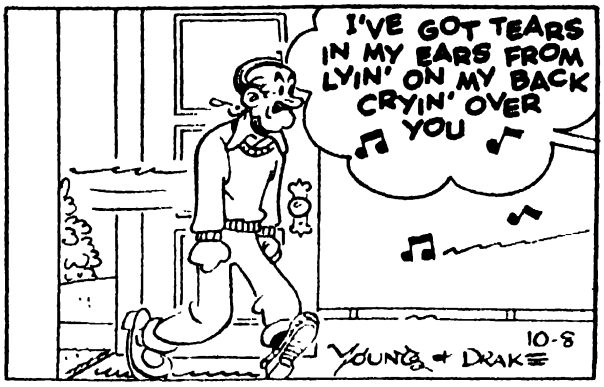


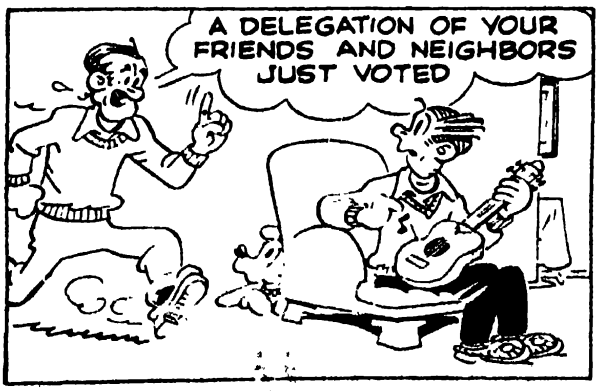








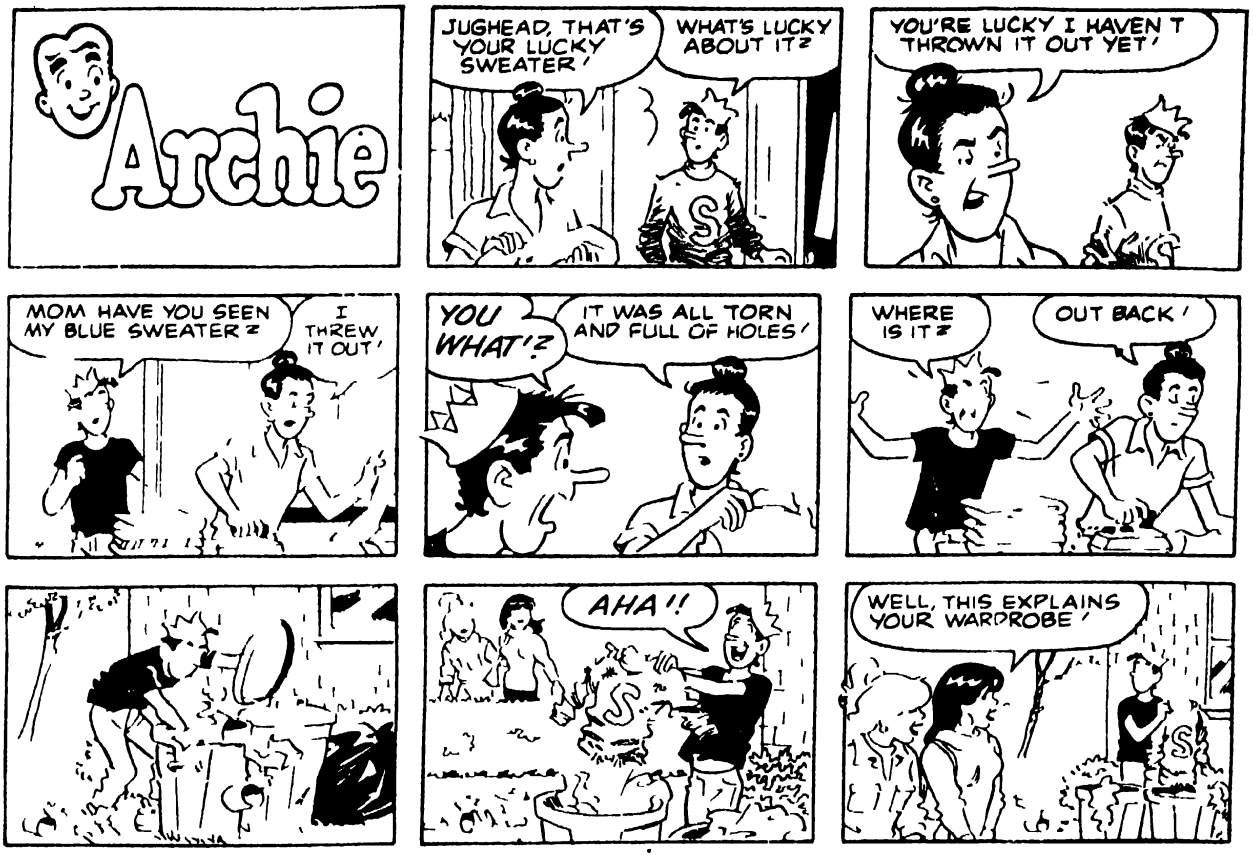


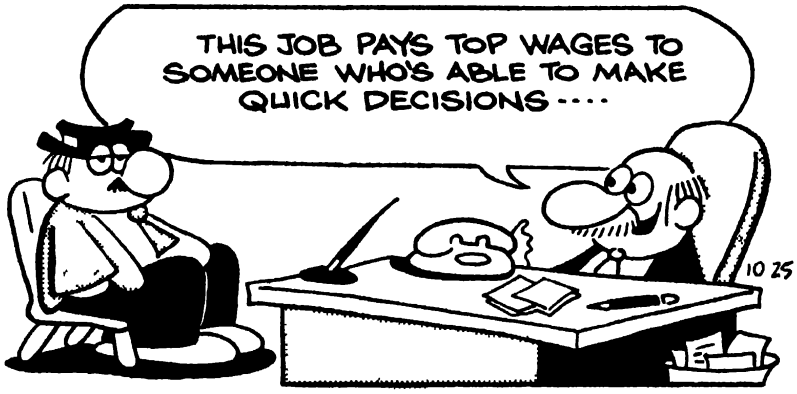


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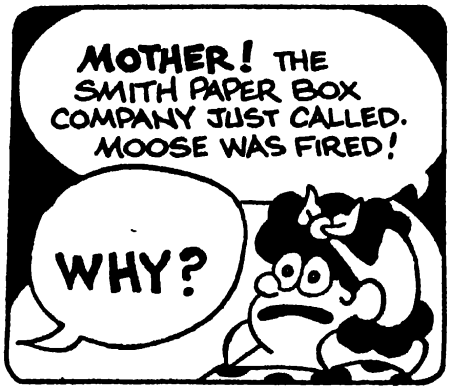


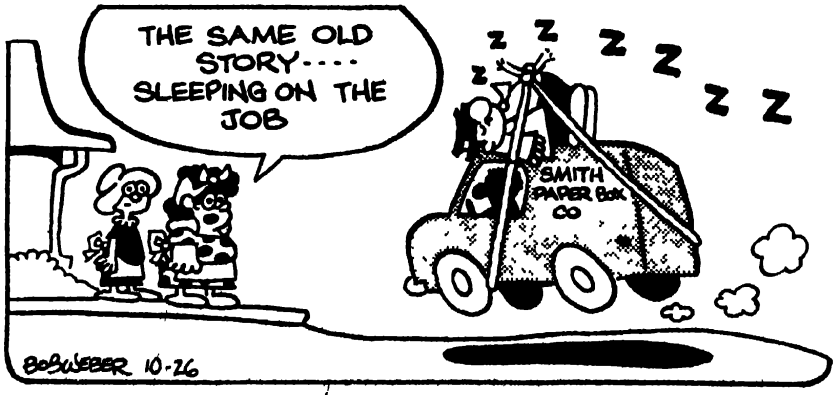
ARCHIE


Archie
JUGHEAD, THAT'S YOUR LUCKY SWEATER!
WHAT'S LUCKY ABOUT IT?
YOU'RE LUCKY I HAVEN'T THROWN IT OUT YET!
MOM HAVE YOU SEEN MY BLUE SWEATER?
I THREW IT OUT!
YOU WHAT!?
IT WAS ALL TORN AND FULL OF HOLES!
WHERE IS IT?
OUT BACK!
AHA!!
WELL, THIS EXPLAINS YOUR WARDROBE!


THIS JOB PAYS TOP WAGES TO SOMEONE WHO'S ABLE TO MAKE QUICK DECISIONS····
10 25


HMMM···GEE··WELL··GOSH ····MAYBE I SHOULD DISCUSS IT WITH MY WIFE···· AND GIVE YOU AN ANSWER IN A DAY OR TWO
BOB WEBER


MOTHER! THE SMITH PAPER BOX COMPANY JUST CALLED. MOOSE WAS FIRED!
WHY?

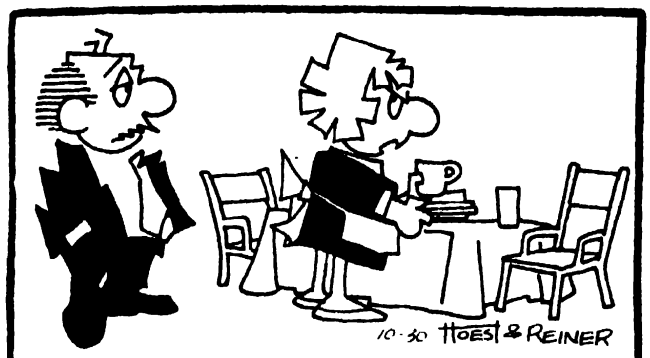

THE SAME OLD STORY···· SLEEPING ON THE JOB
Z Z Z Z Z Z
SMITH PAPER BOX CO
BOBWEBER 10-26



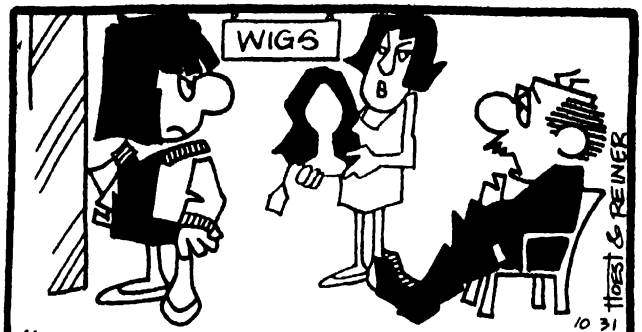
"I DON'T WANT TO KEEP HER HAPPY. I WANT TO KEEP HER QUIET."



"OUR JOINT ACCOUNT IS OVERDRAWN... YOU'RE NOT DOING YOUR PART!"

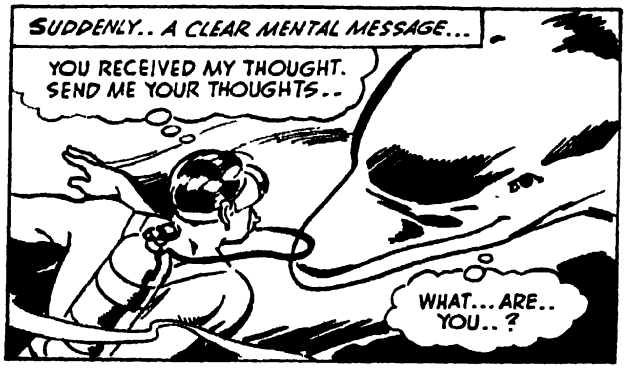


"AND STOP REFERRING TO DINNER AS THE RECENT UNPLEASANTNESS."



"WHY DON'T YOU GET ONE THAT LOOKS REALISTIC? GET A BLOND ONE WITH DARK ROOTS."

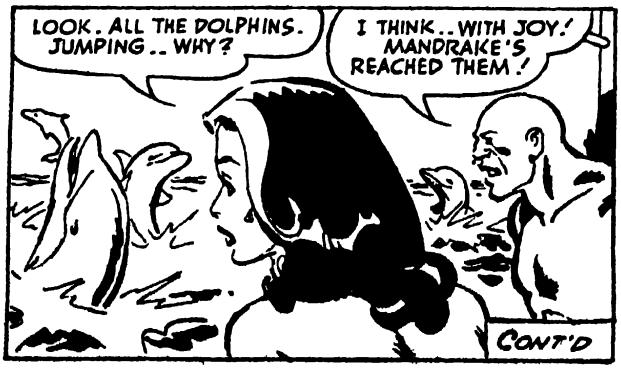
MANDRAKE By Lee Falk







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WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHEN WILL YOU EVER LEARN? GIVE ME THAT CANTEEN!
AND WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE EATING?
DRIED FISH
EXACTLY! AND SINCE WHEN DO WE DRINK RED WINE WITH FISH?
RIGHT, DENNIS, PITCH THE TENT HERE.
TENT?
ER THAT'S RIGHT YOU'VE GOT IT WITH THE SLEEPING BAGS.
SLEEPING BAGS?
OH, THAT'S TERRIFIC! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO SLEEP IN?
I'VE GOT OUR PYJAMAS
SINCE OUR ORDERS ARE TO SPY ON THE ENEMY, WE MUST GET AS CLOSE TO THEIR CAMP AS POSSIBLE
DON'T WORRY! I'VE BROUGHT SOME CAMOUFLAGE JUST WATCH THIS!
COME ON THEN! WHERE AM I?
DENNIS, YOU'RE CAMOUFLAGED AS A BUSH
YUP!
OFFHAND DENNIS, HOW MANY BUSHES DO YOU SEE IN THE VICINITY?
NONE
SHOWS YOU HOW GOOD THE CAMOUFLAGE IS!
AAH-CHOO!
DENNIS, WE'RE ALMOST AT THE ENEMY CAMP FOR THE LAST TIME, GET RID OF THAT STUPID DISGUISE!
BE HONEST - WOULD YOU HAVE SPOTTED ME IF I HADN'T SNEEZED?

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's edition of The Telegraph's Saturday Special

HE-MAN MASTERS













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Even before this son flowered as chief minister of Haryana, there was Meham. But that shouldn't pose any problems for **Om Prakash Chautala,** as long as Devi Lal is big dad. Photograph by NITIN RAI



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that's a situation none of us would like to get into But then, one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for With Mediclaim from New India A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits including cover for hospitalisation at home, under special circumstances For a premium as low as Rs 200 per annum (at the minimum) It also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate

Show how much you love and care for your family Get New India's Mediclaim Policy It offers you so much for so little!

Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Rs	Rs
200	10 500	3 100
250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

Age limit 5 70 years * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium

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Anything Goes!

It was great to know that a pop music revolution is on its way ('The Sound of Sirens', February 4). The Usha Uthups, Sharon Prabhakars, Alisha Chinais and Parvati Khans are now all over the place, injecting a western culture in Indian music.

The only fear is that very soon we will forget all about the Lata Mangeshkars and Asha Bhosles.

Prabal Guha,
Guwahati

■ Many decades ago, Cole Porter wrote a song, *Anything Goes*, the lyric of which proves that people thought and said the same thing in the decades gone by. Part of the song:

In olden days a glimpse at a stocking
Was looked on as something shocking,
Now, heaven knows,
Anything goes!
Good authors who used to know better words
Now only use four-letter words,
Writing prose,
Anything goes!

In 1990, it is:

Roll on pornography,
Anything goes!

Arthur Manly,
Patna

■ The photographs of Parvati Khan, Suneeta Rao and Shweta Shetty, depicting them as glamour girls rather than pop stars was really ridiculous. Please don't publish such 'below-culture' articles as they may have an adverse effect on the younger generation.

Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

■ You have carried a cover story on pop singers twice but each time it was almost totally on female singers. Is this not one-sided?

From Usha Uthup to Suneeta Rao, they are all good, but without Bappi Lahiri we cannot think of any Hindi pop music. Many of them have in fact been projected by Bappi Lahiri. He is an asset to Indian music, so please carry a cover story on him now.

Debasish Nandi,
Taherpur (W.B.)

■ The photograph of Shweta Shetty was excellent. Give us some more pictures of Shweta.

It would not be out of place to mention here that the first *real* pop song in Hindi films went like this:

Jaan pehchan ho, jeena aasan ho,
Dil ko churanewalon, sanich na churao,
Naam to batao...

written by poet Shailendra. This Jaikishan composition was rendered by Mohammad Rafi for Prithvi Pictures' *Gumnaam* (1965). Today's pop lyrics are totally meaningless and therefore fail to entertain.

Ramesh Pal Tewari,
Calcutta

Coincidence?

The forecast in Inner Eye, proves incorrect most of the time. I am a Leo and the December 31 issue, for example, said: "Health will prove to be in your favour." On the contrary, I have been seriously sick since December 31 and bedridden.

In other cases, it has been predicted that I should expect an increment when I happen to be a retired person!

Arabinda Bose
Calcutta

Not Right?

I felt that Tarun Ganguly ('Class Struggle', February 25) was biased. What was grossly unfair was that instead of suggesting solutions to the internal differences of the CPI(M) he tried to set the second string leaders against the senior ones in a most sarcastic manner.

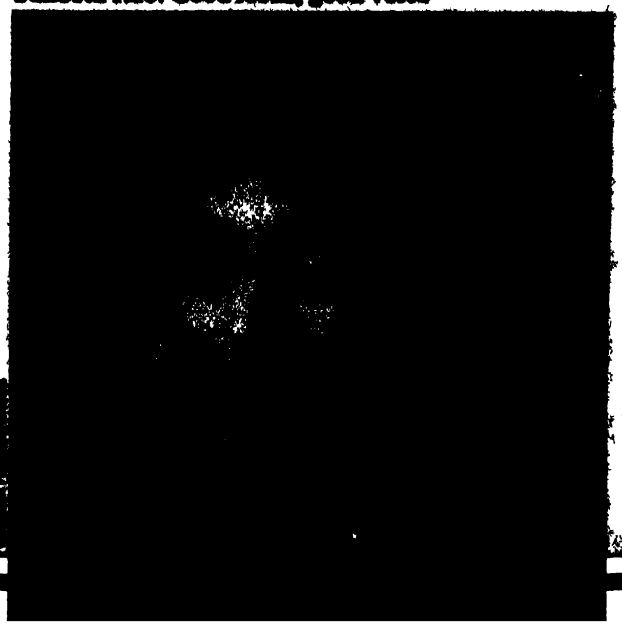
Arijit Roy Choudhury,
Chandernagore (W.B.)

■ The internal power struggle in the CPI(M) is now as apparent as it is in the Congress(I). The mala fide intentions of the front-benchers of the party have eroded its progress.

Many of the party cardholders appear to have lost their faith not only in communism, which faces disaster all over the world, but also in their local deity, Jyoti Basu. A sense of disillusionment is running rampant among the comrades, too.

Sirsa Lashkar,
Bishnupur (W.B.)

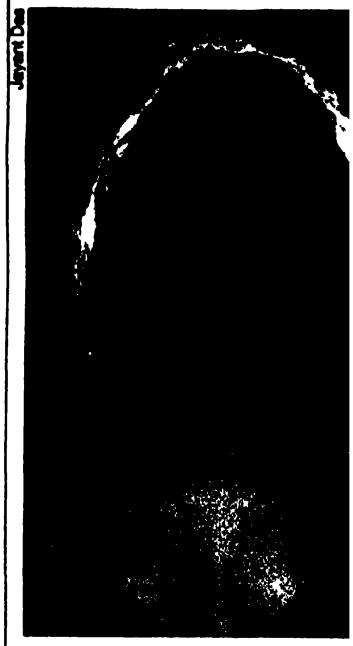
Suneeta Rao: Good looks, good voice



The Telegraph

1 APRIL 1990

Jayant Das



16 New find Asha, who will play the controversial role of Pamella Bordes in a multi-lingual film, raises new hopes of showing us the Pamella we didn't know

4 On the trail of a tiger tracker of the Betla forest reserve

14 The US State Department maintains a 'classified' file on mythical kingdoms and kooky kings

SECTIONS

12 Quiz
13 Event
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover: Jayant Das

An Empty Rice Bowl and Tiger on His Mind

A frail man with a goatee, his sad eyes hide grisly tiger tales. For over two decades, 50-year-old Mohammad Umer has staked his life for a meagre livelihood as a tiger tracker for the Betla National Park, a dense jungle tract in Bihar's forbidding Palamau forests.

But what led Umer Mian, as he is fondly called, into such a hazardous occupation? "Before the Forest Reserve came into being (in 1965), I was a woodcutter. We were employed by contractors to fell trees and transport the timber (on our bullock carts) to their warehouses. Suddenly, life

That's the story of a man whose trail could end in death

came to a standstill. Tree-cutting was banned under forest conservation laws. Soon, trucks arrived to steal whatever little (money) trickled in from running my bullock cart. Starvation stared my family in the face," recalls Umer.

In such crushing circumstances, a tiger tracker's job came Umer's way (during the late sixties) from the forest department. Umer's wife, Jahima Bibi, tried desperately to dissuade him saying that they could feed themselves by farming. "But I took the plunge, realising that hers was all an illusion," says Umer. The (forest) department did not even place Umer and two others (Nabbi Rasul and Nur Mohummud) on the permanent rolls. The Rs 2.50 that each earned at the day's end was a pittance considering the deadly risks the work entailed.

Doggedly scouring the waterholes that dotted the forest and its dusty paths in search of tiger pugmarks, the three men returned unrewarded in the initial months. Long years of ruthless poaching had stripped the jungle of its fauna. "So much so that the officials poohpoohed our earliest discovery of a pugmark, in March 1970. It was after some time had passed, when we brought back the dead remains of this tiger, that they believed us. The skeletal form is now preserved in Betla's forest museum," says Umer.

Nur Mohummud, ironically, died of old age and 20-year-old Salim stepped into his shoes. The trackers struggled on. It was around this period that Umer had his first brush with death. "We were on our customary beat when we chanced upon five tigers gorging on a cow a stone's throw away, in

Mohammad Umer (right) with Salim: 'If I'm killed by a tiger, at least my next of kin will get some compensation'



forest area no. 2, a place called Balihi Kusum," relates Umer, his eyes lighting up.

"On catching sight of us, four of them disappeared into the forest. But one lunged at me. And before I could react, it was on my shoulders with bared jaws. My mates had managed to scramble up a tree. A lightning reflex made me swing my axe and fortunately the attacker scampered off scared. For three days after this experience, I was delirious and kept screaming 'Sher.'"

The four years from 1975 to '79 were lean years again for the trackers. Tracing pugprints across a 200-sq. km. forest with starkly depleted tiger population, is a daunting task in itself. "With pugmarks repeatedly eluding us, we were convinced that the few tigers left had finally perished. In the spring of 1979, a dead ox in Gobardaha (area no. 1) drew our notice. As we inched towards it in anticipation, the footprints of a tigress became visible. In our excitement, we named her Mangli, having made the catch on a Tuesday."

Mangli (in turn, christened Begum by forest authorities) opened a fresh chapter in Betla's feline family. Begum was joined by the biggest cat of them all, Nawab, and their two cubs as the days went by. The trackers had doubled as conservationists by bringing back a once-written-off phenomenon of the Betla jungles.

Umer Mian is normally conversation-shy. But egg him on a little and he can reel off countless spine-chilling encounters. "I was in Mitkapipar (Betla area 2) in 1980, as usual on my haunches, replicating a pugmark on the tracing glass. Suddenly, hearing a faint rustle, I glanced back. There, looming above me, a few paces away, was a herd of 12 elephants coming down the road. It is futile attempting to outrun charging elephants in a jungle. Instead, I crouched in the thick undergrowth and held my breath till I felt suffocated. The elephants sniffed about the bushes for a while and then lumbered off. Allah had saved me once again."

But what has Umer Mian received in return for a life spent in perpetual danger? A daily wage that has taken an agonising 20 years in creeping to a measly Rs 17.85 per day. And an old age more insecure than it was when he set off on this fearsome trail. "We have pleaded with them (the authorities) umpteen times to absorb us as permanent workers. At least my family (Umer and Jahima have seven children) could fall back on the pension which regular employees draw after retirement. Our daily earnings even compare poorly with the minimum everyday income (of Rs 20.50) of other forest hands," says Umer.

In a moment of despair, Umer Mian tells me he prays that he falls victim someday to the beasts that haunt his existence. "If a villager is killed by a tiger or an elephant, there is a convention to compensate the next of kin with a lumpsum (ranging between Rs 10000 and Rs 20000). It is an unwritten rule, of course, and the authorities do not guarantee the amount."

The last time I met them was at the end of October near the (Betla) forest loggate entrance. It was eight in the morning and Umer and Salim were preparing for yet another treacherous journey. "Please don't imagine us to be exceptionally brave men. Just that an empty rice-bowl is more frightening than tigers."

Saying this, they strode off, axe in hand, smiling and chatting nonchalantly. Salim turned around and waved. "Hope you bring us luck," he shouted. Then they vanished into the wilderness' unknown.

Ashoke Nag

• **Toys** and **cricket bats:** I would like to exchange a GI Joe motorcycle and a MSM cricket bat for 300 to 400 large-size postage stamps of Nepal and the complete set of UM mint stamps (from 1980 to 1984) or the complete mints sets of mostly odd-shaped stamps (1953-78). Contact Partha Sarkhel, P-44, B-Block, Lake Town, Calcutta 89.

• **Roller skates:** I would like to exchange a pair of roller skates for a Bullworker-3 with exercise and diet charts. Write to Rishabh Bhagra, Flat: F-2, Sravanti Apartments, 153/1 Jessore Road, Calcutta 700074.

• **Camera:** I offer an Agfa 200 camera for a Bullworker. Write to Sudipta Dey, Sashi-Dham, D.P. Mukherjee Lane, P.O. Sheoraphuly, Hooghly 712223.

• **Walkman** and **Rubic's Cube:** I offer a Sanyo stereo Walkman and a Rubic's Cube for the complete course of Agarwal's IIT-JEE or anything of corresponding value. Write to Subu, GPO Box no. 62, Shillong 793001.

• **Video cassette, study material** and **pocket radio:** I would like to exchange a video recording of the film, *Blue Lagoon*, study material of CA Entrance exams and a pocket radio for a Spanish guitar or anything of corresponding value. Write to Ani Ravindranathan, 10A Neelanjan, 18/2 Gariahat Road, Calcutta 19.

• **Stamps, cassettes, coins, posters, magazines** and **novels:** I offer 2,000 stamps of 155 countries with six stamp albums, 65 coins of 27 countries, a number of posters of stars, 25 audio cassettes with headphones, 10 issues of *Sportstar* and 17 novels for anything of corresponding value. Contact Anurag Mallick, M-60/7 Telco Colony, Jamshedpur 831004.

• **Study material:** I offer the 1989 Agarwal's IIT-JEE study material with solutions for anything of equivalent value. Write to B. Vimal Kumar, C/o P.R.B. Pillai, 57/1 Garcha Road, 2nd floor, Calcutta 700019.

• **Tape-recorder** and **radio:** I offer a National tape-recorder and a Bush transistor for anything of corresponding value. Write to K.P. Bhattacharya, ITI Limited, 22 C.R. Avenue (2nd Floor), Calcutta 700072.

• **Turntable:** I would like to exchange a 60-watt Philips stereo turntable with built-in amplifier and a pair of speakers for anything of corresponding value. Write to Abhijit Roy, BD-283 Salt Lake, Calcutta 64.

• **Two-in-one, TV, wristwatch, record-player, radio, camera, encyclopaedias, guitar** and **cricket bat:** I offer a National Panasonic two-in-one, a portable b&w TV set, an Allwyn wristwatch, a record-player, a pocket radio, a 35mm Hot Shot camera, three encyclopaedias, a Spanish guitar and a cricket bat for a PC/XT of any make in running or repairable condition (excluding the VDU and key board). Contact Tushar Sharma, C/o A.C. Sharma, SBI Narangi, Guwahati 781 027.

• **Electronic musical instrument:** I offer an electronic musical instrument (Casio PT-82) in excellent condition for anything of equivalent value. Write to Subhaya Banerjee, 59 Jascelyne Road, Kancharapara, 24 Parganas (N), West Bengal.

• **Roller skates:** I offer a pair of Hakers roller skates for 10 books of Hardy Boys or anything of corresponding value. Contact Rajdeep Chakraborti, C/o S.R. Chakraborti, P.O. CR Building, Millannagar, Dibrugarh 786003.

• **Study material:** I offer the latest CA study material of the Institute of Chartered Accountants for anything of corresponding value. Write to Dibyendu Pramanik, Room no. 102, Main Hostel, A2 Block, Jadavpur University, Calcutta 32.

FROM SCOTLAND YARD

The police too have a record, writes **Dipendra N. Chatterjee**

It is decidedly unkind to call the police thieves (a common misapprehension that displays a fine disregard for historical scruples), just as it would not do to call a man an ape just because his ancestor grew a tail instead of a moustache and preferred to live a la Tarzan. The police are, after all, one step forward in the evolution of the profession of crime and criminals. The cardinal rule is never to hold a person's ancestor against him. The idea, therefore, is to study the evolution of the police to remove the prejudice and the distinction history does not make.

When Neanderthal heads nodding around their latest discovery—fire—had



Sankar Pa

felt the need to do something about the public's 'might is right' attitude to life as exemplified in Thor's unsocial habit of filching Lok's pet dinosaurs, the idea of having a police force tottered up to the rocky walls and spread itself in hieroglyphics and drawings. And 'what mighty events from trival causes spring!', as Pope was to later exclaim.

A new day was dawning atop Mount Sinai a few centuries later with the passing of a divine ordinance (ratified by a two-thirds majority of the angels, present and voting, amidst an opposition walkout by one Satan), making crime illegal. Moses, the first policeman, turned magician, preferred to occasionally change his baton into a snake and vice versa, rather than nurture the profession. As a consequence, the thread of history as to the evolution of the bearskin to the safari suit, and of the men with paleolithic clubs to the truncheon-wielding bobby of today, is lost. Even Darwin is silent on the point. Nevertheless, though some critics from first-hand experience and first-aid support argue that methods have remained the same, the police does have a 'record'.

The police can be of two types, political and ordinary. In times of yore they were so linked as to make it difficult to distinguish between the two. Ancient states that kept changing their boundaries and organisation with the regularity of changing diapers felt the need for a special force invested with the power to impose the will of the chieftain on the tribes. It was usually the army which doubled up for the task, a form still evident in dictatorial setups. Gradually, as civilisation progressed from sole chieftaincy and direct democracy to the more complex indirect democracies and monarchial setups necessiting specialised organs of government to deal with different aspects of self administration, internal security of the state became of vital importance. Consequently policing within the state received a shot in the arm.

The police, as we know it today, began to take shape during the height of the Roman civilisation. In fact, the word 'constable' derives from the Latin *'comes stabuli'*—the Master of the Horse of the Eastern Roman Emperors at Byzantium. The process began in India during the reign of Chandragupta Maurya, when, for the first time, there was established a vast network of spies under the able stewardship of the pre-Machiavellian Machiavelli, Chanakya, to collect, colate, and act on information gathered against internal and external enemies of the State.

Feudalism during this period, as on the Continent, was not conducive to the growth of the police. Usually feudal lords maintained their own forces, drawn from the more militant of the peasantry, and generally consisting of characters who required serious watching themselves. These forces were called 'watches' and patrolled their boroughs, with the aim of apprehending suspicious activity, but more often being the cause of it, they being famous for playing havoc with the heart and physiognomy of country lasses. They had another function, namely, informing the sleeping populace in the wee hours of the morning '3 o'clock and all's well'. Naturally they ended well.

Constables began to be appointed to the parishes of England from around 1252, but these posts were mostly honorary, in the nature of today's justices of peace.

These, however, were sporadic and isolated developments, and it wasn't until the 18th century, in England, that the growth really crystallised. Thievery, highway robbery and murder were then very much in vogue in the absence of a competent force to combat them. Poverty, squalor, and the rejected human garbage from the Industrial Revolution encouraged the sprouting of schools for criminals, which broke out like ugly sores through the land. For a just description one has only to turn to Dickens and his depiction of Fagin's den in *Oliver Twist*. Noyes exaggerates when he writes of Bess plaiting a love knot in her dark hair when 'The highwayman came riding, riding, upto the old inn door', the only thing getting tied up into knots were the innards of the general populace, and four remarkable gentlemen took it upon themselves to untie the cause. They were Thomas DeVeil, Henry Fielding, his brother Sir John Fielding, and Patrick Colquhoun.

TO LALBAZAR



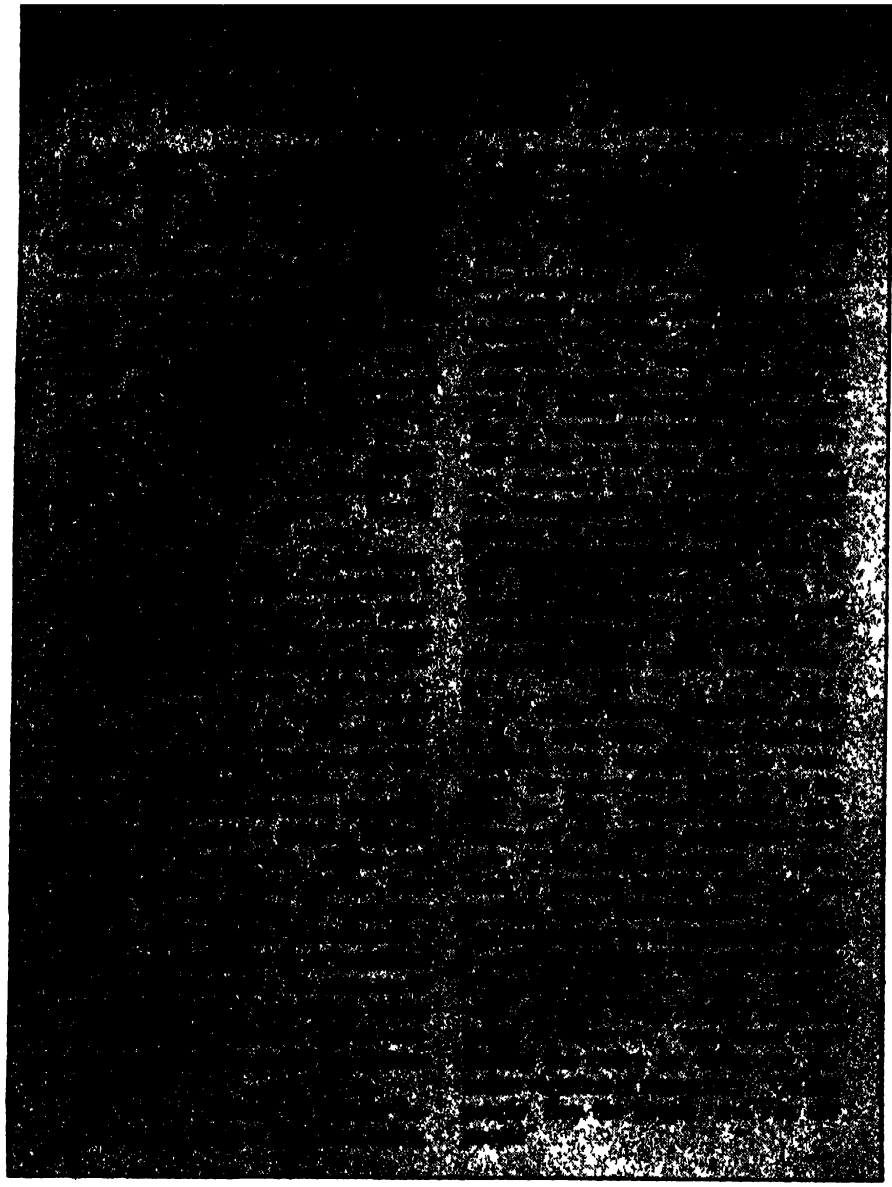
DeVeil (born 1684) set up as an agent between the public and a government which, like today, had to have its wheels greased with bribery to register public requirements. His office was located in a small yard atop Whitehall, which was then a part of the royal Palace of Westminster, but which earlier had been the site of the residence of the royalty of Scotland when they visited the English Court. It was therefore known as 'Scotland Yard'. But DeVeil did not stay there long. Being made a justice of peace he moved to Bow Street as a 'trading justice'—selling justice to those who could afford his services which were mostly investigative in nature. He is thus the first detective. He and his assistants, 'thief-takers' as they were called, were so effective that the government decided on a paid justice sitting permanently at Bow Street to deal with crime in London.

DeVeil was succeeded at Bow Street by Henry Fielding the novelist. From him came the idea of regular armed patrols. It was executed by his half-brother and successor at Bow Street—Sir John Fielding—who, incidentally, was blind from birth. The disability did not prevent him from becoming a legend: it was reputed that he could recognise all the known criminals of London by their voices. The 'Bow Street Patrol' was at first paid for by the wealthy citizens, until the government realised their efficacy and took over. They are the forerunners of the modern day Mounted Police.

Patrick Colquhoun, another London magistrate, was meanwhile persuading merchants, quite successfully, to pay for a boat patrol on the Thames to check cargo plunderers. This too proved highly effective, and thus the police found itself in deep waters. The River Police, founded in 1798, still are as effective and keeps growing.

In 1829, Sir Robert Peel, as Home Secretary, piloted through Parliament his Metropolis Police Improvement Bill, and on September 29, 1829 the first thousand of Peel's police set out on patrol; England was giving the world the first officially constituted police force.

It was France, however, which was the first country to start a detective organisation of the modern type. In the days of the Restoration, just after the downfall of Napoleon, ex-convict Francois Vidocq was entrusted with building up a small body of detectives to rid Paris of the gang of thugs rampant in those days. A daring man with a masterful mind and a thorough knowledge of French criminals, their language and their methods, he became in time a police spy and in 1816 was promoted to the office of Chief of the Sûreté of Paris.



During the same time, the scene in India, specially around Calcutta, was not very different. "The history of the crime of the Hooghly district between 1795 and 1845 is practically a history of Dacoity." (Toynbee's *Administration of the Hoogly District*). The contemporary administration, though a watered-down version of the 'pucca' British system, was generally competent to deal with local situations, but dacoity they could not cope with. The Bengalee, naturally sociable, was carrying his sociability a bit too far, felt the administration, in calling on his neighbours with a few select friends in his sojourns as a practical socialist redistributing wealth sans permission. Calcutta bettered Sherwood and Robin Hood in numbers and scope.

So, in 1852 was constituted the Dacoity Commission, headed by the first Commissioner, Waqup. He was succeeded in turn by L. Jackson, Ward, Ravenus, Keeley, and Riley. Within the 18 years of its existence, dacoity lost its guiding lights, its romance, and its profitability. The administration awoke from its blissful repose and came back from hibernation with a newly constituted police force and the Indian Penal Code, and slowly phased out the Dacoity Commission for a more permanent and effective measure. The Dacoity Commission exists *per se* even today, but it has been reverted to the inferior status of a squad in the Detective Department of Lalbazar.



During the term of J.R. Ward as the Commissioner of the Dacoity Commission, the foundations of the present Detective Department were laid. Ward classified arrests into three categories. First offenders were called undertrials of 'Full Lockup', and if any among them wanted to confess and turn King's witness, they were transferred to the 'Cold Lockup'. Convicts were deposited in 'Big Lockup' awaiting deportation to the Andamans. It was from this last category that 'detectives' were recruited. The life sentence was commuted if any convict agreed to work for the government. These 'detectives' were not granted full liberty; every evening they had to report to the Commission office, had to undertake not to leave their homes after nightfall, or steal, gamble, lie, or fight, punishable by deportation, For their troubles they were paid an allowance of 90 annas.

Once constituted, the police grew from strength to strength, transcending national boundaries. In America, Chief William S. Seavey of Omaha hosted a party for 51 Chiefs of Police of the United States at Chicago in 1863. The consequence of the 'Chicago Tea Party' was the establishment of National Chiefs of Police Union (later International Association of Chiefs of Police—IACP), which was the root body of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to be created around 1924.

The necessity of establishing direct contact between the national police forces was felt with the shrinking of global distances, so an international congress was held at Monaco in 1914, and at Vienna in 1923, where under Police Commissioner Schober of Vienna was created the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC). Interrupted by the two World Wars, it wasn't until 1946 that F.E. Louwage, Inspector General of the Belgium Ministry of Justice, initiated the reconstruction process. At the reunion held in Brussels, 19 countries participated and decided to shift the H.Q. of the Commission to Paris, effective June 15, 1946, and set it up within the premises of the Sûreté Nationale. Thus was Interpol, the name deriving from the telegraphic address adopted by all national bureaux of the ICPC.

Alongside the growth of the police grew forensic science, and the criminal already living under the shadow of the curved pipe, could not brazenly sustain the added intrusion of the magnifying glass. Occasionally they threw up a Crippen or Jack-the-Ripper who had a brief rip-roaring success, but the instances were rare. Detectives who could identify 121 types of cigars from mere cigar ash and shrug it off as elementary, seriously cramped their style. The police were here to stay. ■

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION



The British Indian Association (BIA) was founded on October 29, 1851 for a 'period of not less than three years' with the purpose of intervening in an organised manner on behalf of Indians in the debate then going on in England on the passing of a new Charter Act. Its constitution had 47 clauses. It had three categories of members; ordinary, honorary and corresponding; the last one was perhaps meant to accommodate European sympathisers.

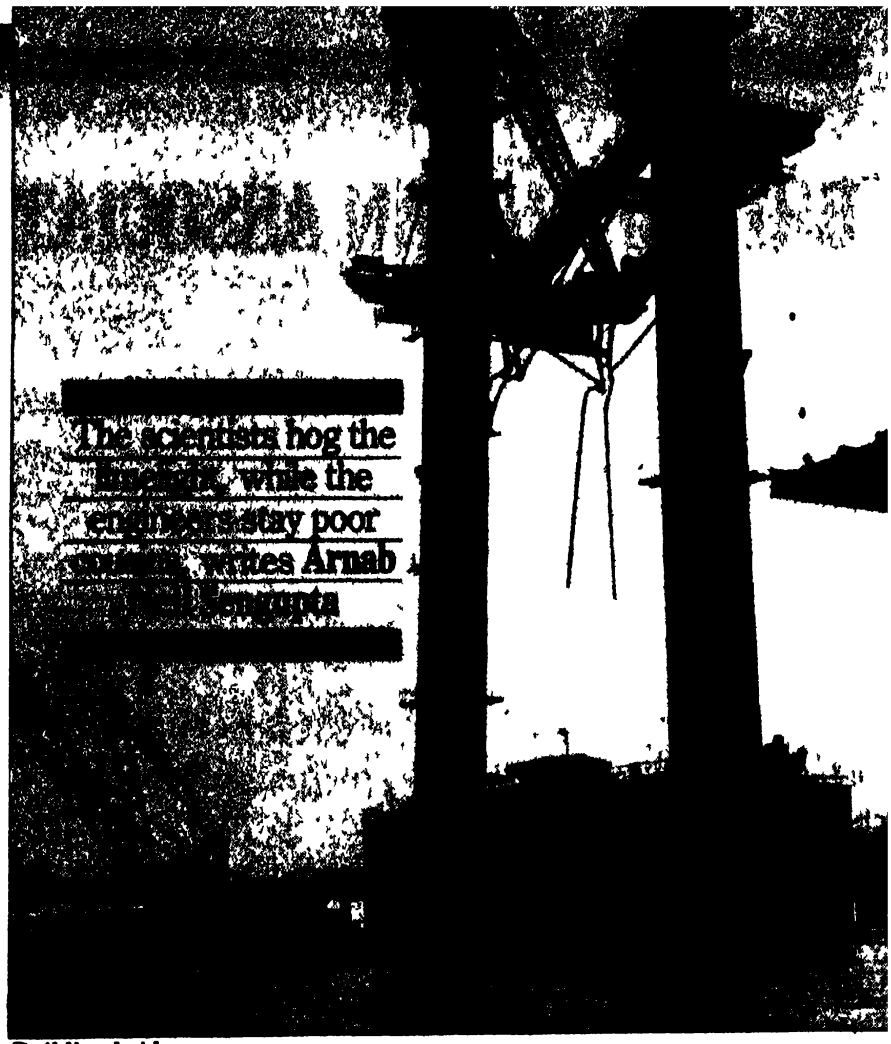
European cooperation was needed to present its petitions to Parliament in England and for lobbying its cases there. Till 1857 the BIA had a paid agent in London to establish contacts with British public figures. In 1866, it began to cooperate with the London Indian Society (formed by Indians residing in London) and also developed ties with the East Indian Association and the Aborigines Protection Society.

The apprehension that the Association might be short-lived was belied by the course of events In fact, it began to function more systematically after three years. It regularly held quarterly and annual general meetings. The reports showed that on one hand it acted as an unofficial advisory body of the government and on the other, as a parliamentary opposition outside Parliament. A Madras-based newspaper even called it the Auxiliary Legislature of India.

The BIA was a political association concerned with innumerable issues but basically it was a landholders' association. Its leaders dominated Bengal's public life. The BIA represented a very broad combination of groups and individuals, of which the Young Bengal was the most important continuing group. The BIA could boast of leaders like Ramgopal Ghose, Peary Chand Mitra, Krishnamohan Bandopadhyay, Harimohan Sen, Jaikrishna Mukherjee, Digambar Mitra, Harishchandra Mukherjee and Girish Ghose. Among the families that maintained close links with the Association were the Tagores and Debs, the Mullicks of Pathuriaghata-Chorebagan and Barabazar, Ashutosh Dey's family, the Singhas of Paikpara and the Ghoshals of Kidderpore. Rammohun Roy's son, Ramaprasad, was also a committee member.

The strength of the BIA was supposed to have never exceeded 200. It fixed a high subscription rate of a minimum of Rs 50 a year. Members were also enrolled from the various districts of Bengal as well as from outside the state. The BIA had branches in Shibpore, Barasat, Hooghly and had contacts even in Rajshahi and Dacca. Its financial position was sound; the surplus income was invested in government securities.

In 1868, the Association secured a house (sketched above) of its own behind Great Eastern Hotel on British Indian Street in central Calcutta.



The scientists hog the limelight, while the engineers stay poor sufferers, writes Arnab Chakladar

And he gave it for his opinion, that whoever could make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country than the whole race of politicians put together.
—Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)

Six years ago, when I joined an engineering college, a friend warned me jokingly: "Don't forget, you are ruling out the Nobel Prize for yourself forever." As the years passed, the words—then brushed aside laughingly—came to epitomise the very profession that I had decided to enter. Not that I had set my sights on that hallowed award Yet coming to grips with a vast, runaway subject called technology, it struck me how unsung engineers were. But aren't engineers the ones who can claim the biggest credit for bringing the world to where it is today? And also the ones who will take the world to where it will be tomorrow?

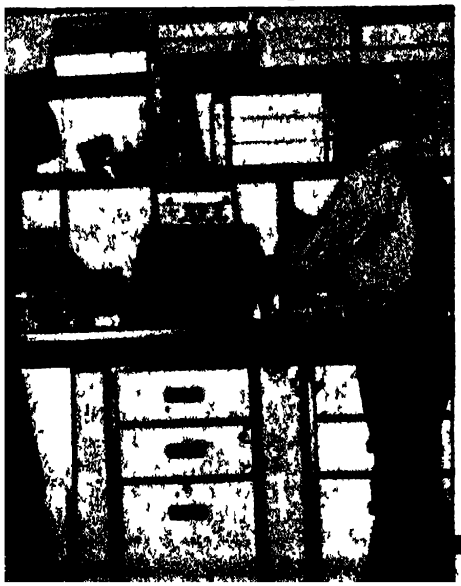
The fact that there is no Nobel Prize for engineering may have its own reasons (although quite a few engineers have won the Prize); nevertheless, nothing could have symbolised the plight of engineers better than this. As filmstars, sportspeople, writers and politicians bask perpetually in the limelight of publicity, engineers lie busy behind-the-scenes—skipping weekend family outings in Tokyo designing a computerised credit card or racking their brains in Moscow planning a manned mission to Mars. Their work, sooner or later, is sure to touch your life or mine—but how many of us will ever get to know the men and women hidden behind their own creations?

Over thousands of years, the engineer in man has helped him carve a dominant position on this planet by his command of technology. While other life forms have to take nature as it comes, man alone is able to create an environment friendlier than what nature has placed him in by different techniques whose sum total can be called technology. Technology, predictably, is widely considered the best yardstick for measuring the progress of civilisation through the ages. Thus, civilisation is said to have bypassed several tribes inhabiting some of our very own Andaman Sea islands which, despite India being a major technological power in today's world, still exist in an environment almost as primitive as the early man's.

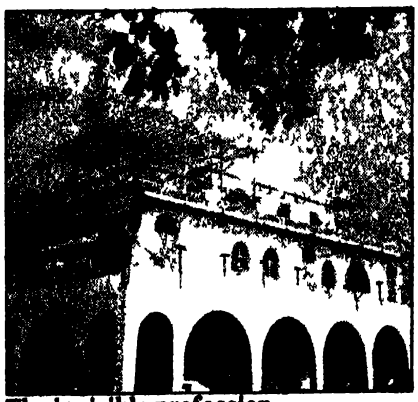
From time immemorial to this day, the edifices of engineering skill, ironically, have served to upstage the very people responsible for their existence. Admittedly, there may not have been any single individual behind the origin of the lever (2500 BC), or the making of paper (AD 100). Still, one frequently hears of the Jantar Mantar at Jaipur having been built 'by' Raja Sawai Jai Singh, or the giant statues at Abu Simbel in Egypt 'by' Pharaoh Rameses-II, but rarely, if at all, of their true begetters. In many cases, names of such early engineers and architects can be dug out from pages of history consigned to the oblivion of archives—but then that isn't exactly as exciting news as Pamella Bordes' capers. Even today, as in the days of the Pharaohs, time tends to erase true creators from memory—leaving princes and Prime Ministers to corner all the glory.

The phenomenon of engineers going unsung is not limited, as one might believe, to the technologically backward Third World countries. In fact, in USA, where engineers outnumber scientists of all callings by a ratio greater than two-is-to-one, the former are a community of

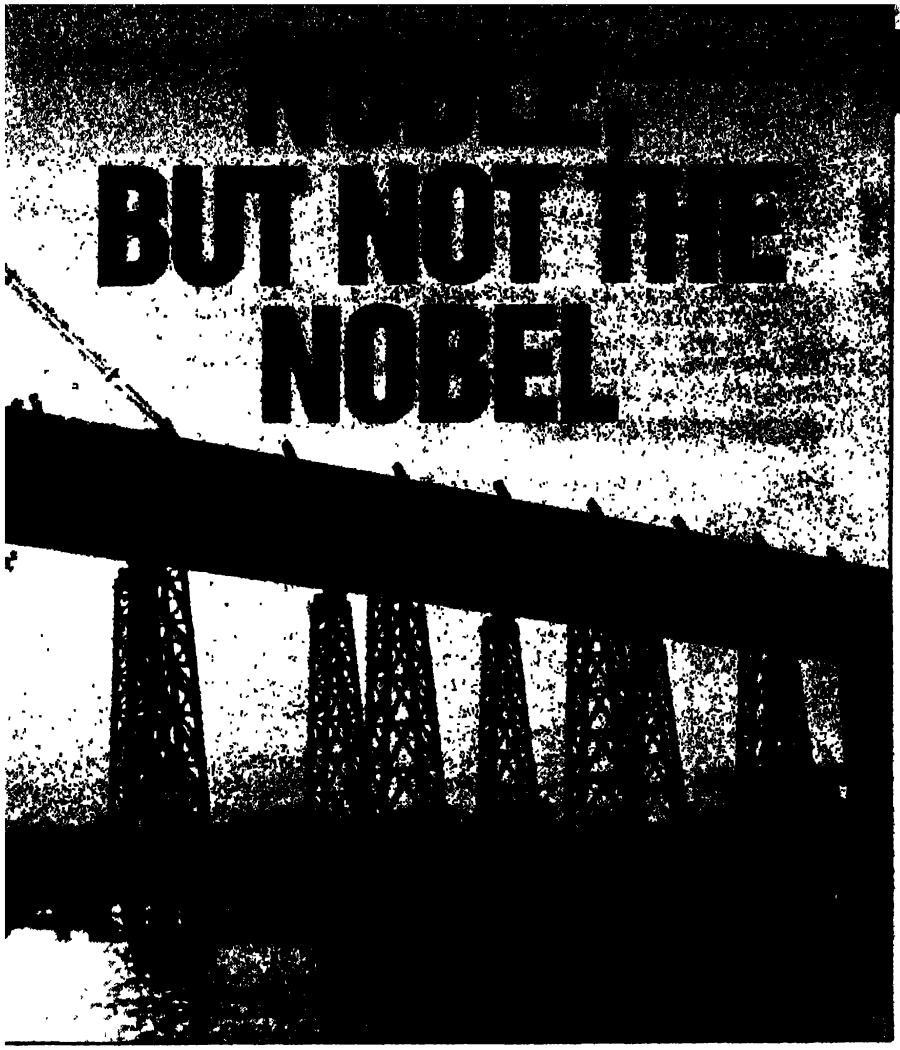
Building bridges



Behind-the-scenes engineering



The invisible profession



professionals far less celebrated than one might think them to be. According to a survey made in 1977 by the US National Academy of Engineering, to most college-educated people in the United States, engineering is virtually an 'invisible profession' compared to medicine or law. "Inability to communicate" and "poor social skills" were two qualities of a "typical" engineer, according to the respondents.

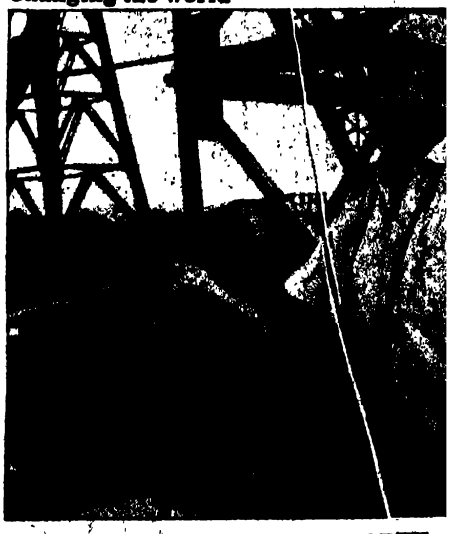
Nobel Prize and celebritude are not the only features that set science apart from engineering. Although woven deeply into each other, professionwise science can be broadly differentiated from engineering as brought out clearly by *New York Times Education* columnist Edward Fiske in an article in March 1989: "The scientist seeks to understand the world and operates against an absolute standard. His findings either describe nature accurately or they do not. By contrast, the engineer is problem-oriented. He seeks not to describe the world but to change it... The engineer also lives in the world where science and values meet."

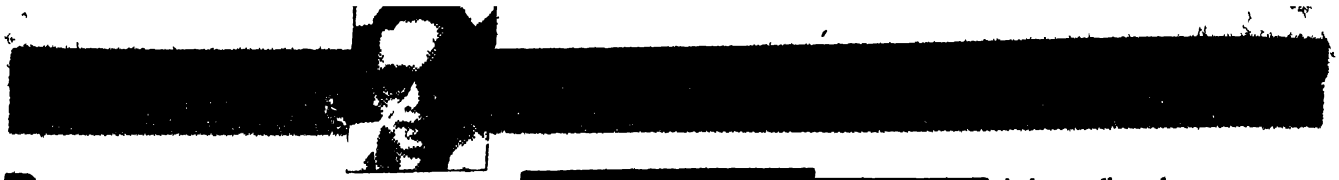
Understandably, either profession has had its share of chauvinists. Nobel Prize-winning physicist, the late Isidor Issac Rabbi, once suggested that the difference between science and engineering is best illustrated by the difference between poetry and advertising.' On the other hand, engineers' long-held grouse at being clubbed with scientists (without getting a fair share of the publicity cake) has been more recently expressed by John Sununu, US President George Bush's Chief of Staff, in a television interview in January, 1989. The interviewer, in all his journalistic innocence, had addressed him as a scientist, and Sununu—MIT-educated engineer, company founder and engineering professor—couldn't just shrug off the million-dollar question: "Isn't engineering a science?" "No," he replied. "It's an engineering profession. There's a difference. We make things work." How far his views can go to pull engineers out of the blind side of journalism is, however, anybody's guess.

The recent global brouhaha over a table-top fusion claimed by two University of Utah electrochemists and which later came to a resounding nought served to exemplify the pitfalls of overplaying science before a vast, gullible lay public. Modest advances made in superconductivity two years earlier had likewise been hyped up to a degree where we should have been zipping about in magnetically levitated trains by now. Yet breakthroughs in HDTV (high definition television), a technology that promises to revolutionise television viewing, made in the recent past remained lost in the pages of technical journals. Gizmos like paper watches and handheld photocopiers, minor spin-offs in the galloping advancement of engineering skills, wow consumers all over the world but seldom manage to turn the spotlight on the high IQ but nameless electronics whizzes working against the clock amidst a maze of circuitry to bring the world a better tomorrow.

Who then will sing the engineer's praises? In recent years, well-known scientists like Carl Sagan and Stephen Hawking have been phenomenally successful in making topics as abstruse as the Big Bang and Black Holes a part of the layman's science. In doing so, they may have demonstrated that there is still scope for painting an exciting picture of the engineer to readers now increasingly exposed to a diet of such quick-fix wonders—or rather non-wonders—as endless source of energy (cold fusion) or the end to AIDS (the drug AZT). Publicising medals and prizes awarded to engineers could be an indirect way to attract popular attention but that again depends on establishing a good rapport with the press and the public, a task for which so self-effacing a community of professionals as engineers can hardly be relied upon. In the end, it might be left to the engineer to do to his profession what Sagan and Hawking have done to their's. Or may be, in the future more and more companies will be tempted to boast, as Siemens, West Germany, did in a recent series of TV commercials in the West, being "...a leader in high technology electronics and electrical engineering." Have we ever before heard of a company using the words 'electrical engineering' in a direct message to the general public? ■

Changing the world





Rose Thomas, Calcutta 16, asks this question: "Ava Gardner, who died recently, was married to which actor-singer?" and tells us it was Frank Sinatra.

In October, 1951, Nancy Sinatra won a divorce in California, and her husband Frank, urged on by Ava Gardner because Nancy's decree would have taken a year to become effective, got a divorce of his own in Nevada. Through all of that year, on each step of the way to the altar, in Mexico, Texas, Spain and Africa, Frank and Ava were followed by newsmen, hounded by them, almost driven wild by them. And he reacted in the usual Sinatra fashion. At Los Angeles International Airport, on their way to a vacation in Mexico, Frank refused to board the plane until all the photographers were removed from the tarmac and the ramp. The photographers refused to be removed and almost started a riot when airport police made attempts to dislodge them. Ava finally made a run for the plane, a magazine over her head; minutes later Frank responded to a plea from the airport staff that the plane could not sit there all night and he raced to the plane, knocking cameramen out of his way.

In Mexico one of Frank's bodyguards, later identified as a convicted murderer, forced a photographer to surrender his camera after pulling a gun on him and threatening to kill him, then destroyed the film which held shots of Frank and Ava. Another time, Frank nearly drove his car into a group of newsmen and photographers at an airport, screaming at one of them, "Next time I'll kill you, you— !"

He later apologised to one of them, explaining that he was 'upset' at the time and didn't know his way off the field.

He was more than upset; Frank was close to a nervous breakdown, his friends have said. Not only was Nancy continually changing her mind about giving him a divorce, but more dreadful still, Frank's career had gone from a slight dip into a full-scale decline. And Ava had gone from minor actress to international star with the release of *Show Boat* (and, of course, with the constant headlines about her romance with Sinatra).

Frank and Ava were married on November 7, 1951, within a few days after he got his divorce. The wedding at the Philadelphia home of a wealthy industrialist was again marred by the media and Frank's reaction to journalists. "How did those creeps know where we were?" Sinatra shouted as he saw the newsmen camped outside the 'secret' location for the wedding. "I don't want no circus here!" he continued.

"I'll knock the first guy who tries to get inside—and I mean it!" In all, however, the ceremony was a quiet one. When it was over, Frank and Ava flew off in a chartered plane for a honeymoon in Havana. They stayed for several days in the Hotel Nacional, which would figure heavily in later charges that Frank was involved with the Mafia.

A fan magazine of the day summed up the Sinatra-Gardner marriage in two headlines. One, just after the wedding, read: New Name for Happiness. The other, only four months later, was titled: The Battling Sinatras.

Postscript: School boys and girls interested in joining the Annual Quiz Course organised by Calcutta Quiz Corner (49B Ballygunge Place), please enquire at your school office or enroll directly at the venue.

A Reminder: This week sees the spectacular *Sportsworld* Round Table Quiz for the Dunlop Spectrawide Trophy (organised by Calcutta Central Round Table 38). Prelims on April 5 and 6 at 6 pm each day. Grand final (including Patna and Bhubaneswar teams) on April 7 at 6 pm. Venue: The Dalhousie Institute. All are welcome.

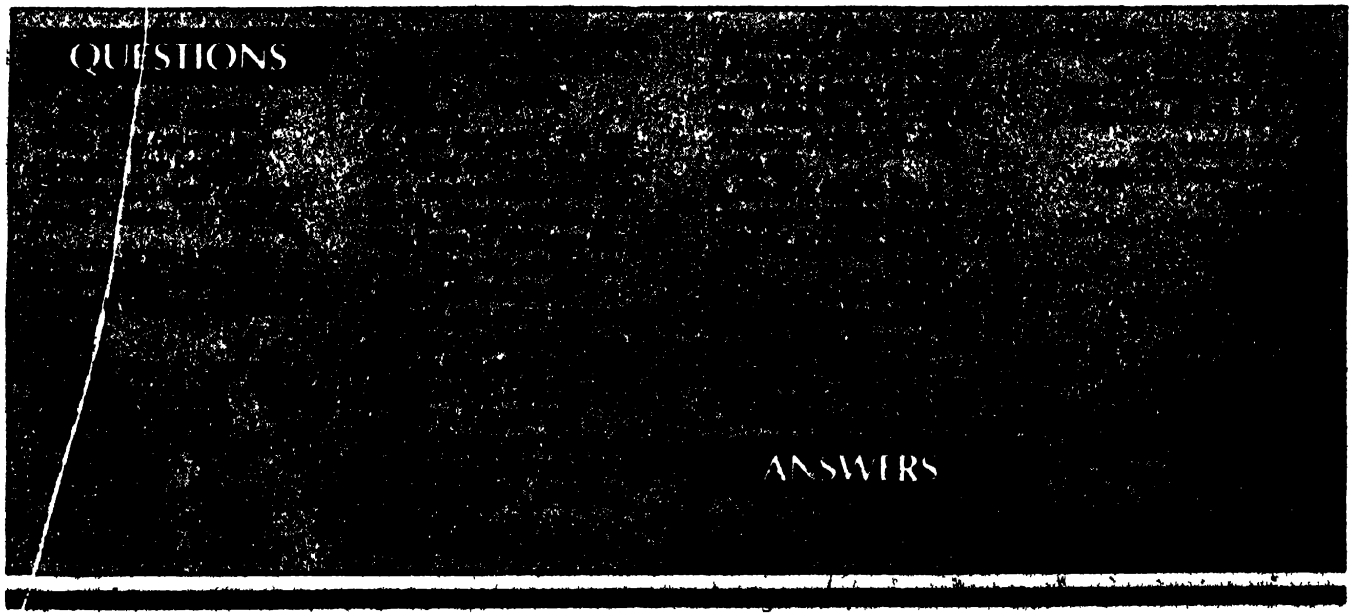
CBS

11th Question: **What is the source of the title of Nelson Mandela's autobiography, *No Early Walk to Freedom*? (Deeptikanta Thakur, Burla [Sorry, you have not given your full address—Q'E])**

***Ans*: The title is taken from an article written by Jawaharlal Nehru in *Unity of India*. Mandela is a great reader of the works of Nehru and Gandhi.**



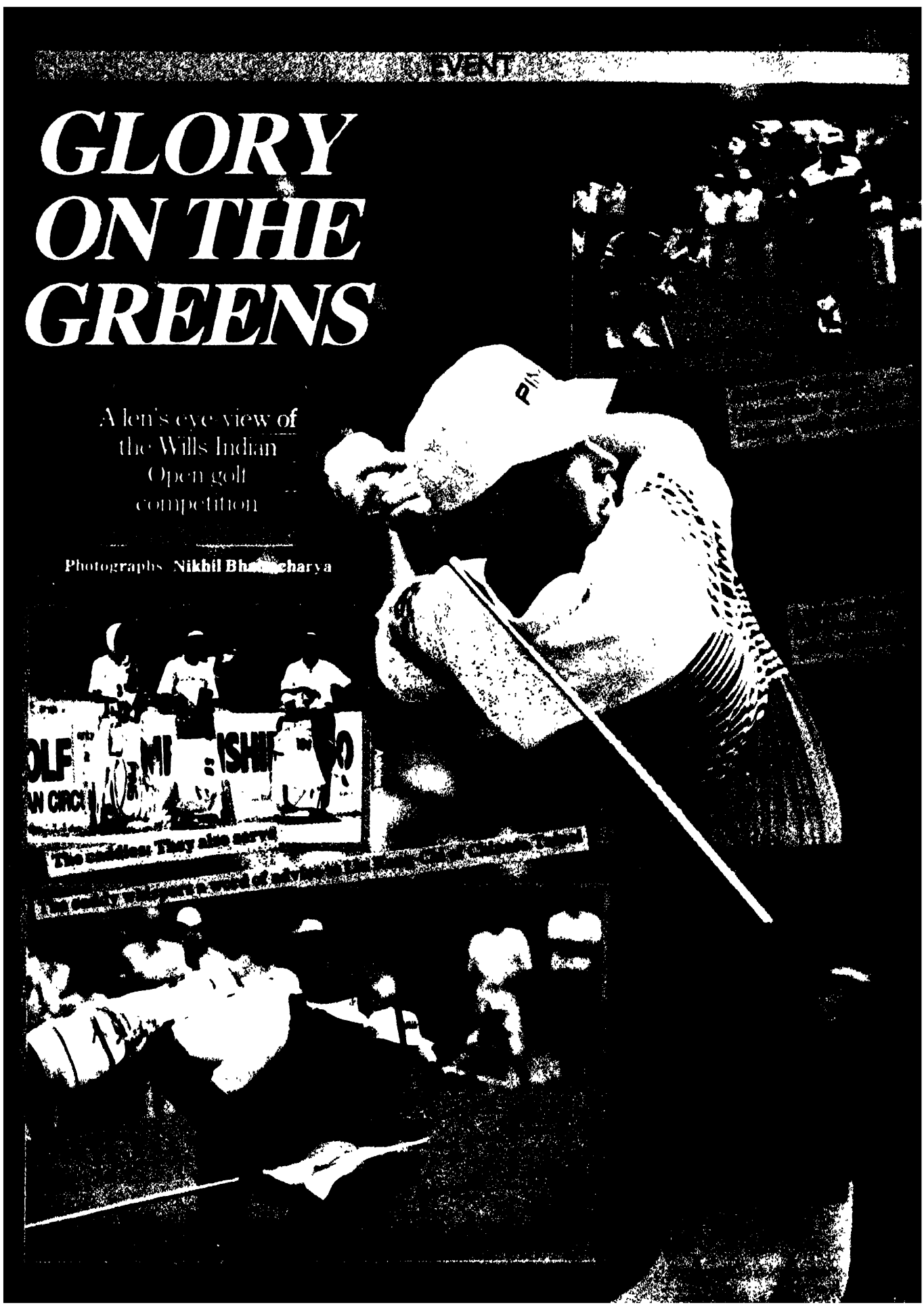
Ava with Frank

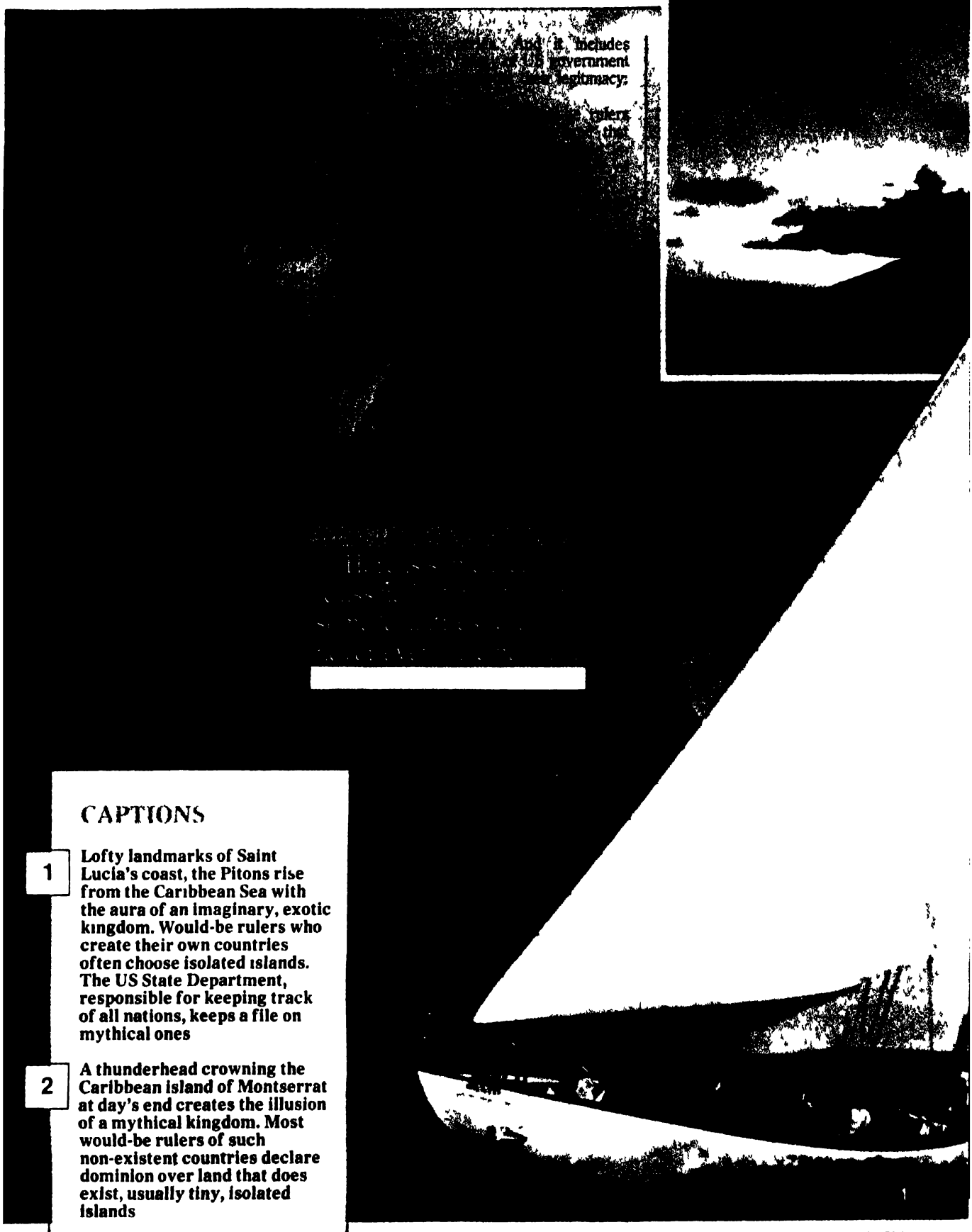


GLORY ON THE GREENS

A lens's eye view of the Wills Indian Open golf competition

Photographs Nikhil Bhattacharya





CAPTIONS

1 **Lofty landmarks of Saint Lucia's coast, the Pitons rise from the Caribbean Sea with the aura of an imaginary, exotic kingdom. Would-be rulers who create their own countries often choose isolated islands. The US State Department, responsible for keeping track of all nations, keeps a file on mythical ones**

2 **A thunderhead crowning the Caribbean island of Montserrat at day's end creates the illusion of a mythical kingdom. Most would-be rulers of such non-existent countries declare dominion over land that does exist, usually tiny, isolated islands**



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Kooky Kings and Mythical Kingdoms

OUR I

Vivacious, dusky Pamella Bordes has always wanted her life story on film. And why not? Stirring the international jetset, shaking the British government, getting at the royal family, and dragging two of Britain's top newspapers into a war that had nothing to do with words. And all by one little Indian, also said to be one of London's highest paid call girls. But there were no takers in Ol' Blighty even after the lady offered to produce any film on her life story.

So it's back to home base for Pamella Choudhary Singh Bordes. The Haryana sensation makes news again with a non-resident Indian, or as they prefer to call themselves, Indo-American venture. Three producers—one in America, the other in Dubai and the third, in India—have launched a venture they hope to complete in June this year: *Miss India* in Hindi and *Miss World* in English, shot simultaneously. The film will also be dubbed in seven languages including Bengali, Gujarati and Telugu, says Jayant Das, a Bombay-based photographer who is handling the film's publicity. Further details about the producers are not known.

Asha, a new find from mbay, plays the role of Pamella Bordes in a nultilingual film, thus raising hopes of ncovering some more licious points about the controversial figure. EKHA DHAR gives us peek at the star on the make

What is known is that P. Chandrakumar, Madras-based director who went from making family tearjerkers to churning out soft porn, is directing this film. This is also said to be the 100th film of Chandrakumar whose cinema turned a shade of blue with *Adhi Papam* (First Sin) in 1988. The music s by Illaya Raja.

The first shooting schedule in Madras is over. The next is in Bombay in April, after which the scene shifts to Delhi, then America and London, tracing the fun times and high life of Ms Pamella Bordes.

The star of the show is new to filmdom, but not so new to the camera, with a year of modelling assignments, an unsuccessful try at Miss India and a big ambition to be a big star. And that's where any faint resemblance with sensual, sophisticated, jetsetting Bordes ends.

'Asha' is all she would like to be known as, and no mentioning her family and background, thank you. Back where she comes from—a Bombay suburb—acting in a film is sacrilege. And Pamella Bordes at that, a definite no no. "I will have to move out (from home) after the film is released," she says, matter-of-fact and determined to shield her conservative family from the publicity ahead.

Faltering English can't dampen her ambition. The big time begins with a flat in the suburban Lokhandwala complex



Asha gets a helping hand from co-star Pammi and (inset) one of her modelling shots

PAMELLA

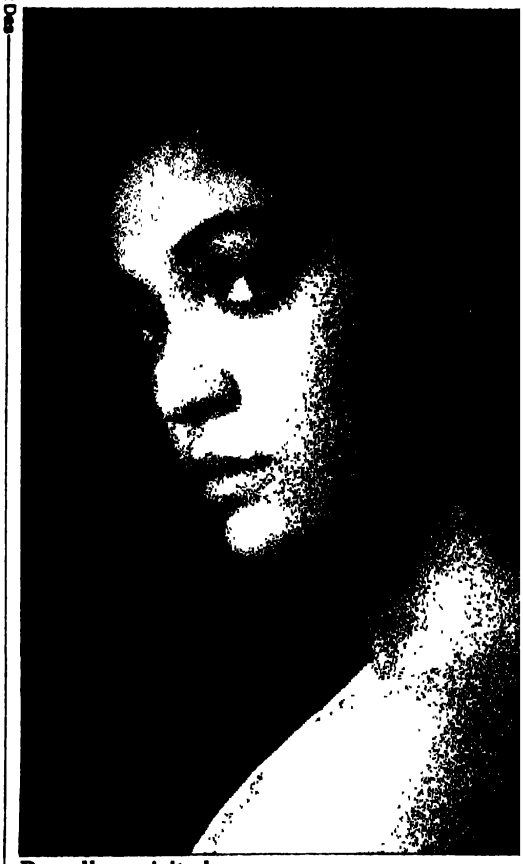


Jayant Das

or Bandra. And later, a "big star". No struggle for this, lads, please. "I have always been lucky. The roles will come. I have not had to struggle." Her height (5.8') and good figure are her fortune right now; we haven't seen the acting yet. But at 22, she has a long rope.

If Asha is new, so is hero Pammi who plays 'Raj' in the film. Where Raj fits into the Bordes life and style, is not too clear. But the film-makers have it that he helped her to the big time—Bombay to USA, etc. It contradicts the known one of getting a ticket to the Big Apple, courtesy the Miss Universe contest in Lima (Peru), but never mind.

Minor digressions from the mainline should not find Ms Bordes objecting too much. After all, the film-makers say they (rather one of them) have met her and got the green signal for the venture.



Pamella revisited

Earlier attempts to make a film on Ms Bordes haven't fared well. *Pamella the Beauty Queen,* did not take off after the heroine, Nikita Tejpal met with a tragic end in a gas cylinder accident in her kitchen last year. An attempt to make a film on Bordes in Madras, around the same time, has not been heard of since, also.

Given the way they have been sticking to shooting schedules, and their talk of having the film released by June, the NRI, sorry Indo-American, venture seems determined to see the light of day, and soon. **The belief that a subject like hot-sell Pamella cannot fail seems to spur them on.**

Q: *How did you get this role? Did they approach you, or did you approach them to play Pamella Bordes?*
A: I was doing a modelling session when I



Barely a star

was approached for this role I was told a leading producer was doing this film I didn't know anything about the subject Pamella Bordes

Q *She was in the news Newspapers television magazines everyone had done something on her you may have heard something about Pamella?*

A I had just heard her name from my brother in law I didn't know why people were talking so much about her

Q *Well at least now you must know something about her?*

A I know she was a call girl I don't think she has done anything great for people to talk and write about her so much Okay she has been with big people But my mentality is such I don't think she has done something great

Q *Your producer and director may have told you something about the subject?*

A The producer said the film is about the life of Pamella Bordes and that permission was taken from her for the picture He said I would have to expose for this role But this (exposure) would be limited So I said okay

Q *Don't you want to know more about Pamella Bordes before doing this role?*

A I keep asking But they are not telling me the story It is my duty to do the role But if I get anything about her I will read it

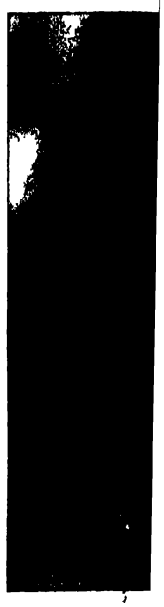
Q *Do you think you are ready for the amount of exposure your first film role entails?*

A The exposure is only upto a certain extent What she (Pamella) was after the Miss India title and what people say about her There must be some exposure I am confident that I won't be asked beyond what I was told

Q *But what made you take this role in the first place?*

A: I had nothing against the role in principle After all what we are doing is acting, it's not the real thing A role is a role and nothing more

Amita Deshmukh





Pammi and Asha: Roll over, Pamella...

IPPED IN THE BUD



Sanjay Sayan

Nikita Tejpal was 23 when she went to the kitchen of her Juhu bungalow last year, struck a match, and became the victim of a leaking gas cylinder.

She was rushed to Bombay's Nanavati hospital with 70 per cent burns and died two days later—before she could even begin her film career in her first role as Pamella Bordes.

She and her mother had returned from the US where her father has settled, and were staying at their Juhu bungalow so that she could begin a career.

After her tragic death, nothing much has been heard of the film *Pamella the Beauty Queen,* which was to be produced by Iqbal Singh and scripted by B R Ishara. Kabir Bedi was among those slotted for the hero's role But Pamella proved to be an unlucky subject And the film industry does not seem to have dared to use a surefire hit subject like Pamella till the "Indo American" venture came along



Amita Deshmukh

Q *What are you thinking of becoming? What is your ambition*

A Myself? A big star

Q *Have you tried for any other roles?*

A No I do not like to struggle Even for modelling I didn't go to any agency I got work through one photographer he introduced me and I got assignments I have been in ads for Rasna Karisma Sarees Rajkamal Sarees etc recently I have done fashion shows also I have been modelling for one year I never tried for this **It is my good luck that without struggling I got the chance My sisters always told me, 'You are the lucky one Whatever you want, you get'**

Q: *How long have you been interested in films?*

A: Since childhood I have been interested in films I used to like the old heroines Nargis, Meena Kumari Waheeda Rehman, Nutan, and among the recent stars Rekha Hema Zeenat I feel these are the people you can learn from

Q *How has your family taken to your new acting career and your first role as Pamella Bordes? Will it affect your life in anyway?*

A I don't want my family to face any trouble because I am acting or have taken this role I know I will have to move out of the house when the picture is released so that they can live in peace Relatives will not like it And in our area there are *maawalies* (rowdies) who pass comments even if you walk down the road in a skirt So think of a film?

Q. *You don't know much about Pamella She was a lot of things to a lot of people House of Commons researcher one of London's highest paid call girls jetsetter dusky sensual vivacious She wanted to be rich and famous She moved among the British American jetset Now what do you have to say?*

A: She got to where she is because of what she did I have seen Miss Indias modelling fashion shows nothing more

She wanted money so she did all this But it is not the right way I am told she is beautiful I don't know My mother said she looked beautiful when she came on television but I was out shooting

Q *You don't look at all like Pamella What made them choose you?*

A Just the figure and the height

Q *Are they darkening your skin and doing something about you hair to make you look more like Pamella*

A I am using a wig for the role They are not making my skin look darker We have completed the Madh shooting schedule (one month) her family life etc The beginning was good I was not very happy with the make up

Q *The kind of exposure that is required for this film could mean similar offers in future It has happened to others Do you think it was a good career decision?*

A It happened to Mandakini After the first film she got similar roles exposure People can offer me roles with exposure **but I don't have to accept. Exposure for the Pamella Bordes role is necessary But if the story does not need it, why should I expose myself? I will not accept such offers**

Q *Do you have any other offers?*

A There are one or two But I will wait till June when this film English and Hindi is released

Q *Are you aware of the move to make a similar film on Pamella Bordes last year? The girl who was to play the role died in an accident?*

A: Yes, I know Someone warned me 'Pamella' is jinxed But I'm not scared of all this

Q *Pamella won the Miss India contest Did you ever try for it*

A Yes I got to the second stage no further There is a lot of politics in the selection

Q *This is your first film Have you acted before? In school?*

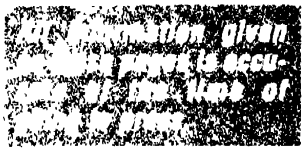
A I did a four month course here in acting in 1984 When I was in school I did not act In school they used to tell me you can never act Now I will show them how I can act

Q *Were there many re takes during the first shooting schedule?*

A Hardly any re takes

Q: *Does this mean you have adapted to the camera well?*

A: You can say that ■



REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road; 280141)—4 shows.

Directed by Mukul S. Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi, Neelam, Danny, Goga Kapoor, Archana Puran Singh, Aloknath, Rohini Hattangady, Asha Sachdev and Tinnu Anand. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442) Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417).

A film by Harmesh Malhotra, starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Raj Babbar, Poonam Dhillon and Neelam. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Bahurani:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—4 shows.

Directed by Manik Chatterjee, the film stars Rekha along with Rakesh Roshan, Deven Verma, Aruna Irani and Utpal Dutt. The music is by R.D. Burman.



Madhuri Dixit and Anil Kapoor in *Kishen Kanhaiya*

• **Izzatdaar:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 274259), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141)—4 shows.

Directed by K. Bapaiah and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the cast includes Dilip Kumar, Govinda, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher.

• **Jeene Do:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132)—4 shows; Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200)—noon.

Sunjay Dutt, Jackie Shroff, Farha, Shakti Kapoor, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Rajesh Sethi and the music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Kishen Kanhaiya:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311522), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033)—4 shows; Madhuban (Regent Park)—3 shows.

A film by Rakesh Roshan, starring Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Shilpa Shirodkar, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri. The music is by Rajesh Roshan.

• **Kroadh:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—4 shows; Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 351382), Jaya (Lake Town; 573936)—3 shows.

Directed by Shashilal Nair and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Sunjay Dutt, Sunny Deol, Amrita Singh, Sonam and Anupam Kher.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383)—10.45, 2.15, 5.30, 9; Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—4 shows.

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this film, directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya. The music is by Raam Laxman.

Madonna (left) and others in a scene from *Who's That Girl*



Bengali Films

• **Aalingan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Directed by Tapan Saha and with music by Manoranjan, the cast includes Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Banerjee, Sumitra Mukherjee, Dilip Roy, Subhendu Chatterjee, Biplab Chatterjee and Shakuntala Barua.

• **Byabodhan:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.



A scene from *Hollywood Cop*, being shown at Globe

Special Events

1 April: 6 pm

The concluding evening of *Utkal Dibas*, organised by Utkal Shiksha Sansad in collaboration with the government of Orissa's department of culture, features Mayurbhanj Chhau by Uttar Shahi Samity, Baripada.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

1 April: 6 pm

The concluding evening of Anamika's *Natyotsava 1990* features *Pratyasha*, a play by Charbak, written and directed by Chandra Dastidar and Jochhan Dastidar, respectively.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

4 April onwards

A week-long exhibition of Sudip Banerjee's paintings in the West Gallery.

5 April onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Rajib Sur Roy, Aloke Chakraborty and Utpal Ghosh in the North Gallery.

• Bidhan Deb's week-long exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

7 April onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Dipta Das Gupta in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

6 and 7 April: 5.30 pm

Surdas Sangeet Sammelan's classical music and dance conference features sitar recitals by Indranil Bhattacharya and Giri Raj, vocal recitals by Girish Wazalwar and Kumar Mukherjee, dances by Ileana Citaristi, Suchandra Mitra and Jayanti Mukherjee, and bhajans by Sova Kabra, Ruma Sanyal and Saloni Sinha.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

7 April: 6 pm

Kathakali Art Centre and Max Mueller Bhavan present various episodes from Kathakali tales, *Keechaka Vadham*, *Poothana Moksham*, *Duryodhana Vadham* and *Daksha Yagam*, by disciples of Guru Govindan Kutty.

At Max Mueller Bhavan (8 Pramathesh Barua Sarani).

7 April: 6.30 pm

Ensemble presents the play, *Uttaradhikar*.

At Girish Mancha (Bagbazar).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5) AI-306 at 1910; Dep (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6) AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-094 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1). AI-1320 at 1340., Arr (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-265 at 0900; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-266 at 0820.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-272 at 1915.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-243 at 0800; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0800; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1720; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 282346, 282885, 286869, 282417, 289433, 289841/2/3/4/5 and 289633.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600 Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

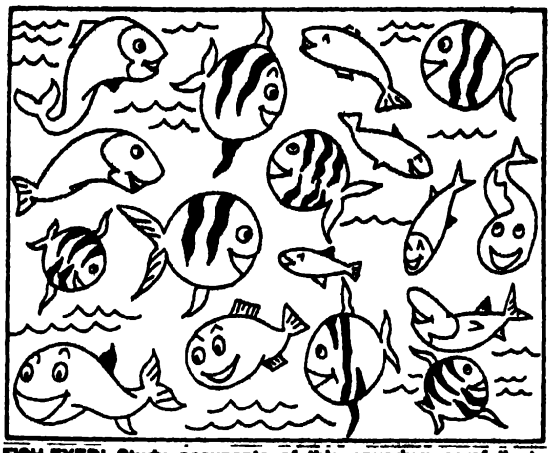
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	21-00	Madras Mail	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	Ahmedabad Express	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	Coromandel (Madras) Express	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	Ispat Express	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	Sambalpur Express	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

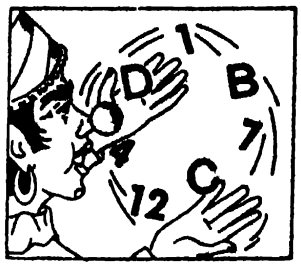
ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



FISH-EYED! Study occupants of this aquarium carefully to decide which two fish look enough alike to be twins. Which?

• BUS WORD! Quickly, unscramble letters TSLO to reval a word displayed on the destination sign of a vagabond tour bus. No fair peeking

The word LOST



SMILE AT THIS, IF YOU CAN

How quickly can you solve this brain teaser whose one-word answer should give you reason to smile?

My first letter is 12 times my second.

My second's 1/5 my seventh; 17 less than my eighth.

My third's equal to three times my fourth, which is one less than my fifth.

My fifth is four less than my first. Divide my sixth by four to obtain my seventh.

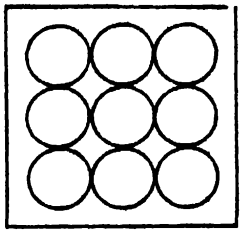
Clues: A corresponds to 1, B to 2, etc. My first letter is L.

I'm the word laughter

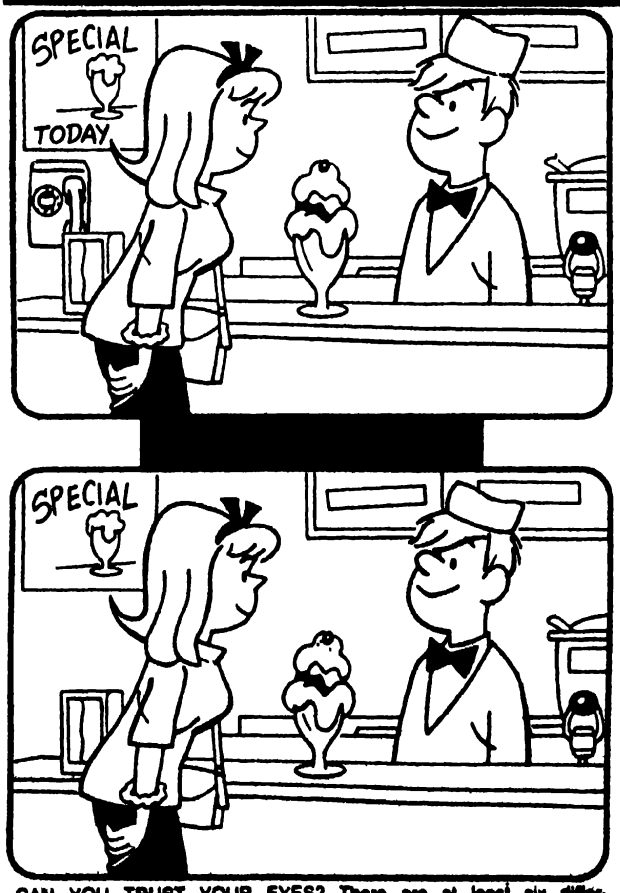
• SPOT FIVE! Place the numeral five in the centre circle of the diagram below. Now, see if you can fill the blanks with remaining numbers 1-9 so that the total of each three circles in a row, horizontally, vertically and diagonally, is exactly 15.

More than one answer is possible. See below.

One possibility. Across—672, 159, 834, another: 492, 357, 816, etc.



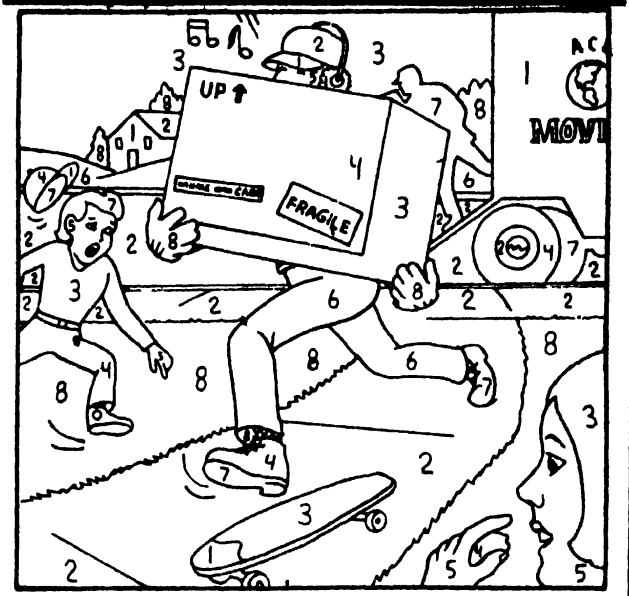
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Difference: 1. Sign is different. 2. Phone is missing. 3. Sleeve is shorter. 4. Pocketbook is smaller. 5. Glass is smaller. 6. Cap is different

FUNSPOT



ALL ABOARD! It's moving time in more ways than one. Add the following colors neatly: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

SHORTAGE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible answers: short, gear

ARIES

March 21—April 20

You will have all the vigour and initiative to move ahead. For most of you, this will be a period of wish-fulfilment. This is also the right time to launch new ventures and projects. However, the health of elders remains suspect. Travel is on the cards. Business associates, financiers, partners and superiors may be in a mood to fire you. It is best not to make excuses. You may have to pay a fine as a result of carelessness.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

It is time to go on a pleasure trip. Expenses mount and you may be overtaken by a feeling of restlessness or loneliness. Trouble from superiors at your place of work is likely. Money and property matters will keep you busy. The home front may cause some anxiety, but things will get sorted out.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Do not worry about the remarks made by your opponents. Simply forge ahead. You will get some good news towards the weekend. Funds and loans will be available. Decide on your course of action but at the same time keep all your options open. Travel, if necessary. Do not neglect your health.

CANCER

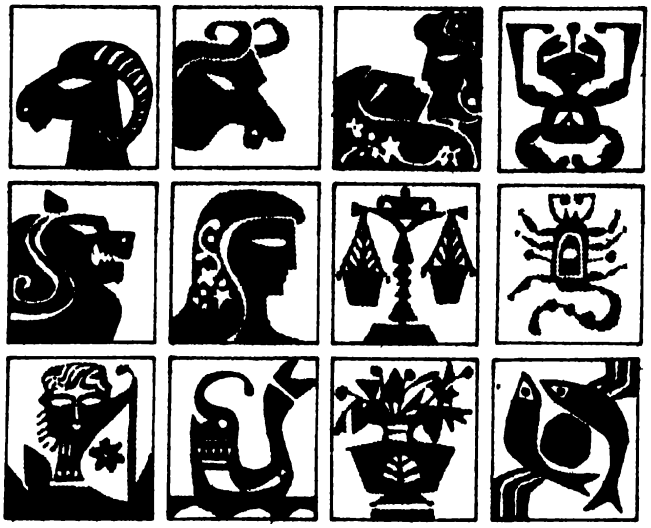
June 21—July 20

Do not lose heart if your progress is temporarily impeded. Your tenacity and imagination will see you through. Expenses mount but they will be for a good cause. Health may cause some problems, so it is best to go for regular checkups. Romance for the eligible and fancyfree. Do not keep any correspondence pending. The home front remains happy and peaceful.

LEO

July 21—August 21

Work and travel are the main features of the week. Put in that extra thrust to your activities. The next few days are ideal for journeys, ceremonies, rites, ties, buying and selling. Industrialists, students, teachers, architects, sportspersons and journalists do remarkably well. The salaried may be greeted with increments or bonus. Your health remains fine.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Do not be oversensitive to what others have to say about you. Take extra care of a nagging health problem. Finances will be easily available to start a new venture. It is time to reach out to people and places. Complete all pending work. Expect friends and relatives to drop in. The home front will be pleasing.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Expect some tough time ahead. However, stormy relationships and misunderstandings will be smoothed out. You may be involved in some legal problem. You need tact and patience to wriggle out of it. Creativity will now reach a feverish pitch. Your acclaim will spread steadily. Travel is not ruled out. Expect visitors to drop in. Devote some time to the affairs of home and children.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Loans and funds will be available, deeds and documents will be signed and you are likely to strike big deals. A change in the nature of your work is likely. Romance promises an extremely enjoyable week. However, health precautions are advisable. Do not over-strain yourself. You may have to undertake a journey.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

Get off to an early start. Despite opposition to your plans, chances are that you will make it big. Rely on your intuition in all important matters and decision-making. Reach out to people and places. Do not neglect your health and that of your family. Children will be a source of joy. Chances of travel are likely.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Do not mix work with pleasure. Business matters should be given top priority. Property matters, buying, selling, investing, decorations, renovations, alterations and refurbishing of your office and home are the salient features of the week. A job hop or transfer is probable. Your health remains perfect.

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

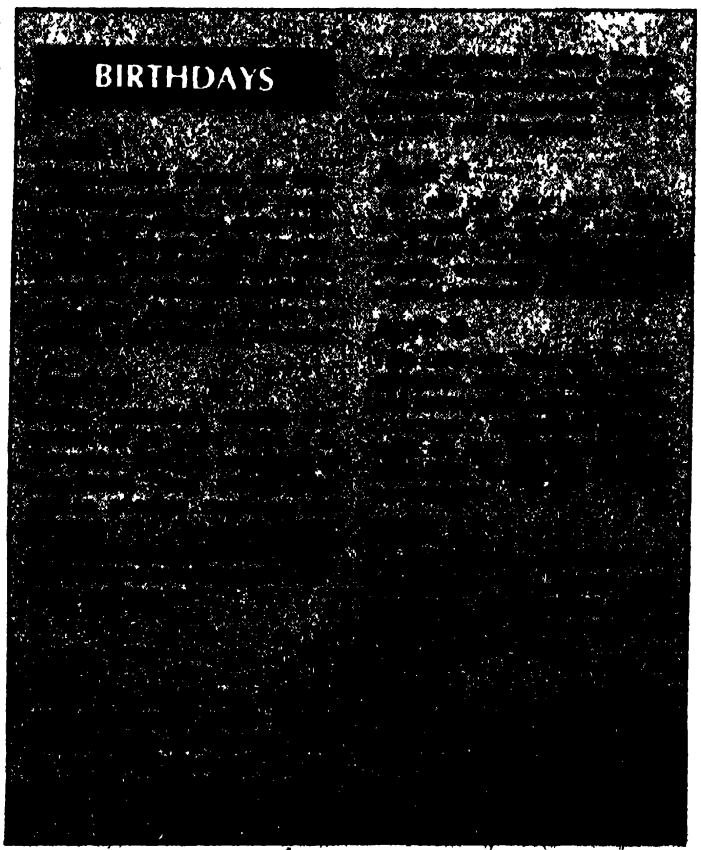
The week highlights property, buying, selling, contacts, contracts and creative activities. Your hobbies occupy a major part of your time. An official engagement or marriage for the eligible is on the cards. You may develop a long-lasting relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Take the advice of elders in all crucial matters and decisions.

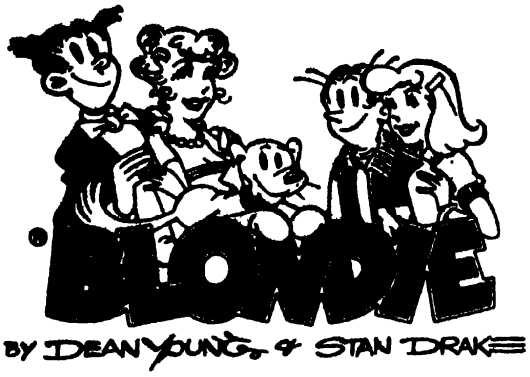
PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

You may feel somewhat unsettled this week. Do not worry, it will only be a passing phase. Money will pour in and you are likely to strike a lucrative deal. This is also the time to entertain and socialise. Avoid getting involved in squabbles and misunderstandings. Travel, only if work demands so. Watch your health.

A new arrival in the family is indicated.

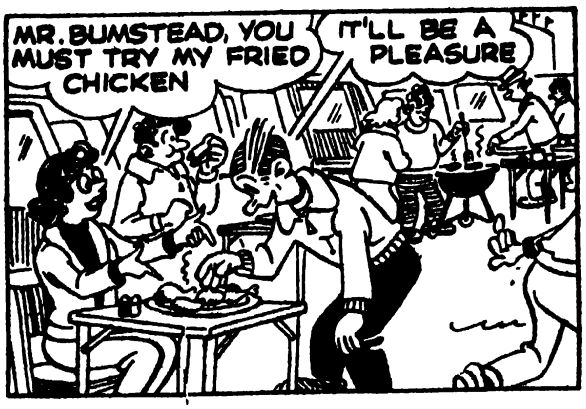



BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG & STAN DRAKE


THIS COULD BE THE BEST TAILGATE PARTY EVER!


MMM...I LOVE THE SMELL OF FOOTBALL WEATHER!

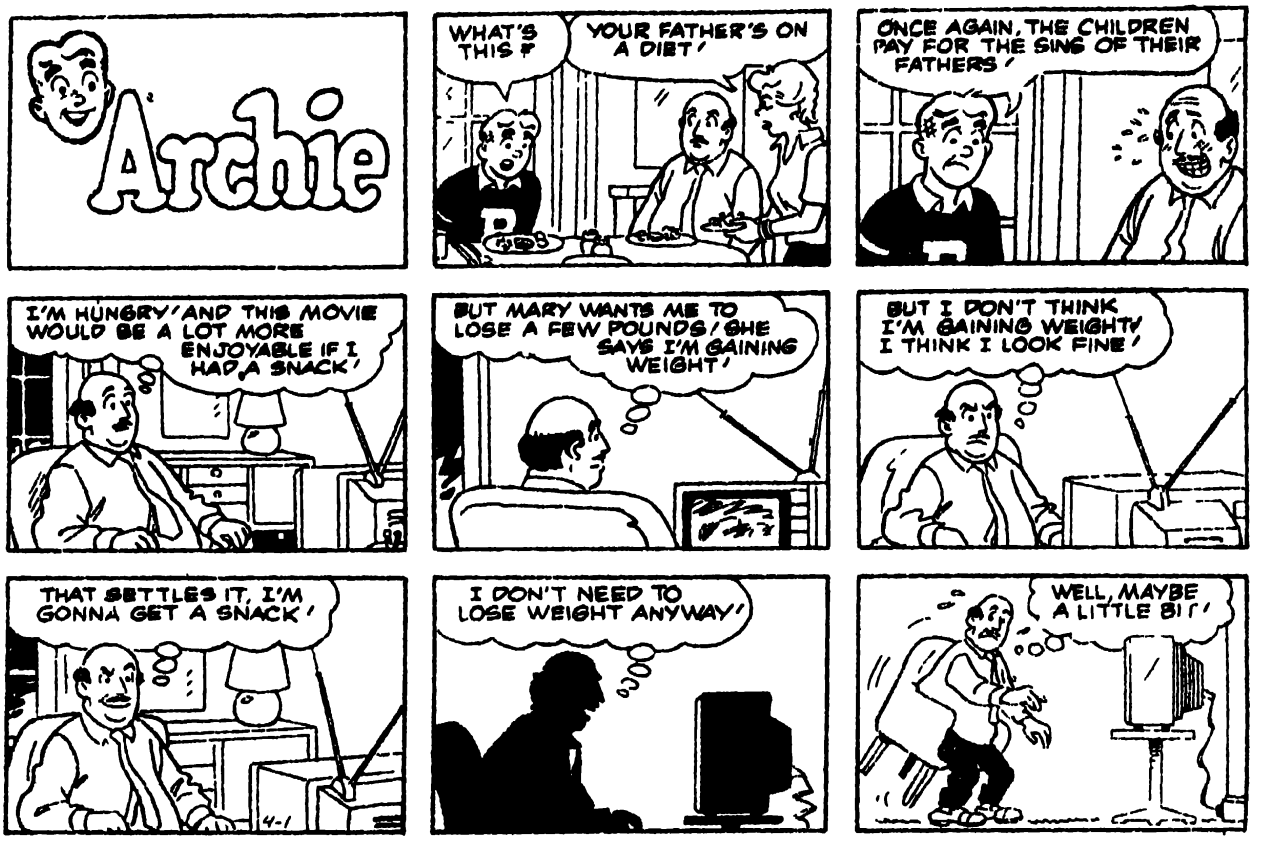

HEY, EVERYBODY! HERE'S THE KING OF THE TAILGATERS!

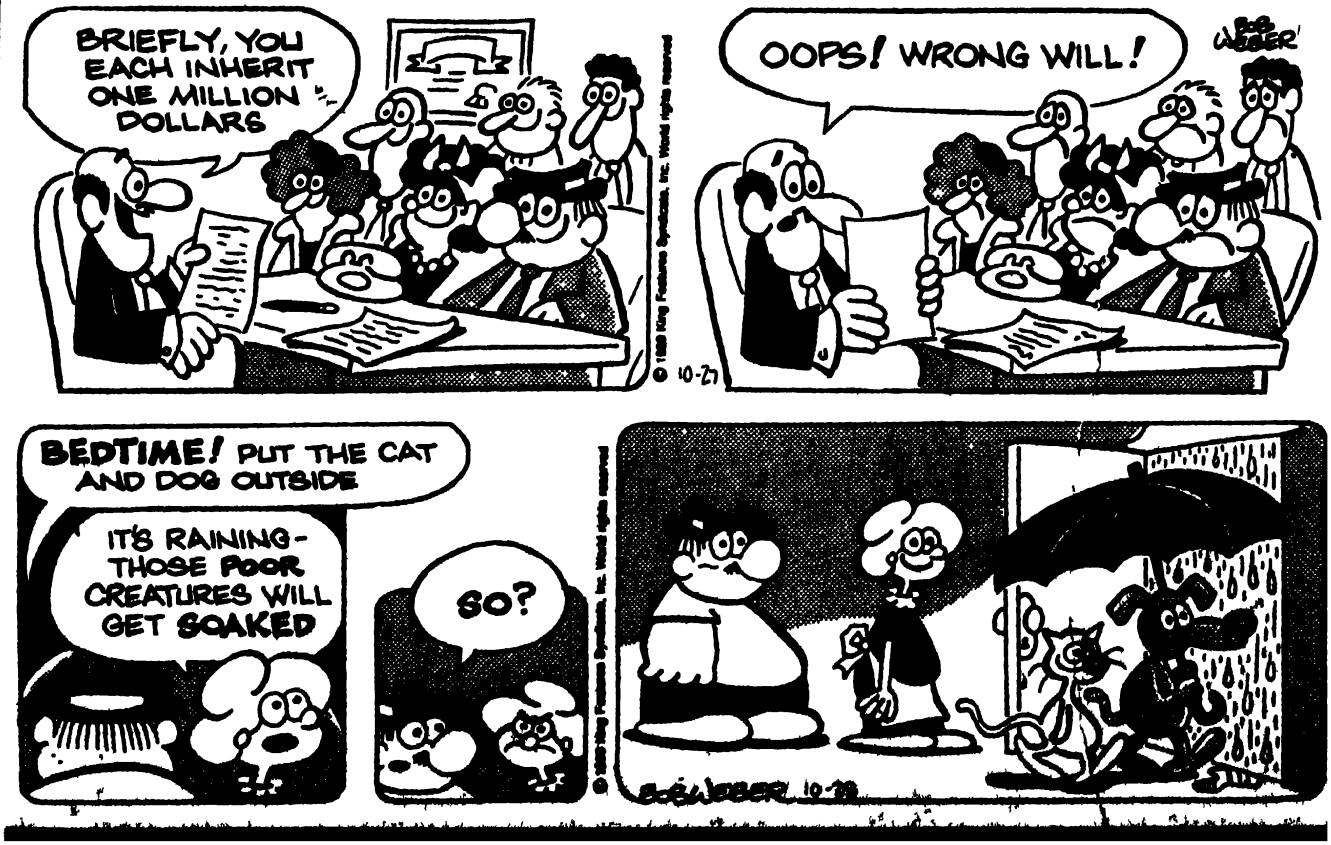

MR. BUMSTEAD, YOU MUST TRY MY FRIED CHICKEN
IT'LL BE A PLEASURE

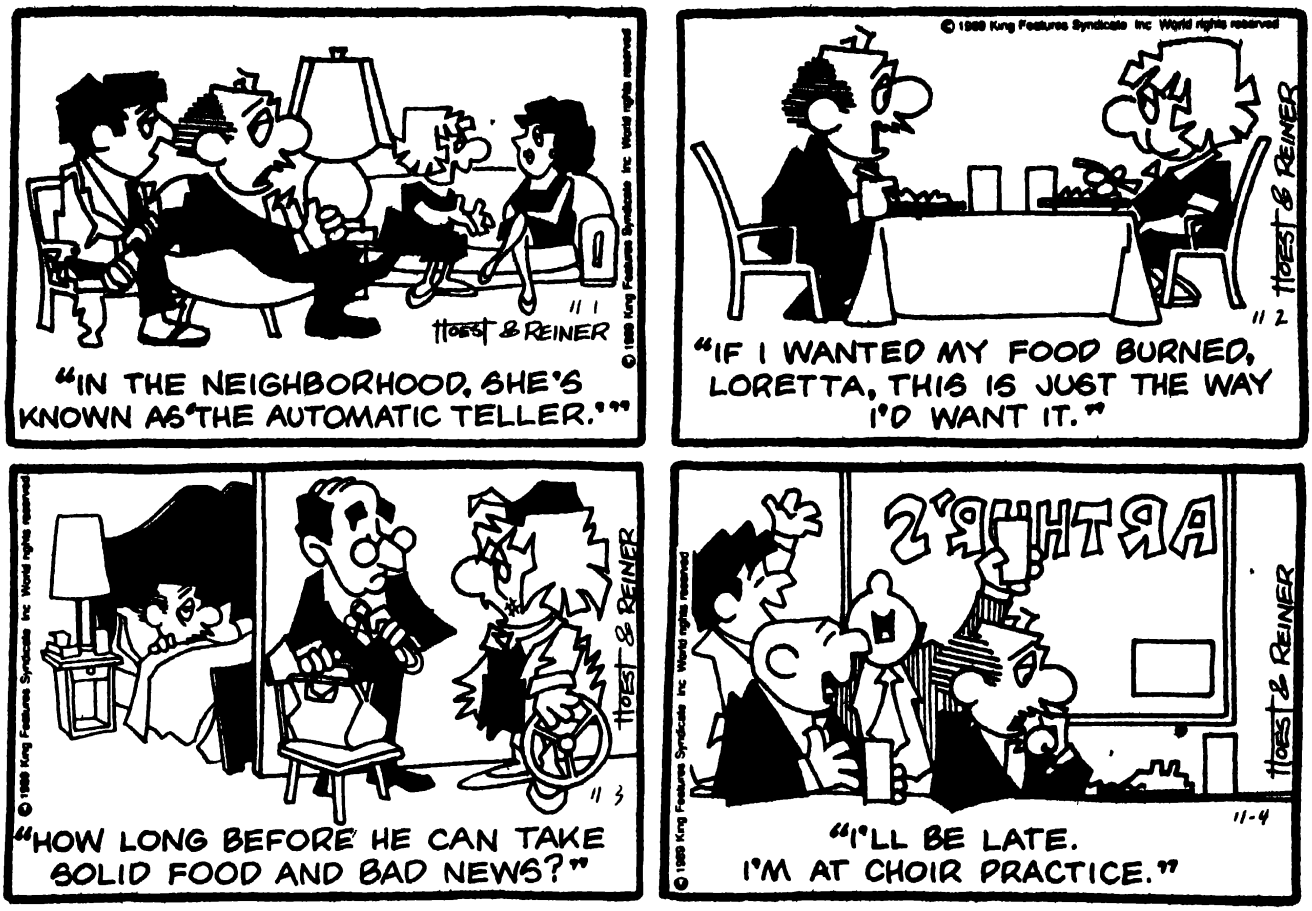

HOW ABOUT A STEAK AND PEPPER SANDWICH ?
MRS. PACELLI, HOW COULD I RESIST ?

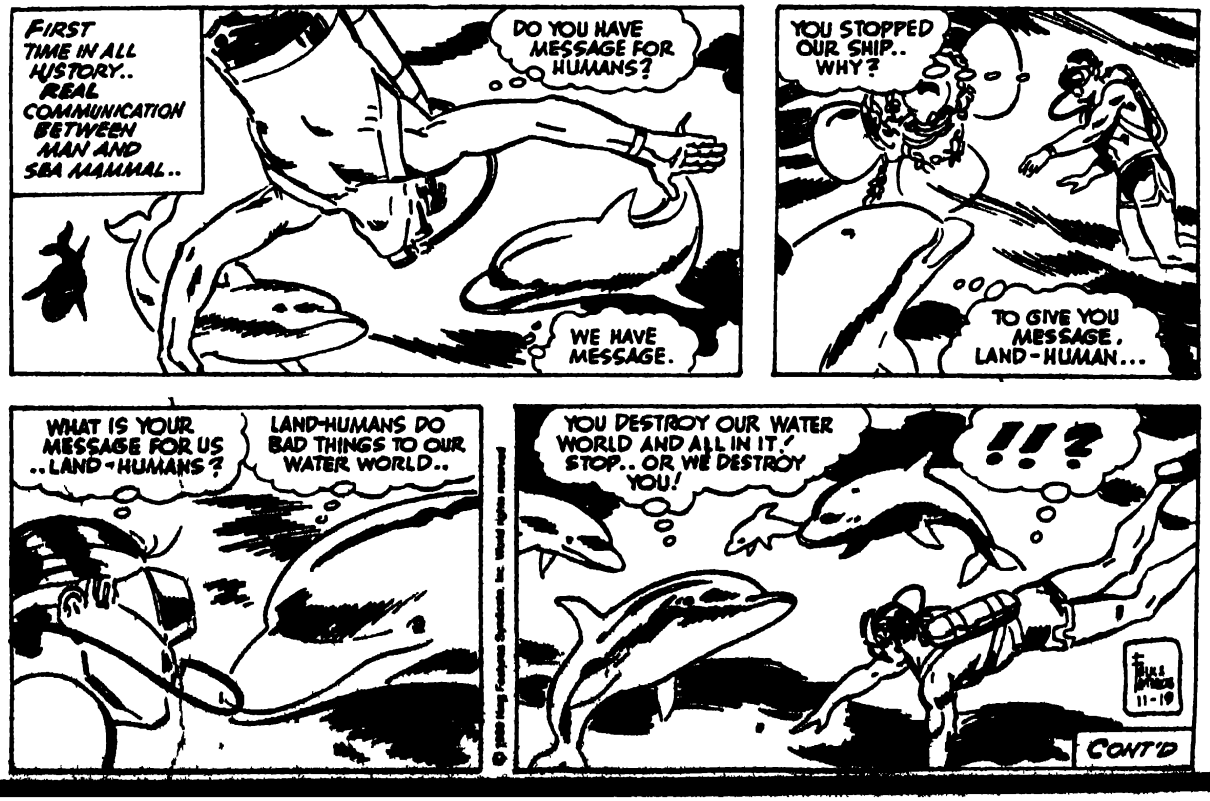

I MAKE THESE SAUSAGES MYSELF
YOU COULD EARN A FORTUNE WITH THAT RECIPE


I MISS DADDY
SORRY, DEAR, BUT OUT HERE HE BELONGS TO EVERYONE
YOUNG & DRAKE
10-15


Archie
WHAT'S THIS ?
YOUR FATHER'S ON A DIET'
ONCE AGAIN, THE CHILDREN PAY FOR THE SINS OF THEIR FATHERS'
I'M HUNGRY' AND THIS MOVIE WOULD BE A LOT MORE ENJOYABLE IF I HAD A SNACK'
BUT MARY WANTS ME TO LOSE A FEW POUNDS / SHE SAYS I'M GAINING WEIGHT'
BUT I DON'T THINK I'M GAINING WEIGHT/ I THINK I LOOK FINE'
THAT SETTLES IT, I'M GONNA GET A SNACK'
I DON'T NEED TO LOSE WEIGHT ANYWAY'
WELL, MAYBE A LITTLE BIT'


BRIEFLY, YOU EACH INHERIT ONE MILLION DOLLARS
OOPS! WRONG WILL!
BOB WEBBER
10-27
BEDTIME! PUT THE CAT AND DOG OUTSIDE
IT'S RAINING - THOSE POOR CREATURES WILL GET SOAKED
SO?
BOB WEBBER 10-28


11-1
HOEST & REINER
"IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, SHE'S KNOWN AS THE AUTOMATIC TELLER.'"
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11-2
HOEST & REINER
"IF I WANTED MY FOOD BURNED, LORETTA, THIS IS JUST THE WAY I'D WANT IT."
11-3
HOEST & REINER
"HOW LONG BEFORE HE CAN TAKE SOLID FOOD AND BAD NEWS?"
ARTHUR'S
11-4
HOEST & REINER
"I'LL BE LATE. I'M AT CHOIR PRACTICE."


FIRST TIME IN ALL HISTORY.. REAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MAN AND SEA MAMMAL..
DO YOU HAVE MESSAGE FOR HUMANS?
WE HAVE MESSAGE.
YOU STOPPED OUR SHIP.. WHY?
TO GIVE YOU MESSAGE, LAND-HUMAN...
WHAT IS YOUR MESSAGE FOR US ..LAND-HUMANS?
LAND-HUMANS DO BAD THINGS TO OUR WATER WORLD..
YOU DESTROY OUR WATER WORLD AND ALL IN IT. STOP.. OR WE DESTROY YOU!
!!?
11-19
CONT'D


THERE'S THE ENEMY CAMP I'LL MAKE SOME NOTES ON THEIR MOVEMENTS THEN WE'LL CLEAR OFF
WHISPER
I MEAN MOVEMENTS IN GENERAL, DENNIS. WE DON'T PLACE A GREAT DEAL OF MILITARY IMPORTANCE ON THEIR VISITS TO THE TOILET.
IT'S GOING TO BE TRICKY FINDING OUR WAY BACK TO THE FORT.
NO BOTHER!
ON THE WAY HERE I FILLED MY POCKET WITH SAND RIGHT? WELL THERE'S A HOLE IN IT. WE JUST FOLLOW THE TRAIL HOME!
IF YOU LIVE TO BE A HUNDRED DENNIS, YOU'LL NEVER BE CLOSER TO BEING STRANGLED.
DO ME A FAVOUR, DENNIS AND GET RID OF THAT STUPID CAMOUFLAGE BEFORE WE GET BACK TO THE FORT.
HEY! YOU MADE IT!
SERGEANT!
WELL DONE! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE LOST!
WHAT ABOUT DENNIS? WAS HE CAPTURED?
I HAVE RETURNED, BROTHERS AND I MUST READ YOU SOMETHING FROM THE ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS!
"ANYONE BANISHED FROM THE TRIBE MUST:- a) RETURN WITH THE HEAD OF AN ENEMY WARRIOR...
...AND I MUST ADMIT I WAS A BIT SURPRISED WHEN I READ THE NEXT BIT —
" OR:— b) RECITE A NURSERY RHYME OF THEIR CHOICE."
YOU MEAN I'M STILL BANISHED?
UNTIL YOU BRING US THE HEAD OF AN ENEMY WARRIOR.
ER... LISTEN, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE SOME MONEY?
STUFFED INSIDE THE HEAD OF AN ENEMY WARRIOR.

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's edition of The Telegraph's Saturday Special







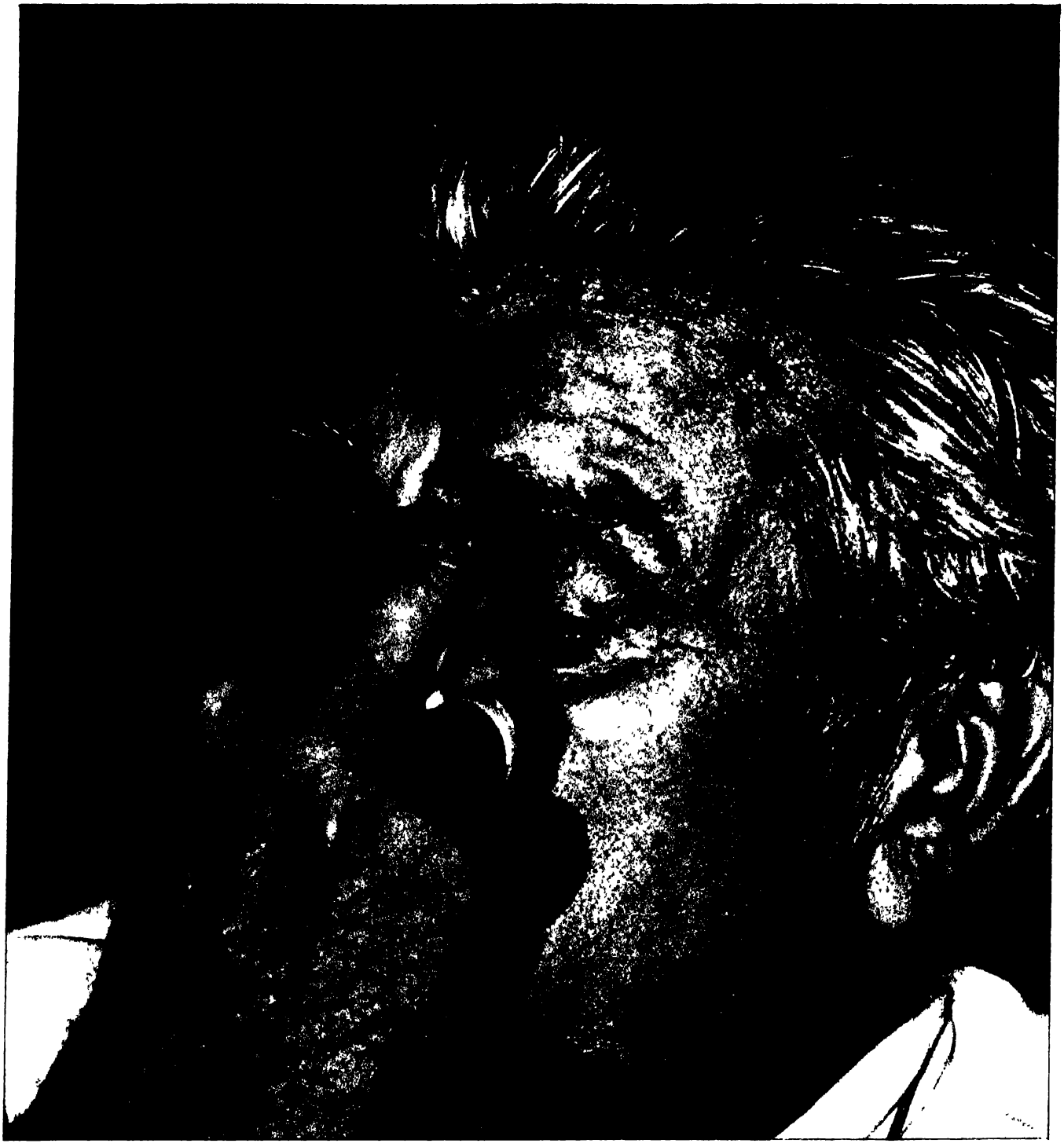






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To see or not to see; that is the question for **Devi Lal.** With a son of the soil like Chautala, *any* father would have turned a blind eye, or both, to his deeds. Come on; what's a little Meham between a *baap* and his *chhora*? Or a little resignation between the PM and the deputy PM? Photograph by DHARM VIR JAYNER



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that s a situation none of us would like to get into But then one can never tell can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for With Mediclaim from New India A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits Including cover for hospitalisation at home under special circumstances For a premium as low as Rs 200 per annum (at the minimum) It also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate

Show how much you love and care for your family Get New India s Mediclaim Policy It offers you so much for so little!

Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Ps	Rs
200	10 500	3 100
250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

Age limit 5 70 years * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium

NEW INDIA ASSURANCE

1919 1989

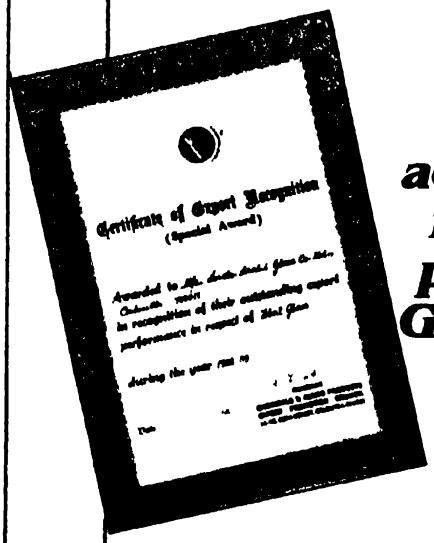
BORN TO LEAD

MEDICLAIM



"At Indo-Asahi we are forging ahead on the bedrock of excellence and quality. And we look forward with confidence to our future as leaders in the Flat Glass Industry of tomorrow" – *Mr. K. Shimizu*
Managing Director

Breaking records in Glass



Indo-Asahi earns acclaim from Capexil for its outstanding performance in Flat Glass exports for the year 1988-89

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In recognition of its outstanding export promotion efforts, Indo-Asahi was awarded Capexil's Special Export Performance Trophy for the year 1988-89. An achievement made possible by the strength of its association with Asahi-Glass of Japan. And contributing to foreign exchange earnings of US $2.5 million for the country

Indo-Asahi Glass manufactures low-fragility figured glass in a range of exclusive Japanese designs. Using the renowned "Dual Process" to ensure quality that conforms to the highest international standards. Winning accolades from customers all over the world. No wonder, Indo-Asahi is setting the pace in Flat Glass exports.... and is now ready for further achievement.





Shri P N Roy Chairman Indo Asahi receives Capexil's Special Export Performance Award for 1988-89 from Shri Dinesh Goswami Union Minister of Steel and Mines

The Indo-Asahi Glass Co. Ltd
Regd. Office : 3 Hungerford Street, Calcutta 700 017

Concern for Children

Your concern for children is commendable ('The Rat Race Begins', March 4). Time and again, the Colour Magazine has taken up their case.

Prof. Anand Bahadur, Burdwan (W.B.)

■ The article brings out very truthfully, although painfully, the trials and tribulations suffered by parents, the stress and strain undergone by the children and the corrupt practices indulged in by some unscrupulous touts and unprincipled teaching shops at the time of admission.

While the parents get vicarious satisfaction in getting their children admitted to 'reputed' schools and the touts and academies appropriate their pound of flesh, the children pass through a wringer, as it were, and, whether selected or not, suffer undeserved harm to their psyche. The parents' misplaced craze for so-called good schools pushes the children into a world of unrelenting competition with its tears and tension, heartbreaks and resultant complexes before their time, doing more harm than good.

Some time back, R.K. Laxman, in his maiden speech in Parliament, made a highly reasoned and impassioned plea against over-burdening the children mentally and physically before and after admission.

The powers-that-be were so preoccupied with their own games that the speech hardly created a ripple. So much for our concern for the children.

It is the bounden duty of the government of the day to open more good schools, even English medium if the people so prefer, and also to encourage private organisations to help fill the gap and to devise courses which leave the children ample time to play, to create, to learn from their environment, thus to develop their latent faculties instead of turning them into pale, haggard-looking bookworms.

R.S. Sharma, Principal, D.A.V. Public School, Calcutta

Baby Dolls and Body Dolls

It was splendid to see Parvati Khan on the cover (February 4). It has been said in the story that she has a good body though not enough body in her voice. But I disagree.

No doubt she has a nice figure and a lovely face, but her voice quality is not inferior to Preeti Sagar or Usha Uthup's. Her performance in *Pop Time* was creditable.

I was disappointed though to find that there was not a single photograph of Sharon Prabhakar, India's no. 1 pop singer.

Ashok Bhowmick, Calcutta

■ In a basically shallow programme like *Pop Time*, anyone can infer that this country has just one no-nonsense pop singer who has a true voice and genuine good looks and that is Sharon Prabhakar.

All other so-called baby dolls and body dolls are mere pretenders, bereft of creativity and performing ability. Many of them are not even good looking by any standard.

Arindam Dev, Kalyani (W.B.)

■ After Pamella Bordes, you have now provided another vulgar photograph on the cover, that of Parvati Khan. I was disappointed by her TV programmes where she sang dirty, third class songs in a most stupid way. It also proves that the Colour Magazine is only interested in cheap glamour.

Vijay Kumar Lunia, Calcutta

■ I fail to understand what Parvati Khan means by saying that she sings with the aim that her songs reach even a place like Bihar. Her statement is not only unfair, it is absurd. She should refrain from making such statements or she will even lose the few fans she has.

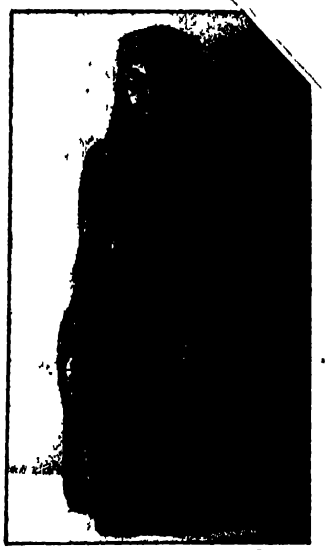
Sanjay Dayal, Ranchi



Sharon Prabhakar: True and genuine

The Teleg

8 APRIL 199



Gosto Kumar's *Ganesh Janani*

16 Ganesh has become the most sought-after god in the art world. An analysis of this phenomenon.

4 Indian cricket's most eligible bachelor, Ravi Shastri, tied the knot last fortnight in Bombay.

14 There are only 214 whooping cranes left in the world. All possible methods are being used to save them.

SECTIONS

12 Quiz
13 Focus
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover. Sculpture by an Arts Acre member; photo by Kushal Ray



Wedding ceremony

Hooked, At Last



Shastri in the Audi 2000 he won in Australia



Reception at the Mahalaxmi Race Course

Ravi Shastri's days as a gay blade are over. A fortnight back, he began a new innings with the girl who finally bowled him over

Photographs: Rupinder Singh

It all began two years ago when Ravi Shastri, the most eligible bachelor sportsman in the country, was introduced to petite Delhite Ritu Singh Ahluwalia by none other than the master batsman, Sunil Gavaskar, at New Delhi's Taj Palace. The introduction, which at first seemed pretty routine to Shastri's friends, later developed into an affair of the heart. But even his closest of buddies were kept in the dark for a very long time. Thus, news of his engagement about two months ago came as a surprise to many.

The wedding was a family affair. Shastri left his Worli residence in the silver Audi 2000 (MFA 1) he had received as 'Champion of Champions' at the Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket in Australia in 1985. Dressed elegantly in a cream sherwani, Shastri looked lost and Ritu's *mama* had to guide him through the ceremony, which was performed according to Sikh rites. (Incidentally, Sikh ceremonies are quite brief and Shastri apparently wanted a short way

out. We hope he doesn't do the same with his talent.)

The next day (March 19), at a glittering reception at the Royal Western India Turf Club, film personalities, cricketers, industrialists and politicians turned up for a veritable parade of the who's who of Bombay.

Marriage either makes or breaks people. It took two years of courting for Ravi Shastri to decide that he had at last found his match and that marriage would do him a world of good. This view was reportedly shared by none other than the BCCI selection committee chairman, Raj Singh Dungarpur, who accompanied the *barat*. Moreover, cricket fans in Bombay feel that Ravi Shastri is no longer MFA 1 (read *maha faltu aadmi number one*), the number plate on his Audi 2000. Moreover, from the time he announced his engagement, he has been playing exceedingly well surprising not only the national selectors but even his detractors.



The groom and bride leaving her home

Shastri insists it will only be Ritu and cricket for him from now onwards. We hope it will just be that for even after marriage it will be difficult for him to shed his more often than not unjustified image of a swinging Casanova. (Even at the reception the police had to ward off pretty ters. One police marked that the better chase the and the Tendulkar Shastri had been book good.)

One person who flew dow from Australia just to attend Shastri's wedding was none other than his godfather Sunil Gavaskar. For him perhaps the best thing to have happened to Ravi was his wedding. And Gavaskar, the immaculate gentleman that he is, showed his feelings by dancing in the *barat*.

Ritu who is an interior decorator, is likely to pursue her career whereas Ravi is determined to get back into the Indian team as early as possible. The grapevine has it that Shastri is all set to play against England this summer. But till then it is honeymoon in Goa and a few weeks in England.

Gajinder Singh

• **Magazines:** I offer 24 issues of *The Telegraph Colour Magazine* for 24 issues of *The Hindustan Times* (February 13 to March 8, 1990). Write to Chandra Prakash, 6/B Ram Mohan Saha Lane, Calcutta 700006.

• **Cassette:** I would like to exchange the cassette of Tracy Chapman for that of Batman or Cocktail or any other Megasound cassette. Write to Anju Sood, Flat-F 2, Srabanti Apartments, 153/2 Jessore Road, Calcutta 700074.

• **LPs, cassettes and books:** I offer LPs by Grand Funk, James Last, George McCrae, Shirley Bassey, Frank Pourcel, Alice Cooper, Gordon Lightfoot, Gato Barbieri, Eric Clapton and Paco De Lucia, cassettes by Eurythmics, Santana, Pink Floyd and Asha Bhosle, and books by Flaubert, Emily Davis, Maugham, Russell, Elia Kazan, Eric Ambler, Richard Yatis, Jean Kellar, Nabokov and Han Suyin for LPs, books, table-lamps and folding umbrellas. Contact Othello Mazoomdaar, C/o Birendra Nath Ghosh, vill. Sripur Charaktala, P.O. Boral, 24 Parganas, West Bengal.

• **Study material:** I would like to exchange the complete set of the study material for IIT-JEE entrance exams by Paradise Coaching Institute for a Walkman with headphones or anything of equivalent value. Write to Shashank Sekhar, Road-9, E-14/1, P.O. Chhotodighari (Newtown), Burdwan-713326.

• **Lawn tennis rackets and net:** I would like to exchange three lawn tennis rackets and a net in almost new condition for an air gun or anything of corresponding value. Write to Manish Garg, P-329, CIT Road, Scheme (VI) M, Kankurgachi, Calcutta 700054.

• **Stamps and first day covers:** I offer 250 foreign and an equal number of Indian stamps along with 30 first day covers for a Walkman or anything of corresponding value. Write to Vishal Almal, 4 Market first by lane, 5th floor, Howrah-711101.

• **Battery operated toys and video games:** I wish to exchange a battery-operated aeroplane, a remote-controlled car and two video games for an Atlas Concorde bicycle or anything of corresponding value. Contact Debasish Ghosh Chaudhuri, 16/C A.T. Chatterjee Road, Calcutta 700031.

• **Sari:** I offer a brand new sari (light pink with chumki work and beads) worth Rs 1,100 in exchange of a record player and a radio or anything of equivalent value. Contact S. Ganguly, 28/8 Library Road, Calcutta 700026.

• **Periodical and magazine:** I would like to exchange 25 copies of the *Reader's Digest* and 50 issues of *The Telegraph Colour Magazine* for Indira Gandhi's *My Truth* or Amrita Pritam's *Revenue Stamp* or Martina Navratilova's *Being Myself*. Write to Chinmoy Bhattacharya, P-27 Mohit Colony, Barisha Bose Para, Calcutta-8.

• **Letter clip:** I offer an antique, hand-shaped brass letter clip (British make) for a good Japanese 35 mm camera or anything of equivalent value. Write to Akhter Siddiqui, 4 Elliott Lane, Calcutta 700016.

• **Foreign stamps:** I offer about 300 attractive postage stamps of foreign countries for Indian stamps. Write to Umesh Kumar Hota, C/o Biswajit Dutta, Anand Park, Rakshit's More, Boral, 24 Parganas (N), Pin: 743505.

• **Cassettes:** I offer 14 music cassettes for a pocket radio/watch or calculator. Write to Tapash Chakrabarty, 35 Kshudiram Bose Road, P.O. Nabagram (Konnagar), Hooghly-712246.

• **Table-tennis bat:** I offer an original Shield Chinese-made table-tennis bat for a pair of headphones or anything of corresponding value. Contact Santanu Banerjee, 1/2/2, Haldar Para Lane, Shibpur, Howrah-711102.

• **Study material:** I offer the complete set of BSc study material and a set of Higher Secondary books for anything of equivalent value. Write to Tuhin Rana, C/o, G. Rana, 146 Bhowanipore, P.O. Kharagpur, Midnapore-721301.

LOOK MA,

Will all short-sighted people be able to see without spectacles in the third millenium? The answer is yes, if the world-renowned Russian eye specialist, Prof. S. Fyodorov is to be believed. Prof. Fyodorov, the father of "radial keratotomy", known all over the world now as the "Russian method", is confident that all the 800 million people in the world at present suffering from myopia can be fully cured. In fact, nearly 200,000 myopia patients who have undergone this method of treatment so far all over the world no more need spectacles.

Small wonder then that opthalmologists and eye surgeons in many countries including India, the US, FRG, the UK and Japan have become greatly interested in the "Russian method" for correcting vision defects and other eye ailments. Hundreds of specialists from different countries visit every year for practical knowledge and training at the Moscow Research Institute of Eye Microsurgery, of which Prof. Fyodorov is the director. Doctors from the Moscow Institute, including Prof. Fyodorov himself, go abroad to give practical demonstration of the "Russian method" which has revolutionised eye diseases treatment in the world.

The basic idea behind the technique for myopic correction developed by Prof. Fyodorov is that a series of radial incisions made in the cornea weakens its periphery. The intraocular pressure then forces the incised area to bulge out while the central cornea undergoes a compensatory flattening. This results in the correction of myopia as also of myopic astigmatism.

To an inexperienced observer the operation, which usually takes only five minutes and in no case more than 10 minutes and is carried out under local aneasthesia, may apparently look simple. The patient is able to leave the hospital as soon as the operation is over. But the brief minutes of operations are preceded by a thorough examination programme involving measurements of up to 11 individual parameters. The well-known US opthalmologist, Dr Lambros, who learnt "radial keratotomy" has said that the method has opened a new era in opthalmology.

New techniques for cataract operation developed at the institute make it possible to avoid rupturing the posterior lens capsule. Intraocular lenses designed for the purpose are accordingly anchored to the edges of the dissected posterior capsule. In contrast with complete removal of lens, inflammation subsides in half the time with all the vital ocular indices returning to normal functioning more rapidly.

Cornea transplantation is considered one of the most sophisticated field of opthalmology . Despite significant progress in this area, some cases, particularly those associated with edematous dystrophy and burn induced leukoma, have proved extremely stubborn. But now even many virtually hopeless cases can benefit from the artificial cornea of keratoprosthesis developed at the institute after a 15-year-long search.

In the first stage of surgery the keratoprosthesis is inserted together with a temporary plug. Fuse accretion of the implant to the cornea is allowed before the central part of the leukoma is removed and the optical cylinder screwed into place.

Almost all the 260 or more patients at the Moscow Institute who had been blinded by extremely severe chemical and thermal burns to the cornea as well as its dystrophic opacification, were able to see again after surgery. The majority of them even regained high visual acuity varying between 0.4 and 0.8.

Myopic correction done by the now-famous 'Russian method' owes much to Prof. S. Fyodorov. He is convinced that in another 10 years, we will be able to look at the world without the aid of glasses. TAPAN DAS reports

Dr S. Fyodorov (centre) introducing his colleagues to a group of Indian specialis



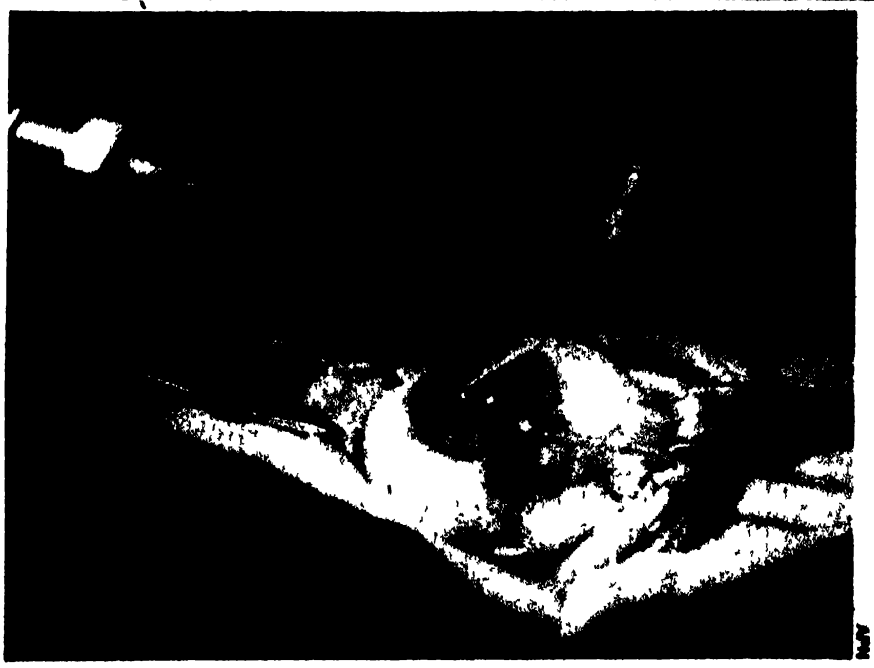
NO SPECS!

The keratoprosthesis developed at the institute has been patented in the US, the UK, West Germany, the Netherlands and Italy. It is highly regarded by doctors in those countries.

Till recently the appearance of an intraocular tumour inevitably led to enucleation. The scientists of the Moscow Institute were the first to demonstrate the feasibility of removing tumours affecting the iris and ciliary body and at the same time saving the eye. The latest techniques of functional diagnosis provide the opportunity to pinpoint the extent of lesion. Coupled with intraoperative techniques of tissue differentiation, it means greater safety in tumour excision while the visual function of the eye is preserved. The new surgical approach for removing malignancies of the choroid, developed at the institute has never before been attempted anywhere in the world.



Seeing what exactly is wrong before prescribing treatment



Operating on a live eye



As Prof. Fyodorov says, the scientists of the institute are successfully moving forward now in a number of new directions. The concept of open angle glaucoma is one of them. According to specialists, cataract and glaucoma are the two worst eye diseases that are responsible for most cases of blindness.

After thorough research scientists at the institute came to the conclusion that glaucoma is essentially an ischemic disease which affects the anterior segment of the eye. At the initial stage there is almost three-fold reduction in blood supply. This, in turn, leads to dystrophic changes in the occular draining system and in consequence, to elevated intraocular pressure.

To cure glaucoma a superficial scleral flap is inserted into the opening of the anterior chamber angle. The scleral tissue rich in small capillaries drains off the excess intraocular fluid, which the faulty ocular draining system is not able to cope with. This results in lowering the intraocular pressure and consistent improvement in the course of glaucoma ensues.

The scientists, led by Prof. Fyodorov, are now trying to develop a new treatment which would make it possible to enable old people to do away with their glasses worn for distant-sight. In fact, Prof. Fyodorov has always been against wearing glasses.

"Treatment for eye diseases tested by thousands upon thousands of operations performed in our institute, make us feel confident that glasses can be done away with. Each individual should be able to see the world (in the third millenium) unaided by glasses, using only his own nature-designed cornea organs rather than artificial devices," Prof. Fyodorov stresses. That is indeed a great message of hope. ■

RANJI TROPHY ON PIGGY BACK



"You know, it's difficult to believe Bengal has won the Ranji Trophy.. that we've *actually* done it.. " remarked Arun Lal, the principal author of the title-round success over Delhi, and one who is now a cult figure in these parts. This was a few hours after the Eden had erupted in rejoicing.

Indeed, it took some time for Bengal's epoch-making win to sink in Even skipper Sambaran Banerjee was briefly at a loss for words Chiefly because till very, very recently the image of Bengal cricket had been such that even armchair talk of the state emerging on top would have met with derisive laughter One didn't really associate killer-instinct, a pre-requisite for success in the silicon-chip age,with Bengal cricketers. Till,say,the last season, when Bengal gained the Ranji final after a fairly lengthy hiatus.

Even though Bengal were decimated in the 1988-89 final, at the hands of Delhi by the way, it was evident that the state cricketers wouldn't any longer be pushovers. And it could just prove fatal if a rival outfit chose to dismiss Bengal's showing last season as a one-off happening. For the

Bengal grabbed the cricket honours after 51 years with a major contribution from Arun 'Piggy' Lal. Though the quotient rule helped, says Lokendra Pratap Sahi, it was the new professional approach that made it happen

killer-instinct seeds had been sown and much to the chagrin of first Bombay, then Hyderabad and finally Delhi, the rich harvest was reaped this season. The crowning glory being the regaining of the Ranji Trophy after all of 51 years

Detractors, perhaps, will always surface And there were murmurs that Bengal won both the quarters (vs Bombay) and the final (which was a 'grudge match') on the quotient rule and that both Bombay and Hyderabad (in the semi-finals) were not at full strength as the likes of Manjrekar and Azharuddin were in New Zealand While this isn't incorrect, what merits highlighting is that Delhi were strengthened by the arrival of Prabhakar, Wassan and Ajay Sharma And yet put up a thoroughly disappointing show in the grand finale at the Eden Clearly, one can't argue with absolute conviction that the Manjrekars and Azharuddins would indeed *have* altered Bengal's destiny

And it was more out of frustration and

the failure to perform to expectations that Delhi captain Kirti Azad spat: "It's been purely a technical win (referring to the quotient) for Bengal... the final didn't even see two innings completed." (Please, Bengal had no hand in this. Kirti should flay the weather gods.)

Predictably, Kirti's remark caused an uproar of sorts. The general reaction was: It's balderdash if the Delhi skipper is trying to dismiss the verdict as a fluke.

An indignant Lal fumed: "How can anyone even think of 'fluke'. Nowhere are premier championships, or any meet for that matter, won by fluke. Weren't Delhi aware of the quotient rule?" They were.

It's the change in the Bengal player's attitude, his imbibing of professionalism that complemented the on-field performances. And this spelt success.

The Bengal cricketer has also thrown off his timid image. And he's as aware of the needle points of gamesmanship as players from say, Delhi or Bombay. One normally wouldn't associate sledging with the Bengal lads, but they did resort to this in the final. It's part of the sport now and the Bengal cricketer is aware of even the unwritten laws.

Looking back, defeating Bombay has to be immortalised as *the* turning point. Not only had Bengal failed to put it across Bombay in all previous meetings but had even suffered embarrassing defeats. The February victory at the Eden infused much confidence in the home state's campaign. Bengal would play to win. Not just the next game (in Hyderabad), but the Ranji Trophy. It's reasonable to say that such a thought even a few years ago would have evoked scorn. And amusement. But the bottom line reads differently today.

As state selector T.J. Banerjee pointed out, "It's the current team's approach, with an iron-like determination that has hastened the change in our fortunes." After all, Bengal had thrown up immensely gifted players in the past, but for various reasons, they failed to get their act together.

"Our boys have the confidence to do well, to take up any challenge. Those days are over when most Bengal teams took the field with a defeatist attitude whenever the opposition had a formidable look. This win should do wonders and the steps our cricketers take can only be ahead, not backwards," remarked the venerable Pankaj Roy, who was among the happiest of men on the magic afternoon of March 28.



Dilip Doshi

The triumphant Bengal team with the Ranji Trophy and Arun Lal (far ground) with his Man of the Match award

A major chunk of the credit for altering the face of Bengal cricket must go to Lal, who has injected a heavy dose of professionalism. And before him, the kudos should go to Dilip Doshi, now settled in the UK. Sambaran acknowledges this: "We have to thank Doshi for many things. Chiefly, for laying emphasis on fielding and for making us more sure of ourselves." Sambaran is eminently qualified to speak thus, as he's been around for close to two decades.

It's the fielding more than anything else, which swung the final Bengal's way. On the opening morning itself. Not only were catches not grassed, players flung themselves to cut off runs. This sure was a revelation. And a most welcome one.

"Look, it's nonsense to even suggest Bengal's win is a fluke. Our boys' fielding was world class and the bowling of a top order. And, then, after a couple of setbacks, the batsmen, Lal, in particular, did a marvellous job. So, even though the quotient rule was enforced, Bengal had, in fact, outplayed Delhi in every department. I have no doubts that had the match run its full course, Bengal would still have come out on top," emphasised Gopal Bose, one of the best batsmen the state has seen.

Indeed, Bengal's fielding and bowling had often proved to be the [illegible] but in front of a home crow[d] complement of national selec[tors] gal players uncorked champa[gne] field.

Echoing Bose's views, state se[lection] committee supremo Ambar Roy m[ain]tained: "The question of fluke could co[me] up if the batsmen had come good out of the blue. But the batsmen had consistently been making merry. And talking of bowling, Saradindu Mukherjee had a hattrick in the semi-finals."

Roy added: "I think the efforts of Jagmohan Dalmiya (the CAB executive president) have borne fruit. Right from the days he was the association secretary he was obsessed with Bengal regaining the Ranji Trophy. The goal was clear."

Not surprisingly, Dalmiya was at a loss for words at the momentous hour. "I'm overwhelmed," he said with considerable emotion.

To return to the quotient rule, or the technical front where Bengal scored with deadly effect, the general feeling is that it is, perhaps, somewhat unfair. But what's the alternative? "Maybe it's not the best way to determine the winner, but it's preferable to the toss of the coin," argued TJ.



Ranjib Do

Bengal skipper Sambaran Banerjee with G.R. Vishwanath during the final with Delhi

"Delhi were perfectly aware of the quotient rule. I agree it's not very satisfying that a major title is determined by the format, but at the moment, at least I can't prescribe a better alternative," said Bose.

While on the quotient (runs divided by wickets lost) rule, one would do well to recall that quotient-wise the ball hasn't always rolled Bengal's way. Just a couple of seasons ago, Punjab sneaked through in the Ranji quarters and the Bengal players were left gnashing their teeth.

Yes, Dame Luck did smile on Bengal this time. More importantly, Bengal capitalised on the breaks that came their way.

FACTS & FANCIES

Quick Quizzle

Without adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing, how would you convert 7 and 11 into even numbers?

Solution

Take away S from SEVEN, and EL from ELEVEN.

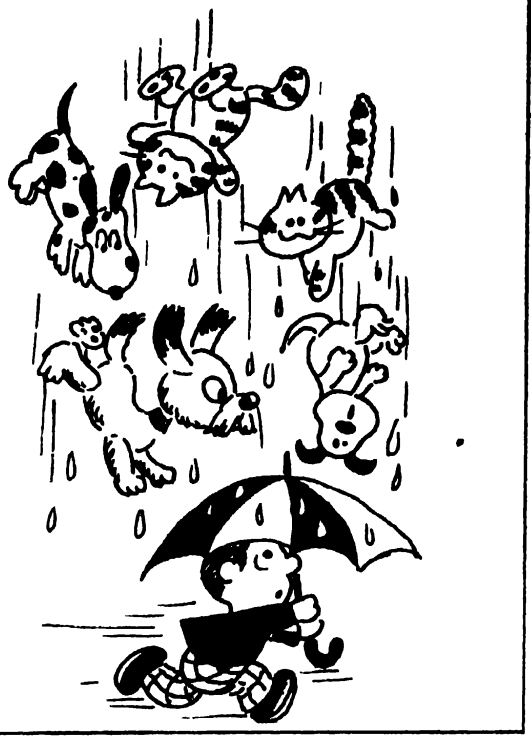
S E V E N
E L E V E N

Of Cats and Dogs

Have you ever noticed how the English language is liberally littered with "animal phrases?"

Speaking only of cats and dogs who rain together but are otherwise sworn enemies, you have probably heard that a cat has nine lives but every dog has his day. A dog is no doubt man's best friend but a cat is definitely FAMILIAR. And at the risk of sounding catty, do you think you would stand a dog's chance of finding a date if you looked like something the cat brought in? If you think you are the cat's pyjamas, he is most likely to think of himself as a gay dog. And which is worse—to give a dog a bad name and hang him or use someone else as a catspaw?

Barking dogs seldom bite, but think what would happen if you let the cat out of the bag! If you could only teach an old dog new tricks, you might get him to grin like a Cheshire cat!



All said and done, instead of pursuing the matter doggedly, its better to let sleeping dogs lie rather than set a cat among the pigeons.

Of Toe Jams and Wagging Tongues

Next time your child outgrows his old pair of shoes, don't throw it away (the shoes, not the child). Insist that your child wears it till his toes are peeking out of the front, the tongue is tatty and the sole is hole-y. Then put the pair away for the three rainy months, in a dark dingy corner, and allow the pair to 'mature'.

Now, you have a prize winner! All you need to do is to travel to Vermont, on the first day of the next spring, and ask your ward to parade up and down for the Annual National Rotten Sneaker Contest of America.

At a recent contest, the judges wore gas masks, lab coats and rubber gloves, and used tongs to examine the sneakers. Nearly 100 contestants, mostly adolescent boys, participated and 7-year old Bob Scruten won $200, a brand new pair of sneakers, and a can of foot powder, from the organisers.

Commented a distressed judge: "The toes of his sneakers were exceptionally worn, but what won him the first prize was the smell—the smell was really bad."



Shamlu Dudeja and Nalini Sitlani

The Red Indian Rhyme

An unusual puzzle is doing the rounds in Calcutta, these days. To solve it, you need to be a square!

There was this Red Indian chief, *Sitting Bull*. He decided to acquire himself a squaw; and he presented the squaw with a leopard-skin hide. The squaw decorated her little wigwam, and spread the leopard hide on the bed. *Sitting Bull* moved in, and within 10 months she produced him a papoose.

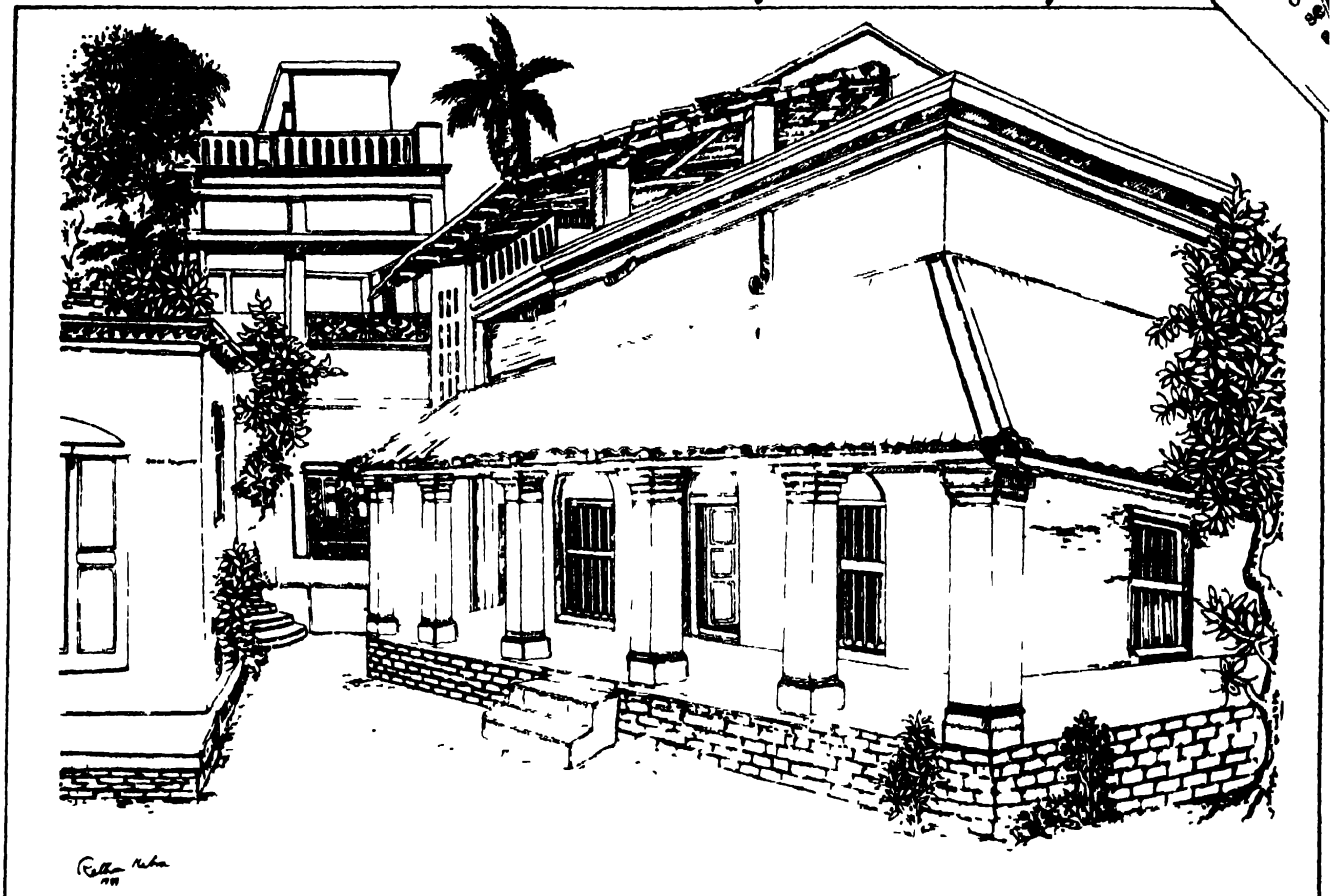
The chief, then, acquired himself a second squaw, and presented her with a rhinoceros hide. She decorated her wigwam, likewise, and the chief moved in. In due course, the squaw produced a bonny papoose.

The chief, yet again, acquired himself a squaw. This time, he presented her with a hippopotamus hide. Story repeats itself, but this time the squaw produced him twins. Why?

"The squaw on the hippopotamus is equal to the sum of the squaws on the other two hides!"

Illustrations: Kate Dalal

SHIVANATH SHASTRI (1847-1919)



The renowned Brahmo leader of the 19th century Bengal, Shivanath Shastri came of a middle-class family of village Majilpur, Joynagar in 24 Parganas. However, he was born in his maternal grandfather's place at Changripota in the same district on January 31, 1847. He did his MA from Sanskrit College in 1870. Soon he was drawn to Brahmoism and also associated with various social, philanthropic and literary works. His greatest contribution to the cause of nationalism was during 1864-92.

Son of an orthodox Brahmin, Shivanath inherited some of his father's qualities of self-respect. His second marriage, at his father's insistence and much against his own wishes, was the cause of deep remorse. He took refuge in godliness, renounced idol worship and joined Keshab Chandra Sen's order in 1868. The next year he was formally initiated into Brahmoism.

A strong advocate of women's education, Shivanath later differed with Keshab who was opposed to higher education for women. A group of liberals, Samadarshi, established the Hindu Mahila Vidyalaya where Shivanath admitted his daughter. He went back to Changripota to work for the village uplift.

In 1864 Shivanath returned to Calcutta as headmaster of South Suburban School. In 1876 he joined Hare School as the head pundit and translation teacher. He resigned the next year on a sequel to the formation of an inner circle to fight for equal rights and education for men and women, and fix the marriage age at not below 21 for boys and 16 for girls. Shivanath and his group formally broke away from Keshab Sen's order over the marriage of minors and violation of Act III of 1872. Thus the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj came into being under Shivanath's leadership in 1877. Devendranath Tagore blessed him with a grant of Rs 7,000. In 1883, the *Brahmo Public Opinion* was renamed the *Indian Messenger* with Shivanath as its editor.

Shivanath Shastri's reforming zeal knew no bounds. In 1888, he travelled to England to get an idea of the working of various philanthropic institutions. On his return, he devoted himself to organisational and literary works. His most significant writing was *Nirbasiter Bilap* (1868), a narrative poem. Besides other books of verses, his four novels give a vivid picture of the social life in a changing society. His contribution to political awakening was no less significant. He held strong and radical views and believed that India could be freed through constitutional methods. With S.N. Banerjee and Anandamohan Bose he founded the Indian Association, the City School and Chhatra Samaj. Another instance of his organisational ability was the formation of Sadhanasram in 1892. He died on September 30, 1919.

The sketch above shows his ancestral house in village Majilpur.



"Whose major discovery was that the earth and its fellow planets revolve around the sun and that the earth rotates on its axis?" This question as well as the answer come from Sanjiv Kalla, Calcutta 17. Ans: Nicolus Copernicus. He had quite an eventful life.

Copernicus was born in Poland in 1472 during the Renaissance, when men were challenging many of the accepted ideas of the Middle Ages. A quiet man, not a fighter, he nevertheless started the Copernican revolution.

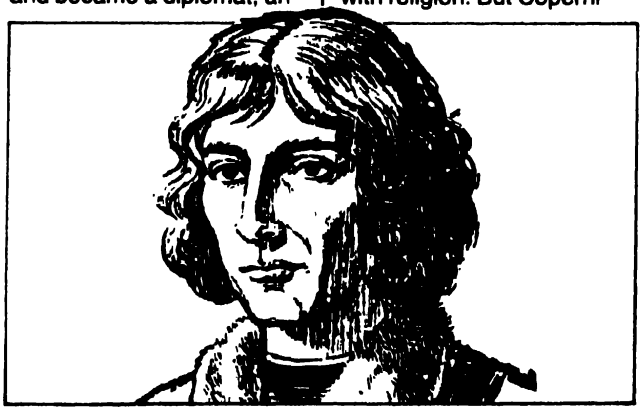
Copernicus' father died when he was 10 years old. The boy was raised by his uncle, a bishop, who naturally decided that young Copernicus should also have a career in the Church. But the bishop had been influenced by the humanism of the Renaissance and saw to it that his nephew got a good education. Copernicus went to the best universities of his day—first in Cracow, where he became excited by astronomy; then in Bologna, where he studied church law; and finally in Padua, where he became a physician.

Through all his other studies, Copernicus remained dedicated to astronomy and continued to spend most of his time thinking about it. He decided that the sun must be the centre of the universe and that the earth and the other planets revolved around it. He also decided that the earth must spin on its axis. But these were only ideas, and Copernicus was not sure he was right. Nobody would be sure for another 100 years, until Galileo would study the movements of the planets through a telescope.

In the meantime, Copernicus refused to publish. Instead, he returned to Poland and became a diplomat, an economist, a translator of poetry, and his uncle's personal physician. With all this activity he also managed to devote a great deal of time to studying the stars, trying by observation and mathematics to prove his theories. By the time his uncle died in 1512, Copernicus had dared to write a short explanation of his ideas. To the modern mind, astronomy may not seem to have much to do with religion. But Copernicus' theory said that the earth was not the centre of the universe, and if this were true, theologians saw that it might also be true that God had not created the universe for the use of man. And if the sun didn't move, how could Joshua have ordered it to stand still?

The Pope treated Copernicus' theories as interesting hypotheses that weren't dangerous because they were not proven. But Protestant leaders attacked Copernicus. Luther said, "This fool wishes to reverse the entire scheme of astronomy," and Calvin said, "Who will venture to place the authority of Copernicus above that of the Holy Spirit?" This reaction discouraged Copernicus, and he gave up trying to get his ideas accepted. He went back to more study and more observations of the stars, struggling with the crude, inaccurate instruments available to him, trying to obtain more exact sightings that would help prove his theories.

It wasn't until he was old and ill that Copernicus finally decided to publish a complete account of his work. Then he and his book had a race with death. On May 24, 1543, the first copy of the complete exposition of his theories, *The Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres*, was placed in his hands. He opened it to the title page, smiled, and died.



Nicolus Copernicus

CBS

11th Question: **Name the American President who spent his entire term of Presidency in bed. (Anjan Das, Qtrs No 474/2, South Side, P.O. Kharagpur 721 301)**
Ans: **David Rice Atchison. Atchison, the President pro-tem of the Senate automatically succeeded to the presidency on March 4, 1849 at 12 noon since Zachary Taylor refused to be sworn in on a Sunday. Atchison, unaware of this, spent the next 24 hours, his entire term of presidency, in bed.**

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the first woman to hold the post of ambassador to two countries simultaneously? (B. Rajeev, Bhagalpur 1)
2. What is common to Rana Sangha, Ranjit Singh, Horatio Nelson, and Lord Wavell? (Dennis Parida, Bhubaneswar)
3. When and where were Indian-made robots first displayed? (A.P. Salvi, New Delhi 19)
4. Who wrote to his father-"I am tired of seeing these shameless boys laughing over my poverty. These boys are superior to me only in their wealth, but are definitely beneath me in noble sentiments"? (Suraj Joshi, Shillong 2)
5. Which country reduced the voting age to 18 last September? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)
6. Of what wood was Noah's Ark made? (Jacob Mathews, Sindri 22)
7. How is *Nesaiteras rhombopteryx* better known as? (Chandan Bhargav, Calcutta 20)
8. Which country's highest national award is the 'Golden Arrow of Achievement'? (Mohan Kr Agrawal, Bargarh 26)
9. Who said, "Do you wish men to speak well of you? Then never speak well of yourself."? (Ashish Agrawal, Sambalpur 1)
10. What is "Black Sash"? (P. Surendra, BIT Sindri)

ANSWERS

IN STEP WITH REALITY



Inside the sophisticated central research facility of IIT Kharagpur and (inset) G.S. Sanyal, executive director of STEP-IIT

For the first time in the country, scientific and technological entrepreneurship has been directly linked to the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology chain. This must rank as one of the more significant, albeit delayed, steps of the department of science and technology.

The lead has been taken by IIT, Kharagpur. Under the stewardship of Prof. K.L. Chopra, director of the institute, the Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park (STEP) at IIT (Kgp.) is off to a slow but smooth start. Eleven entrepreneurs were selected recently in the first round of interviews. This remains a far cry from the master plan's projected aim of 150 industrial collaborators, but Chopra is unfazed. "The final year batch of IIT," he says, "shall pass out only in April. STEP will then pick up."

Through the IIT's advanced research facilities and faculty, STEP will provide technical assistance and advice to entrepreneurs seeking to manufacture hi-tech products and processes saleable to industry. "It's consultancy in a big yet inexpensive way", says Prof. R. Bhaskaran, training and placement in-charge. "STEP shall even help in marketing the outcome." But the crucial assistance shall be monetary—apparatus erection costs will be tagged to STEP. As per expectations, successful manufacturers shall move into industry with expertise in a particular line of technology.

Of the 11 STEPs in India besides the Kharagpur park, the first to be set up was at BITS, Mesra in 1972. Under guidance from Kanta Rao and A.K. Basu, the project has achieved a good measure of success. Notably, some of the other STEPs established later were gradually reduced to biting the dust, something which Bhaskaran attributes to "infrastructural incompetence". As a result, IIT Kharagpur's admittedly superior technological standing has gained considerable significance. But Bhaskaran is cautious in his optimism. "We'll have to wait and watch the response."

Even as financial shortages crunch the scheme, STEP-IIT, Kharagpur, has already prepared the launchpad for more

> Unlike in the West, where industry and academia work in close cooperation, science and technology institutes in our country have for long lived in ivory towers. Their research activities have had little to do with the practical needs of the world outside. But now, all that is beginning to change

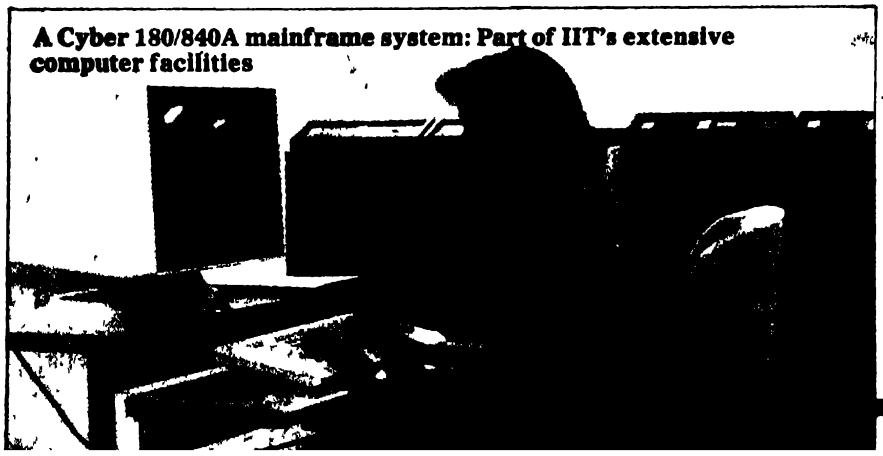
than half a dozen groups of entrepreneurs, among whom is a pair of final year students of electrical engineering. Another group of IIT alumni has secured an order from a Hong Kong firm for software to be exported to West Germany. The Indian Cables Company, Jamshedpur too is in line for a project on fibre optics. Because of its IIT backing, the park has displayed more panache and variety than its counterparts elsewhere. The spectrum of fields ranging from satellite image processing to petroleum refining to cryogenic studies to digital communications covers almost every area the IIT has set foot on. The executive director of STEP-IIT, Prof. G. S. Sanyal, however, regrets that the department of science and technology's approval of fellowships to the entrepreneurs is taking an unduly long time. "After all," he says, "we have to give them (entrepreneurs) something for a living."

That very necessity has given rise to fears of "fake entrepreneurs", a potential problem which STEP's administration has not yet come to grips with. In a somewhat weak defence, one official merely states that "STEP's umbrella shall cover the entrepreneur only for a period of time deemed justifiable".

But the strongest scepticism has arisen on another count. STEP's repertoire consists solely of hi-tech fields, where entrepreneurs might not be easily available in India. One obvious source—the IITs themselves—is not being relied on in many quarters. "IITians," says Bhaskaran, "have traditionally opted for cushy jobs. Enterprise is yet to prove to be their forte."

To a certain extent, observers feel that the fault for that lies with Indian industry, which has had minimal interaction with technology institutes. The exchange has mostly been limited to tackling technical snags in industry. While that would continue to form a part of STEP's purview, the accent has swung to turning entrepreneurs seeking to enter industry—but not having the means to do so—into successful manufacturers. Sanyal is sure that with the challenge and originality generic to STEP's activities, IITians and other technology graduates are bound to reshuffle their preferences. "It's high time," says R.K. Dhawan, one of the two electrical engineering students selected, "that IITians started working to satisfy themselves rather than their bosses in industry." And STEP, he thinks, is the best way to start off the blocks.

Manish Jain



A Cyber 180/840A mainframe system: Part of IIT's extensive computer facilities

Sanjay Mahajan

Courting Cranes

Just about everything is being tried to save the whoopers, the tallest birds in North America, from extinction—even marriage counselling

Andre the Giant is one unhappy bird The 3 year old whooping crane is being shooed into a corner of his outdoor pen at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Centre Never exactly pleased to see people, Andre hisses and glares at the intruders with golden eyes

Named in early chickhood for his exceptional size and bad disposition Andre is one of only 214 of his kind left in the world a condition brought about largely by human transgressions Now humans are having some success in bringing the species back from the brink of extinction At the beginning of each mating season scientists try to arrange pairings they hope eventually will produce offspring

Of course there is no way of explaining this to Andre who had been spending a peaceful morning with three female companions in the roomy 40 ×120 runway probing the grass for edibles Now his caretakers close in with upraised arms their protective goggles glinting in the sun "He could have chosen any of the three females he s been with says veterinarian Glenn Olsen But he hasn t shown any preference Basically they were just buddies

Playing matchmaker to cranes is no lark

' It's kind of like a dating service says Claire Mirande curator of the only other captive whooper flock in the world located at International Crane Foundation headquarters in Baraboo Wis It s a real challenge sometimes to get birds together They have to be genetically matched then introduced and they need supervision



Veterinarian Glenn Olsen checks the heartbeat of a juvenile whooping crane, cradled by caretaker Jane Nicolich, at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Centre. Researchers take extraordinary precautions to avoid infecting the birds; they wash their boots in a disinfectant solution at pen entrances

They can be quite aggressive to each other Sometimes later we have to do marriage counselling

Until recently, Patuxent was the home of 54 whooping cranes—one fourth of the species survivors and the only captive flock Most of the population, 146 birds, live in the wild migrating between the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas and Canada's Wood Buffalo National Park A smaller flock of 13 migrates between New Mexico and Idaho One crane resides at the San Antonio Zoo

Cranes are remarkable animals The tallest birds in North America, they reach a height of about 4′ 6′ They are notably intelligent and develop distinctive persona



Carefully preening, a whooping crane at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Centre in Maryland keeps its dazzling feathers fit for flight

Graceful in flight, a whooping crane soars over a Texas marsh. Whoopers are North America's largest birds, developing wingspans of about seven feet. The notoriously shy creatures were once prized trophies of hunters. Now they and their breeding and wintering grounds are protected by US and Canadian law

lities

"Some are friendly and follow you around and some are feisty says Patuxent caretaker Jim Stevens During breeding season their hormone levels go up and it's like dealing with a tall ticked off rooster

Never especially abundant whoopers have been overhunted and much of their habitat has been destroyed From an estimated 1,300 to 1,400 birds before 1870 the population declined to as few as 19 adults in the early 1950s making their comeback since then all the more extraordinary

"I'm cautiously optimistic, says Robin W Doughty, University of Texas geography professor and author of *Return of the Whooping Crane* (University of Texas Press Austin 1989) The wild flock has done remarkably well in the last decade

Besides discouraging hunting, the recovery effort seeks to protect the wild birds breeding and wintering grounds and to raise captive birds for eventual release into the wild

In December 1989 the Patuxent flock was split 22 were put into crates loaded onto a military jet and flown by Marine reservists to the Wisconsin preserve The idea was to ensure against a single disaster, such as contaminated food or an epidemic that could wipe out the entire captive group

Andres macho displays notwithstanding, the staff hopes to find him a willing companion Hopes are also high for another large male with good bloodlines and a somewhat gentler disposition CJ— an offspring of one of Patuxent s first cranes

The female chosen by Patuxent manager Scott Hereford to be CJ s trial mate is Tarzana a lithe beauty named for some acrobatic tendencies she displayed as a chick Her speciality was backflips

CJ enters his runway first Later Tarzana arrives in the arms of caretaker Jane Nicolich and jumps into the adjacent pen. For the next several days the pair will be watched for signs of compatibility including staying close to each other on opposite sides of the chain link fence

To the delight of onlookers Tarzana heads straight for the corner where CJ is preening They eye each other for a moment at close range Then Tarzana seems to lose interest turning away and pecking at the ground But CJ stays pressed against the fence watching her every move

They re friendly says Olsen That's a good sign

(National Geographic News Service)

Ganesh

THE ONE-GOD INDUSTRY

From ordinary housewives to fancy art collectors, there is a rush to acquire Ganesh paintings and sculptures of every possible shape, size, colour and interpretation. Paromita Ukil analyses the phenomenon

In the beginning there was a god—half elephant, half man. He was different from the rest. This god was man's best friend. He helped him prosper. He helped man in his buying and selling. Today, the god himself has become a commodity. Ganesh has been absorbed by his own image.

His clientele is vast. Businessmen buy him, politicians buy him. Lawyers, executives and actors buy him. And painters, sculptors and craftsmen sell him. The Ganesh market is thriving. There are Ganeshes for Rs 40. There are also Ganeshes for Rs 1 lakh.

But transactions around this commodity are not necessarily cold and calculated. There is an aesthetic angle to it. The makers are creative artists. And the buyers, collectors. They are either religiously or artistically inclined, or both. And, at times, they are confused. Gosto Kumar, the man of many Ganeshes, recently held an exhibition of his paintings and sculptures. Titled "Eight Days of Ganapati", it brought all the Ganesh aficionados of Calcutta flocking to the exhibition. If some went to cultivate their interest in the subject, there were others who were not quite sure why they were there. To see a work of art or to assert their devotion to the lord protector?

But most did make an entry in the visitors' book. To quote one: "The way Ganeshji has been shown in all *roop* (forms) is excellent." Admiration for the artist prompted by devotion to the icon.

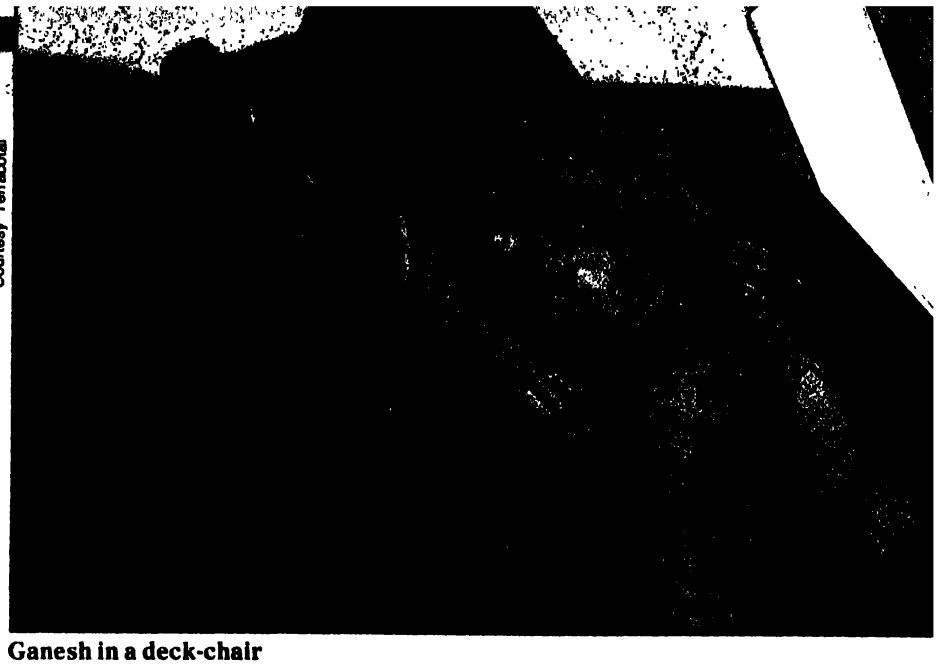
And devotion prompted not only to admire but also to buy. All of Gosto Kumar's paintings and sculptures were booked long before they went on display. And his works are certainly not to be had for a song. Naturally, it is mostly the Marwaris, the richest community in Cal-

By Gosto Kumar



Vivek Das





Courtesy Terracotal

Ganesh in a deck-chair

utta, who patronise his art greatly.

"Ganesh as a theme is particularly popular among Marwaris," says Ms Kejriwal, art dealer and owner of Calcutta's Chitrakoot Art Gallery. An idol or painting of Ganesh has become the mark of both prosperity and culture. And with the recent boom in the art market, it is good investment too.

Sometimes investments in the name of Ganesh also pay off, as has been the case with Harsh Neotia. He has a series of companies named after the god, like Ganapati Builders, Ganapati Stones, Ganapati Greenfields, among others. "But that is not because of any superstition or religious belief," says Neotia. "It is to maintain a kind of continuity. A marketing strategy, you may call it."

Neotia's marketing strategy also extends to the Shree Ganapati Centre, which houses The Conclave, an exclusive business services club. Here, one can find the paintings of Ganesh Pyne, M.F Husain, Bikash Bhattacharjee, Jogen Chowdhury, Bendre, Wasim Kapoor, Amitava Banerjee and other celebrities of contemporary Indian art. Their theme: Ganesh.

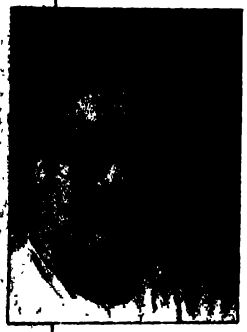


Vivek Das

"How did you come to acquire a Ganesh by Ganesh Pyne?"

"Yes, I know what you mean. One doesn't go about commissioning Ganesh-*da*. But he is a close family friend." One day, Neotia had taken the painter to The Conclave to show him his collection and dropped a not-so-subtle hint. "But I have never done any Ganesh," Pyne had apparently replied. About a year or so later, he called Neotia to say that he had painted a Ganesh for him. As for the rest of the paintings in The Conclave collection, most have come through exhibitions.

And exhibitions there have been many on this subject, from Ram Kumar Manna's terracotta Ganeshes to the much-sought-after paintings of Tarun Dey and Rameshwar Singh (of Rajasthan).



***Ganesh Gopal* and (inset) Gosto Kumar: Man of many Ganeshes**

"This craze for collecting Ganesh started about 10 years ago," says Ms Kejriwal. "But now artists are getting fed up of the subject." In the beginning, of course, many did play up to the galleries. In the process, they also experimented with this iconic form, which lends itself to reorientation and rearrangement.

Ramananda Bandopadhyay, who has an ascetic approach to his paintings, feels upset by this experimentation. He is not against modern or abstract depictions of Ganesh. He himself has painted such a Ganesh series. "But you must not destroy the essence, the feeling that has lasted for centuries." He fails to understand why some artists must depict an aging or *buro* (old) Ganesh when nobody ever talks of an old Durga or Kartick. "Icons must be respected," he says with a tinge of regret in his voice.

Whatever the form, not many dare disrespect an idol of Ganesh even if he looks peculiar. Vishnu took care of his status when he decreed that no puja or new venture could be started without paying homage to Ganesh, the lord of an auspicious beginning. Initially a humble animal totem of the non-Aryans, Ganesh came to be ranked first in the Aryan-Hindu pantheon.



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

Rekha Dasgupta with her Ganeshes

"This dramatic development of Ganesh's career mystifies me," says Indrani Sen, media director of HTA. "It

must have needed a total revolution for this 'low-caste god to rise to that high level" Sen too has her own collection of Ganesh primarily folk art But her interest goes much deeper than that She has recently written a book *Ganapatir Utsa Sandhane* (In Search of Ganapati's Origin) where she traces the evolution of the elephant god Ganesh is my serious hobby says Sen

For actor Basanta Chowdhury too it is much the same It's my serious pastime says Chowdhury Serious it is But it is definitely more than just a pastime given the extent of his study on the subject He rambles quite freely through the centuries on the concept of Ganesh From the pre Christian era to the early 20th century Again reverting to explain that the sleeping Ganesh could have been inspired by the passing away of Buddha

By Wasim Kapoor



Courtesy The Conclave

By Ganesh Pyne



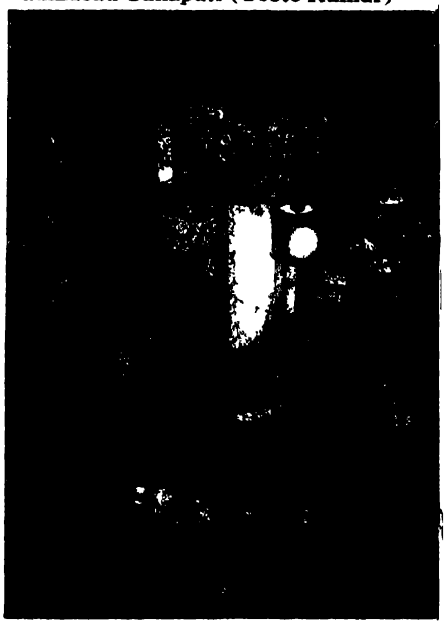
Courtesy The Conclave

Calcutta Chemicals director Rekha Dasgupta however is not too concerned about whether or not the horizontal form of the icon was created after Buddha But she is very proud of her sleeping Ganesh in stone a piece she acquired from Nepal That apart she has statues of Ganesh in topaz ivory procelain brass bronze and silver I am particularly fond of this half reclined very informal Ganesh, she says pointing at an impressive silver piece which shows Ganesh relaxing on an ornate divan with cushions tucked under his arms looking very much like a babu of 19th century Bengal

By the early 20th century however Ganesh had made his way into the offices of Calcutta's renowned barristers 'Every barrister of the old school would have a Ganesh on his table says Siddhartha Shankar Ray the barrister politician who till recently was the governor of Punjab C R Das had a Ganesh on his table my father (Sudhir Chandra Ray) had one and of course Lord Sinha had a very special Ganesh on his table

The story goes according to Ray that when Lord Sinha was still a junior he hardly got any briefs In despair, he accepted a job with the suburban provincial judical service Meanwhile, a Marwari client turned up with a brief There was no use Lord Sinha told his client because he was leaving to take up his new job But his client was adamant You must stay he told Sinha You have a bright future here And he brought out a small Ganesh from his bag asking him to keep it permanently on his table He finally managed to coax Lord Sinha to stay on in Calcutta and try his luck with Ganesh's blessings

***Padmasau Ganapati* (Gosto Kumar)**



Vivek Das

TALES OF THE HEAD

The Puranas have many tales of how Ganesh came to have an elephant's head.

Shani's blessing: Parvati and Shiva had been married for quite some time, yet they had no children. So Parvati decided to perform a special rite, the *putrak vrat*, meant for the childless She did this for a year, by the end of which Vishnu granted her her wish. And Parvati had a child.

Once the child was born all the gods descended from *devalok* to bless him Among them was Shani. But thanks to his wife, he had a curse upon him: whatever he looked at burned to cinders. Shani declined to take a look at the newborn But Parvati refused to listen to any reasoning and virtually compelled Shani to see her baby Immediately, the baby's head dropped off.

On hearing this Vishnu rushed to the child. And attached an elephant-head to his body He had chopped the head off a sleeping elephant with his *sudarshan chakra* on the way

Vishnu then saw to it that Ganesh was not slighted for his ungainly appearance He made it a rule that no puja or project could be started without paying homage to Ganesh—the god of success

Sun's curse: Mali and Sumali, two devotees of Shiva, once hurled a *trishul* at Surya and made him unconscious The world plunged into darkness and Kashyap, Surya's father, was in a fit of rage. He cursed Shiva that his son would lose his head, which is what happened to Ganesh. Instead, the head of Airavat Indra's elephant-mascot was fixed on him.

Father's wrath: Parvati once went to have a bath leaving Ganesh on guard. Shiva was about to enter the room when Ganesh stopped him. Infuriated, Shiva chopped off his head. Later, when he had calmed down he fixed an elephant's head to Ganeshji's body

Shiva's indulgence: Parvati made a little doll for herself and Shiva attached an elephant's head to it to amuse her. He then blew life into it to further please her As this doll-child grew up, he gave ample proof of his intelligence which led Shiva and Parvati to bless him as the lord of success In other words, Ganesh had to be prayed to before any other god for any project to succeed

The story goes that Indra was about to appoint Kartick the general of the gods But his hand began to tremble and he failed to conduct the ceremony It was Shiva who then pointed out to Indra that he had forgotten to pray to Ganesh

...o other stories about Ganesh and ...telligence:

...*ranic* tale has it that when ...sh and Kartick came of age, Shiva Parvati began to worry about ...ng them married. But before that ... thought of testing their two sons. ...t was decided that whoever re...d first from a trip around the ...ld would be the winner. Kartick ...diately set off on his peacock. As ...Ganesh, he took it easy and simply ...t around his parents. "You are my ...ld," he told them. He was married ...rst.

...fter the death of the Pandavas and ...ravas, Ved Vyas ... down to meditate. The entire ...*abharat* came up clearly in his ... But he needed someone who ...ld write down the epic as he ...ated the verses. Ved Vyas went to ...hma, who suggested Ganesh's ...e. Ganesh agreed, but on the ...dition that he would not stop even ...e while writing. Ved Vyas too set a ...dition: that Ganesh would have to ...t understand the verses and only ...n write them down. Ganesh agreed. ...s helped Ved Vyas. He would come ...with the most difficult of *shlokas* ...never he needed time to arrange ... thoughts.



Harsh Neotia : A leading collector



Jamini Roy's Shiva-Durga family with Ganesh in the middle



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

Ramananda Bandopadhyay at work

"Soon Lord Sinha became the youngest member of the standing council for the government of Bengal,' says Ray "Then in 1901 or 1902, I'm not quite sure when, he even became the advocate general of India ' Ray is not sure how far the story is true, 'but ever since, Ganesh has became part of the table culture of Calcutta barristers " True to tradition, he too buys a Ganesh for his office every new year

Most collectors of Ganesh are not driven by religious sentiments, but superstitions do exist Ms Sen has a European friend who tucks some money under a Ganesh statue each time he is in a financial crisis 'And he believes it works," says Sen

Many of Bombay's now culture crowd also appear to believe in the power of Ganesh 'That is why you find a long queue every Tuesday supposed to be Ganesh's day at the Vinayak Temple," says Sen Not all are devout Hindus conforming to religious traditions Among the many that flock to this temple in the heart of India's commercial capital quite often one finds people dressed in jeans and T-shirts, the same people who later that same day can be seen at some posh discotheque Ganesh is well entrenched in the elite culture of Calcutta, where



Courtesy The Conclave

By Bikash Bhattacharjee



By M.F. Husain

only a few decades ago people would have paid much more for a Rubens print than a Jamini Roy original

"It is true says Ms Kejriwal, "a Marwari buyer may take home a marble sculpture by Gosto Kumar put a red *tilak* on it and pray But as he looks at it everyday he notices new things and learns Then he returns to Ms Kejriwal for another work of art It could be a painting this time And not necessarily of Ganesh And I can tell you he will come yet again

A "regular buyer" has thus been born, for whatevever reason—aesthetics or social admiration And where's the harm? As long as Ganapati keeps smiling on Indian art. ■

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141)—4 shows.

Directed by Mukul S. Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi, Neelam, Danny, Goga Kapoor, Archana Puran Singh, Aloknath, Rohini Hattangady, Asha Sachdev and Tinnu Anand. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108).

A film by Harmesh Malhotra, starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Raj Babbar, Poonam Dhillon and Neelam. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Bahurani:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

Directed by Manick Chatterjee, the film stars Rekha along with Rakesh Roshan, Devan Verma, Aruna Irani and Utpal Dutt. The music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Izzatdaar:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 274259), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141)—4 shows.

Directed by K. Bapaiah and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the cast includes Dilip Kumar, Govinda, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher.

• **Jeene Do:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132)—4 shows.

Sunjay Dutt, Jackie Shroff, Farha, Shakti Kapoor, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Rajesh Sethi and the music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Kishen Kanhaiya:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033)—4 shows; Madhuban (Regent Park)—3 shows.

A film by Rakesh Roshan, starring Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Shilpa Shirodkar, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri. The music is by Rajesh Roshan.

• **Kroadh:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849).

Directed by Shashilal Nair and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Sunjay Dutt, Sunny Deol, Amrita Singh, Sonam and Anupam Kher.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383)—10.45, 2.15, 5.30, 9; Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956)—4 shows.

The biggest hit of recent times, this film stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree. It is directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman.



Tapas Paul and Deepika in *Ekhane Aamaar Swarga*



Anil Kapoor and Shilpa Shirodkar in *Kishen Kanhaiya*

Bengali Films

• **Aalingan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Directed by Tapan Saha and with music by Manoranjan, the cast includes Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Banerjee, Sumitra Mukherjee, Dilip Roy, Subhendu Chatterjee, Biplab Chatterjee and Shakuntala Barua.

• **Ekhane Aamaar Swarga:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

Tapas Paul, Deepika, Sumitra Mukherjee, Ruma Guhathakurta and Soumitra Chatterjee are the chief attractions in this film.

• **Andha Bichar:** Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108).

Mithun Chakraborty, Mandakini, Tanuja, Deepa Sahi, Biplab Chatterjee and Sadashiv Amrapurkar star in this Shakti Samanta film.

Special Events

8-13 April: 3 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Anil Baran Saha, Avijit Chatterjee, B.R. Panesar, Bikash Bhattacharjee, Chitravanu Mazumdar, Dharmanarayan Dasgupta, Jogen Chowdhury, Lalu Shaw, Manash Chowdhury, Paresh Maity, Prakash Karmakar, Rabin Mondal, Ramananda Bandopadhyay, Shanu Lahiri, Suhas Roy, Sunil Das and Tapan Ghosh.

At Rachana Art Gallery (4, Elgin Road).

8-13 April

An exhibition of paintings by Dipta Das Gupta in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302)

8 April: 6 pm

The concluding evening of Jhankar Music Circle's 42nd anniversary programme featurs Indranil Bhattacharya (sitar) and Girija Devi (vocal).

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

12 April: 6.15 pm

Sanskritiki presents an evening of classical music, featuring Budha-



Budhaditya Mukherjee

ditya Mukherjee (sitar) and Krishna Chakravarty (vocal). Tabla accompaniment by Rajkumar Misra and Bibhas Sengupta.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Queens Park).

12 April onwards

Group '87 will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

• Ashoke Roy will hold his week-long exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

14 April onwards

E.R.A. will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

14 April: 6.30 pm

Stagecraft presents Neil Simon's play, *God's Favorite*, directed by Rohit Pombra who also acts in along with Nandini Vora, Tina Colah, Kersi Anita, Steve Gomez, David Atkins and Chrys Didier 'Serre.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street)

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily). IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily) IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7). IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily) IC-265 at 1640; Arr. (daily) IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily). IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7). IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya
Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta
Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 060
Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

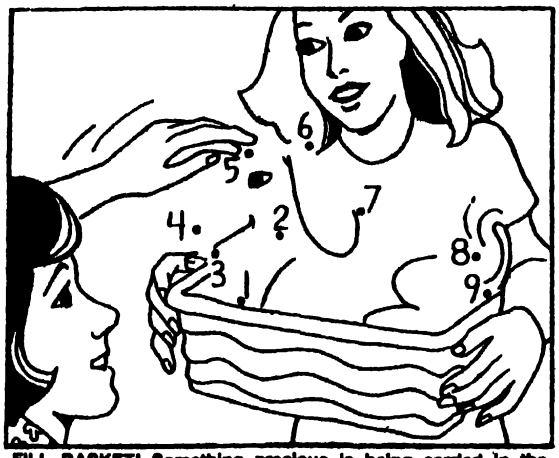
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri —Mon, Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp. Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep —Wednesday Arri.—Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs. & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	Madras Mail	6-39	6004
8002	20-15	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	Ahmedabad Express	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	Coromandel (Madras) Express	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	Ispat Express	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	Sambalpur Express	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 8 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



FILL BASKET! Something precious is being carried in the basket above. What can it be? Draw lines from dot to dot.

• PIGGY BANKER! Coins in my piggy bank — nickels, dimes and quarters — total $2.80. If there are equal numbers of the three coins, how many of each value are in the bank?

Seven coins of each value

• **ABOUT FACE!** What have we here (see below)—a smiling, kindly baker's face? Yes, and no, for our baker friend has a dual personality. Simply shut your eyes to his present visage and turn the drawing upside down. Presto, you will discover a grim-faced professor wearing a mortarboard—a completely different person.



	1	2	3	4	5
1					H
2					E
3					L
4					L
5	H	E	L	L	O

WORD SQUARE PUZZLER

Five five-letter words (one of which is already in place) are required to complete this word square. How quickly can you puzzle them out?

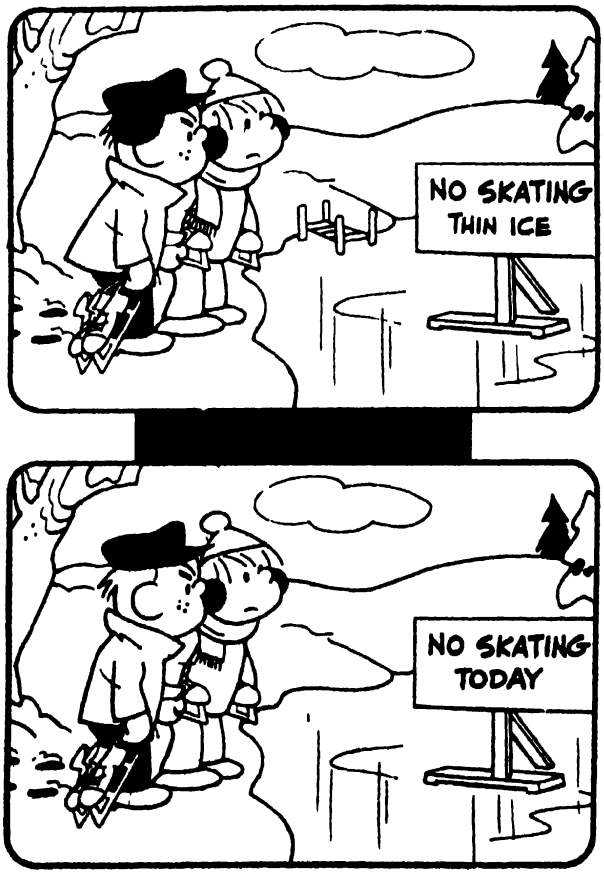
Definitions

1. Place we all call home.
2. Love, Italian style.
3. Kind of a flush.
4. Santa Fe, Oregon, or Chisholm, for ex.
5. Telephone word (already in place, see diagram above).

Remember a word square is made up of a group of words that read the same both across and down.

1 Earth, 2 Amore 3 Royal 4 Trail 5 Hello

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1 Earflap is missing 2 Jacket is different 3 Scarf end is shorter 4 Dock is missing 5 Cloud is smaller 6 Sign is different

FUNSPOT



HIGHER UP! Who's king of the hill — man or beast? Add colors neatly above. Number code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. gray. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Purple.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

FRONTIER

- - - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 30 points.

Possible answers: Ram, Iron

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Hectic romance, rapid revolver-fire communication a trip with a stopover and a possible legal matter coming to the fore constitute the week Romance will be intense and passionate, but separations are also sudden and bitter Those in collaborations, sales and distribution do well April 8-10 could be slightly disturbing

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

The focus this week is on subordinates, servants, colleagues, joint finances, pets and projects Health precautions are a must Work and career take precedence, but an affair is not ruled out A job hop is possible, so also are funds for businessmen You may have to travel for an important assignment or a strictly personal attachment

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

The luck of the draw and your intelligence and insight place you well ahead of your rivals The law of averages works in your favour You dance and sing and play right into the heart of your loved one Contracts will be signed and money will pour into your wallet You will be ever energetic Travel plans will be finalised childbirth, conception and decoration or renovation are the trends of the home front

CANCER

June 21—July 20

House, home, family and property are strongly slated But your work will also demand the best from you You could be caught in this cross-fire You have a fair share of romance Buying, selling and shopping are also signified Tension and pressure could tell on your health, but by the weekend everything will be smoothed out Travel is a certainty

LEO

July 21—August 21

Visits, interviews, conferences and meets keep you busy It is just the right time to sign documents and contracts, and come to settlement in legal matters You will be amorous, chivalrous, eloquent and lyrical You will have splendid opportunities to augment income Your health remains fine A trip possibly with a stopover, is likely



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The name of the game is finance, be it loans, joint-funds, investments, capital raising, monetary transactions and business deals Romance promises a lot of activities As far as health goes, you are on a slightly tricky wicket You will travel either for business or pleasure House warming and installation of gadgets are also on the cards

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The full moon in your sign according to Western astrology, makes you romantic, flighty and attractive Take care for your enemies will be active too By April 11 you will be well on top and have complete control over anything under sight Fancy and imagination fuse into high creativity Chances of winning a lottery are likely

BIRTHDAYS

April 8

Libra moon, Western astrology Those interested in the arts and research should fare well It is also travel time and alliance time as well.

April 9

Moon trine dragon's head Scientists, musicians and those in telecommunications and electronics find this trine exceptionally stimulating. Unusual ties and friendships await Arians. Expect the bizzare and the exotic too

April 10

Full moon, Western astrology Old projects will be completed and new ones launched. Therefore, in a way, you could be caught between two worlds. While the going could be rough, you will have the zest and imagination for final triumph.

April 11

Moon trine Jupiter Loans and [illegible] will be available. A job switch is on the cards A transfer is more than possible, so is a home away from home Time to chance your luck

April 12

Moon square Mars You do not have to be rude or egoistic to prove a point A change of direction in your work and home is probable It could also hold true for matters of the heart.

April 13

Scorpio-Sagittarius moon, Western astrology Moon changes sign today, making you mobile, active, alert and definitely aware of your own importance as well as opportunities for advancement Friends and well-wishers will stand by you.

April 14

Moon sextile Node, Western astrology: Despite pressures you will perform well. It is best to be diplomatic and calculating. Your moves and manoeuvres will catch your opponents on the wrong foot. Marriage for the eligible and fancyfree. It is also travel time. Collaborations are [illegible]

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

The week signifies expenses, journeys, secret affairs, illness in elders and in-laws and perhaps a slight confusion on the domestic scene In romance, you go through the full gamut of emotions and slay your beloved Buying, selling and trading provide all the action you need Collaborations are foretold Visits to hospitals or clincs are not ruled out

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

The main trends are romance, business alliance, travel, publicity, sales boost, celebrations and fraternising Romantic activities will be passionate and in plenty Do not worry about your health Mail, call and telex are the substitutes for travel Home and kids could be bitter-sweet, though children rule the roost Money will pour in

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Despite hassles vexations and jealousies you do soar financially and spiritually Romance promises a fair slice of cake Financial matters improve April 11 and 12 are ideal to buy or sell You may expect a promotion by May Take care of your health Unless necessary it is best to avoid journeys and instead build up financial muscles

AQUARIUS

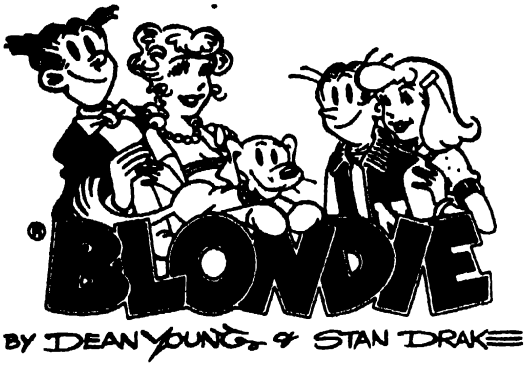
Jan 20—Feb 18

The full moon helps you to take the right decisions It is just the right time to travel, communicate and thus extend your orbit of influence The cash register will rattle and your pocket will be full Romance will be close on the heels of finances Do not listen to idle gossip A journey is likely and you could meet your soul mate. Joys of happy domesticity are very much there

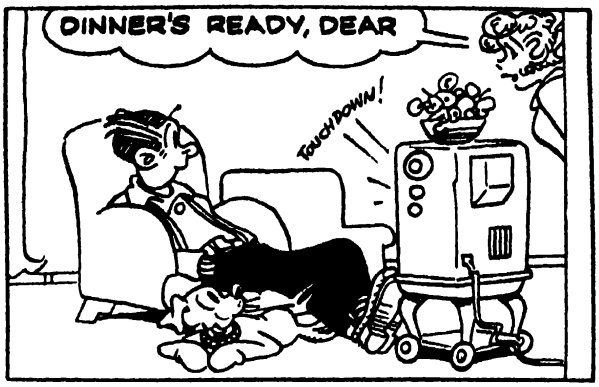
PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

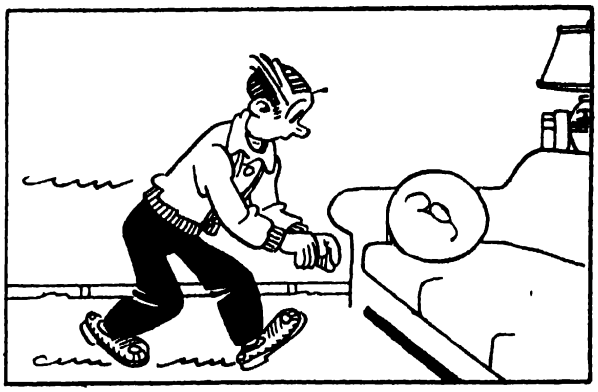
Plenty of action on the home, financial and speculative frontiers Shift, transfer, journey and commuting are highlighted Loans, funds, investments, buying and selling are the other salient features of the week A job hop is probable Romance is a strong possibility. A chronic health problem will emerge Kids bring joy However, expect discomfiture and upsets on the home front

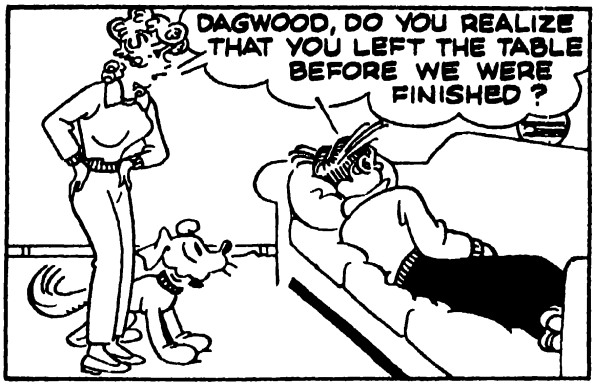


BY DEAN YOUNG & STAN DRAKE





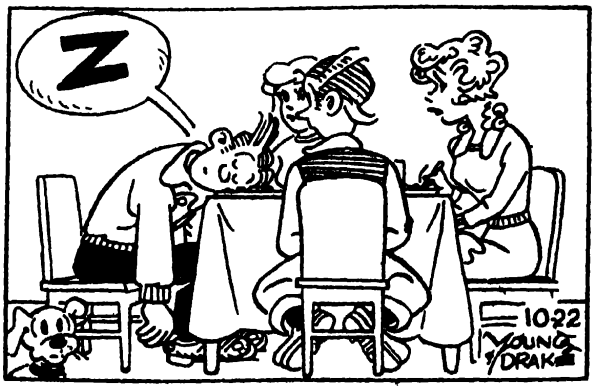


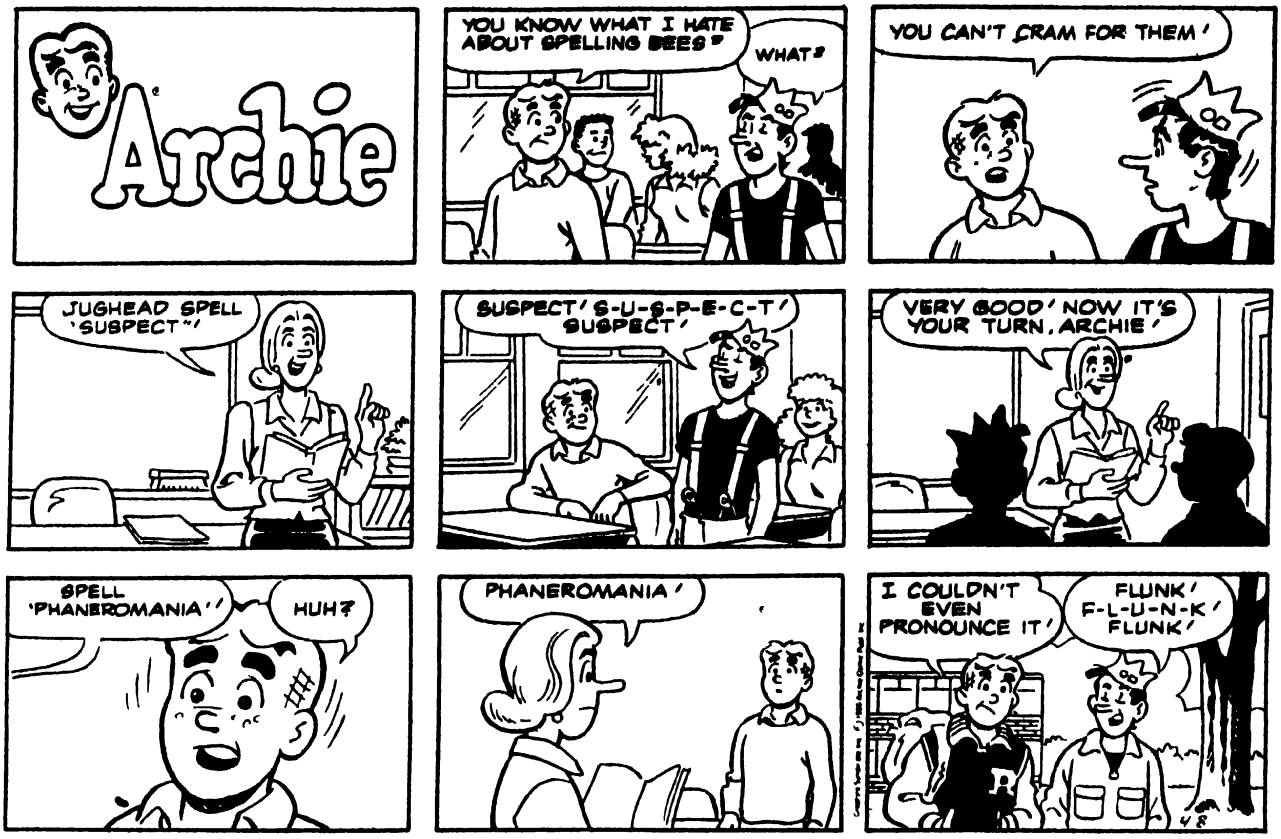






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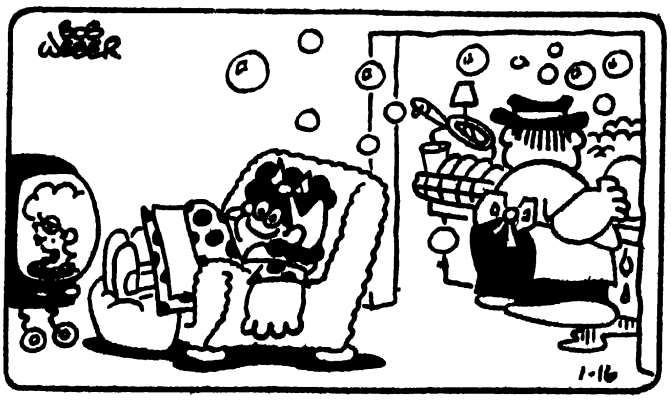


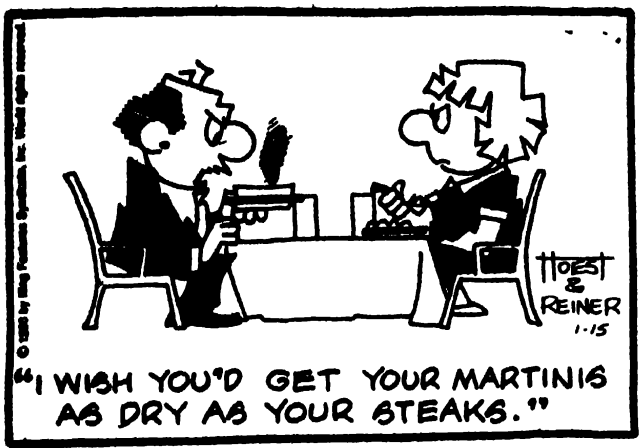

Archie
YOU KNOW WHAT I HATE ABOUT SPELLING BEES?
WHAT?
YOU CAN'T CRAM FOR THEM!
JUGHEAD SPELL 'SUSPECT"!
SUSPECT! S-U-S-P-E-C-T! SUSPECT!
VERY GOOD! NOW IT'S YOUR TURN, ARCHIE!
SPELL 'PHANEROMANIA"!
HUH?
PHANEROMANIA!
I COULDN'T EVEN PRONOUNCE IT!
FLUNK! F-L-U-N-K! FLUNK!


MOOSE, SUPPER!
IS IT THE SAME THING WE HAD LAST NIGHT?
NO!


I HOPE YOU LIKE IT... MRS. BALDWIN AND I SWAPPED LEFTOVERS
1-15
BOB WEBER


DARN! NOTHING ON TELEVISION BUT SILLY LOVE STORIES


BOB WEBER
1-16



"I WISH YOU'D GET YOUR MARTINIS AS DRY AS YOUR STEAKS."



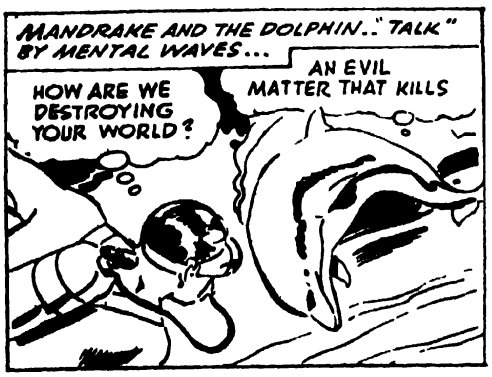
"WE HAVE TO TALK. YOU HAVE TO LISTEN."



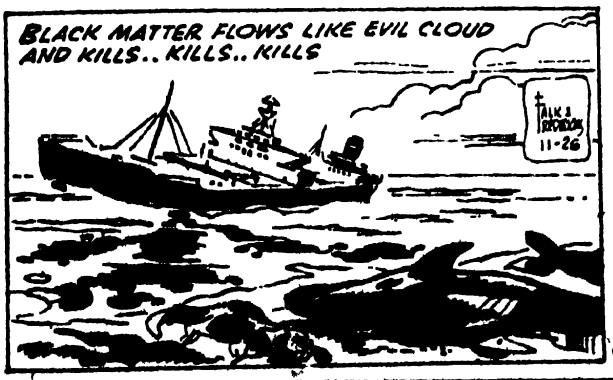
"BAD SESSION···CALL TWO CABS."

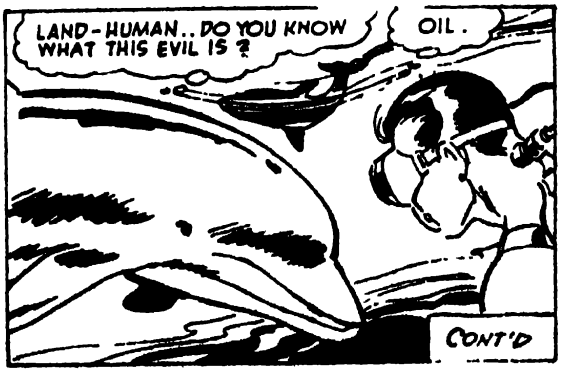


"WE'RE EATING OUT··· THE DISHWASHER IS BROKEN."





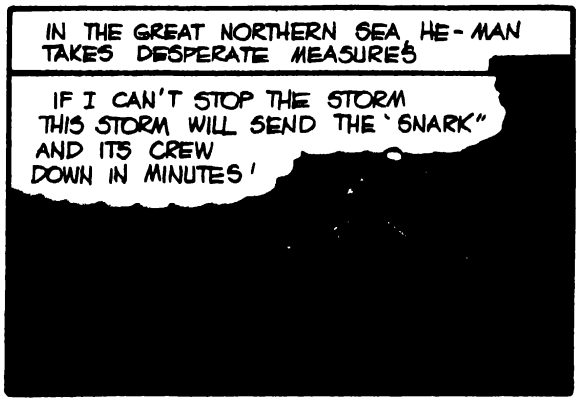




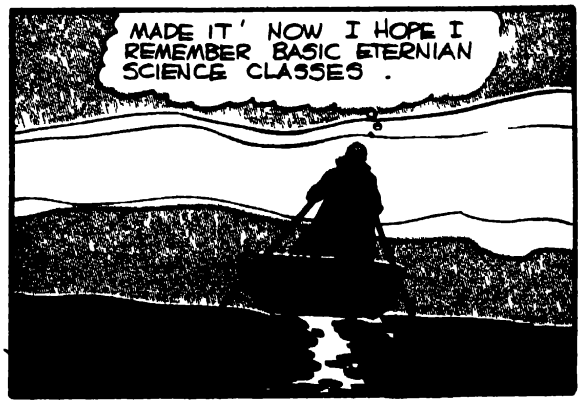

I'M A FAILURE
OUTCAST BY MY PEOPLE, ALONE IN THE WORLD DOOMED TO WANDER AIMLESSLY
RUSTLE!
AND NOW SOMEONE'S EATEN ALL THE RED ONES
I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS
NOW IS THE TIME FOR ACTION! THE TIME TO TAKE LIFE BY THE THROAT!
MASTER OF MY OWN DESTINY!
I'VE COME OVER ALL DIZZY
A HAWK SOARING IN THE SKY
O, DENIZEN OF THE SKY! GIVE ME A SIGN!
GIVE ME A HANKY!
I WILL LET THE FATES DECIDE MY DESTINY. THE PATTERN OF THE FALLEN PEBBLES WILL BE MY GUIDE.
AHA! SO BE IT!
"GO DIRECTLY TO THE PUB."
PICK A CARD, BEAU!
A TRICK!
WHAT IS IT?
THE FOUR OF HEARTS
LET ME THINK... IT'S THE FOUR OF HEARTS!
AND BEFORE YOU ASK, I'M NOT TELLING YOU HOW IT'S DONE!

The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's section of The Telegraph's Saturday Special

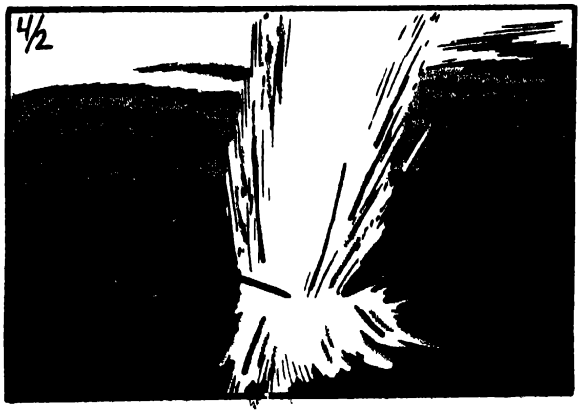












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Was that a Budget, Prof. **Madhu Dandavate,** or jaws?
Photograph by RAJ SETHI



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250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
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One-sided

We are deeply distressed at your reporter's discovery of an unholy nexus existing between Mr Paul Roy and the authorities of St Xavier's School (March 4). As parents whose sons have been admitted in the school, we are sorry that parents like Mr Kanan Chandra (March 25) had the occasion to visit Mr Paul Roy's "couped up flat" to allow his ward to be in "the crushing hand of smart businessman" and to undergo a "mutilated learning process" to seek admission in St Xavier's School.

Presumably Mr Chandra's luck did not favour him and hence such an insinuation. We never had such an experience. There is no mystery there, either. Admittedly, admission to any good school anywhere in the country is more an elimination than an admission test. Parents have no option but to put their wards through such rigors, since the rat race has been allowed to go by us and our state government.

Despite adequate subsidies, a band of well-paid teachers and a host of officers under the state education directorate to oversee the functions of schools, hardly any language school takes appropriate care to develop their students. If the standard of the majority of the schools was not allowed to deteriorate so much, the so-called 'rat race' for admission in a good school would never have started.

That being the crux of the problem, your reporter dwelling on the problem of admission appeared to be one-sided and malicious. It was only a feeble attempt to tarnish the image of a well-run missionary school, where money, muscle or influence never worked for admission.

K.S. Basu Roy and **Sasanka S. Saha,**
Calcutta

■ The story was lucidly written, but omitted one vital facet of the admission game: the enormous clout the staff has. A teacher is not only able to admit his/her children to that school, but also the children of relatives and friends, so that each institution has complete circles of families being educated there.

Shouldn't this 'teacher's quota' be cut down?

Khuku Choudhury,
Calcutta

■Nowadays it is almost impossible to get a child admitted to a reputed school without paying a 'donation'. That counts more than the child's performance in the admission test.

In most cases, the touts have links with the principal of the school who enjoys the lion's share of the 'donations'.

Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

Rekha: An *Utsav* to remember



Keep It Up!

Wow! What a blow-up of Rekha (March 18). Candid Camera really has a class of its own.

S.D. Gupta,
Siliguri

■ We were expecting something of this kind in the Colour Magazine. Thanks so much for that gorgeous photograph. However, you should have given a short profile of Rekha, the actress.

P.K. Chhetri,
Cooch Behar

■ The camera was not very candid nor was the caption explanatory about Rekha's marriage to Mukesh Agarwal. I had expected a detailed report about her previous 'marriages'.

Sanjit T.V.,
Calcutta

The Telegraph

15 APRIL 1990

Sanjay Sayani



13 Pran, the eternal villain, has been leering and sneering on the silver screen for more than 50 years now And there's no one to match his evil eye yet

4 Today is Poila Baisakh So what's new? Ask the Bengali businessman

18 A photofeature on the river rafting expedition on the Alakananda

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Cover Sanjay Sayani

Kalighat temple

Poila Baisakh is a big day for Bengali businessmen. And it's good business for Kalighat

ographs:
al Gangopadhyay

Booked for the Year

l khatas for sale



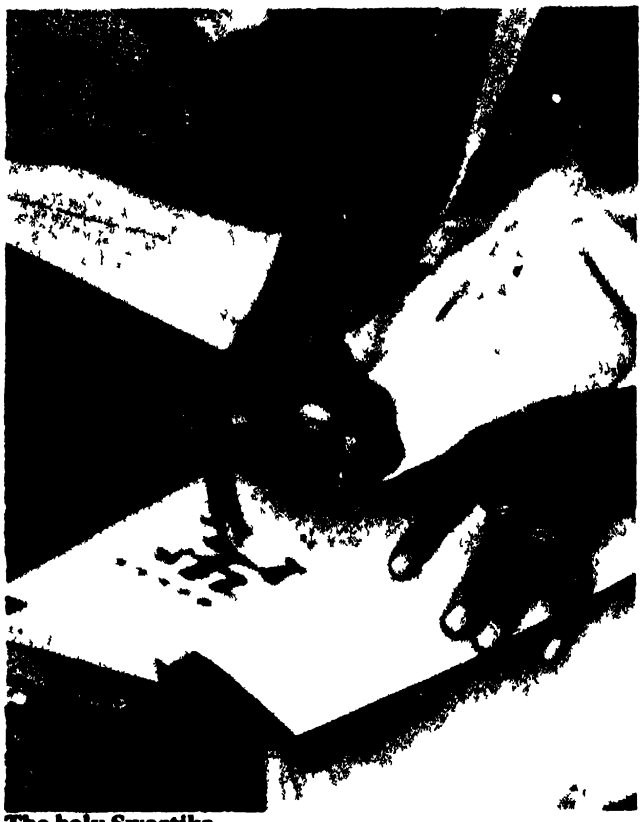


An auspicious beginning of a new accounting year

Come Chaitra, the last month of the Bengali calendar and once again the city prepares itself to celebrate the new year. Poila Baisakh, the first day of the Bengali New Year, falls on April 14 or 15, and is associated with a festive atmosphere. On this day, the busiest site is, of course, the Kali temple at Kalighat. It is also this day on which every businessman in Bengal starts a new account of their business activities. So, the Hal Khata Puja (worship of the new account/ledger book) remains a matter of cardinal interest among shopkeepers and businessmen alike. Naturally, Kalighat becomes a veritable beehive of activities Businessmen and traders throng there in large numbers to have their new account books duly worshipped by priests and blessed by the gods.

Poila Baisakh also turns Kalighat into a market place Heaps of new, dark-red ledger and account books are sold out quickly. The seller even finds it difficult to retain one for himself. Priests are also very much in demand on this auspicious day They swiftly move from one businessman to another so as to grab the maximum number of clients

The Hal Khata is worshipped along with small idols of Ganesh and Lakshmi which are also sold briskly at Kalighat While Lakshmi is the goddess of wealth, Ganesh is considered to be the god of business and prosperity, for his blessings may turn a vendor



The holy Swastika

into a multi-millionaire The idols and new ledger books are placed on a small wooden platform and garlanded with fresh flowers, available in plenty with the nearby sellers Then, the priest performs the usual rites "*Bishnuram tadsadeshwa banijwa briddhipurbak Karishwe* " he chants perfectly He then dips a new one-rupee coin in a bowl of vermilion and presses it against the new ledger book to give a perfect impression He next dips his forefinger in a mixture of vermilion and oil, draws a neat Swastika figure on the ledger book and touches his client's forehead, thus completing the Hal Khata puja.

On this day, shopkeepers and businessmen invite their regular customers Those who are well-to-do arrange for *daridranarayan seva* (feeding the poor) For once the beggars do not have to solicit alms These flow in freely Besides businessmen, professionals from all walks of life gather here on Poila Baisakh to have their bread-earning instruments duly and solemnly worshipped. One need not be surprised to come across a new autorickshaw or handcart being taken there to be blessed by the lord

Although the Kalighat temple area bustles with activity on Poila Baisakh, the city sports a festive look long before the actual day While shopkeepers and businessmen clear their old stock before a new year sets in, the market automatically gears up It is also the time to wear new clothes and almost a month before Poila Baisakh, dresses and dress material as well as several other household commodities and goods of daily use are sold at reduced prices. Cries of "*Dada ki lagbe, Didi ki lagbe*, sale, sale, sale" rend the air. Even the most reluctant buyer will not be spared from buying something

Poila Baisakh also reminds us that Kabi Paksha (Tagore fortnight) is round the corner. For, in Bengal, Tagore's birth anniversary is celebrated widely The Bengali New Year also means good business for publishing houses as the occasion is marked by the release of a number of publications And it is also the time to greet one another with sweets

While the temple bells 'ring out the old' and 'ring in the new' year, people throng the wayside bookstalls to buy new calendars and almanacs to find what the new year holds in store for them

Indranath Chattopadhyay

•**Coins:** I would like to exchange some foreign coins for anything of corresponding value. Contact Dr Hundo Pandit, 3, Balak Dutta Lane, Calcutta-700 007.

•**Books:** I would like to exchange two volumes of the novel *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy (Soviet print in hard covers) for the book *Mystery and the Occult*. Contact Ashfaque Ahmed, 10/A, Imdad Ali Lane, Calcutta-16.

•**MBBS Papers:** I wish to exchange the complete set of papers of Brilliant Tutorials for MBBS-1988 for anything of corresponding value. Write to Sanchita Guha, 106/B, Bakul Bagan Road, Calcutta-700 025.

•**Spectrum** and **Personal computer:** I offer a Sinclair ZX spectrum and personal computer (128K) for anything of corresponding value. Contact Mahesh Chandak, P-175, Lake Town, Block-A, Calcutta-700 089.

•**Comics:** I offer the complete set of Indrajal Comics from the very first issue against two badminton rackets. I also offer a Japanese model Sanyo Walkman (stereo) against a tape-recorder. Write to M.K. Choudhury, Flat No. 422, Ashiana Centre, Adityapur-831013.

•**Fans:** I would like to exchange a DC ceiling fan and a DC table fan for a dining table-chair set of four. Contact Basu, 82 Moore Avenue, Calcutta-40.

• **Kick-start pedal:** I would like to have a kick-start pedal of Sportif moped for which I offer anything of corresponding value. Write to S. Sunilkumar Singh, C/o S. Nigthemjao Singh, Leewa Road, Imphal 795001.

NOBODY'S



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

At a time when the UN is seeking to give children their due, the streets of Calcutta are inhabited by nearly a lakh of children, for whom life is an area of darkness.

Tapas Chakraborty reports

They are not the dream children of a growing industrial society. They scream and quarrel, burn themselves at a tea stall or simply sweat it out at roadside eating houses, garages, redlight areas. That's childhood for them.

At night, whether it's freezing December or sultry April, they sleep in the squalor of the battered pavements. Officially, there are nearly one lakh such children on Calcutta's streets. You can find them roaming the lanes and bylanes preaching "a lesson of patience to mankind".

Street children were always kept out of the reckoning by the state government, for they never posed any threat to the city except adding to the squalor. Ignored by society and rejected by their parents, they thrive on the leftovers and offer cheap labour to both open and clandestine business units of the city. The miserable lot of these children would have gone completely unnoticed had the recent survey on the children by the state government's social welfare department not come out with some bitter truths. The findings have made the government sit up though the state is yet to take any steps. This is borne out by the fact that the proposal of the Institute of Psychological and Educational Research (IPER) to set up a shelter in an abandoned place in New Market area recently was turned down.

In the sprawling Rabindra Kanan, the only breathing place in the congested Chitpore Road area, a number of street urchins play in the evening when they get time off from jobs at a local market. Mohsin, a 12-year-old boy who works in a tea stall near Oriental Seminary School, occasionally joins them. In the summer, he sleeps in the parks, in the winter he finds a shelter in the shanties nearby. Mohsin's father lost his job in a small factory in Garden Reach. His father returned to his village in Nadia along with him. Mohsin lived there for a couple of days, but did not like the place. He ran away, boarded a train in Krishnagar and returned to Garden Reach. From there, he escaped following some disturbance in which he threw stones at the police. Rabindra Kanan is his home now. "People here are warm. I get money and sleep safely in the park or the pavement," he said.

Calcutta's street children form a community of their own. The demographers say that most of them were driven onto the streets by the torture of their parents.

Calcutta is not the only city to have homeless children. In Nicaragua, nearly 12,000 orphans had to take to the streets following the war between the Sandinista government and the contras. In Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico too, war led to an increase in the number of children on the street. Calcutta had to face the aftermath of the Indo-Pak war of 1971 when large numbers of refugee children crossed the Indo-Bangladesh border.

Take the case of Sankar Sheikh. He had no idea about Calcutta when he and his widowed mother crossed the Bangladesh border at Bongaon in an attempt to find shelter in West Bengal. He was separated from his mother after they reached Basirhat through village roads in 1982. Now Sankar lives in the Muchipara area of central Calcutta, on the *bakshish* and food given by a nautch girl for whom he brings drinks and other requirements when she performs during the night. Does he feel deprived? *"Isme dukh keya hai...nach gana hai...khane ko milta hai,"* he retorts.

Nitu Malik (12), picked up from a brothel and remanded to a rescue home is back on the streets and sleeps with some elderly women in a shanty in the Lake Garden area. She now works as a maid in three houses. Daughter of a prostitute, she was put in a school when her mother was alive. After her mother's death, she was taken care of by a shopkeeper, her mother's customer. But even he abused her and brought her to the brothel at Avinash Kabiraj Road from where the police rescued her.

CHILD

The state government's survey brought to focus lesser known facts of their life and the depressing trends of their behaviour. The survey said that most of the city's street children live in downtown Calcutta including BBD Bag and Sealdah. Each of Calcutta's 141 wards has a population of 500 children. They seek shelter on railway stations, and bus stands, in commercial centres.

Elaborating on the profession of such children, the survey pointed out that a large number of them eke out their living from begging—either individually or with the 'helping hand' of the organised ring of antisocials. But they also survive by polishing shoes, hawking, stealing and even getting involved in the flesh trade, according to the survey.

There are some who pass the whole day on the streets before they return to their parents at night. Another group of children consists of orphans, living on their own. Theirs is a tough and savage life. These children are driven to antisocial activities including petty thefts, smuggling, gambling and drug trafficking.

Near Nimtala ghat in north Calcutta lives Patu, a 14-year-old boy, sheltered by Ravi in a shanty nearby. Patu had come to the burning ghat when he was just five years old. His mother had died the previous night. After his mother's death he had nowhere to go. Ravi, who helps dispose dead bodies, took him under his wing. But the child now smokes hashish expertly and works more than 12 hours, loading and unloading boats during the day and helping in the burning ghat at night. During street brawls, he can be quite fierce, which this writer saw first hand. The state government's survey pointed out that "exposed to vices of adult life, these children are somewhat hostile and withdrawn to outsiders, refusing to trust anyone."



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

The third group includes children who have run away from parents in search of greener pastures in the city. They spend most of their lives working in roadside hotels. They occasionally meet their parents and offer their share of income. Some of these children are employed by shopkeepers but their daily wages are taken away by their parents.

One of the reasons why the state government has taken notice of such children is the rising rate of crimes in which these children get involved. Lalit Maity (12) was arrested from the seedy Watgunge area for snatching a foreigner's wristwatch in the red light area. He was taken to court and on interrogation, the boy admitted "What do I live on when begging does not fetch money? I have to steal. I am not afraid of anyone. Why should I be, when there is no one to care for me?" A professor of applied psychology, perhaps, touched the right chord when he said, "Children who grow up like this are extraordinarily difficult to tackle. They are extremely independent, not amenable to logic or pursuasion. Their mental trends are depressingly suicidal."

Juvenile court sources have said that just a day's hearing reveals a frightening picture of how the children were employed in smuggling iron bars, rice and other commodities. Their parents, when interrogated, revealed that they were fully aware of their children's involvement in such crimes.

The rehabilitation of these children is definitely a hard task. But as half hearted an attempt as in West Bengal is difficult to come by. Mexico with its 12 million street children is experimenting to turn the children into book salesmen. This, the officials feel, will help the children as well as increase the national literacy rate. In Ecuador, the government recently imposed taxes on cheque books issued by banks as well as on lottery tickets to gather funds for children who are yet to benefit from any government initiative. But the state government is yet to come up with any such positive gesture. However, there are a number of voluntary organisations who have now come forward to help the children. A couple of months back, one such voluntary organisation conducted a camp at the Indian Museum for the schooling of rootless children. The noted Indo-Anglian writer, Mulk Raj Anand, also participated in a camp, teaching the children to draw. The Society for Depressed Children held a camp in the Esplanade area and offered medical help to the children. But these are stray attempts to do good to the children whose requirements are greater than those of healthy normal children.

Dr Swapan Kumar Sinha, sociologist and social worker who has been involved in a series of activities for the children, said, "The phenomenon of the pavement dwelling children is so complex and so rooted in the socio-economic fabric that we should adopt a long socio-economic programme." He further said that most of the children, having drifted into senseless self-annihilation, hardly ever develop any community sense. Hence the authorities should launch community-based programmes backed by health check-up programmes.

"The crying need is a congenial atmosphere and healthy homes or correctional institutes, but the state government's homes for orphans are all in a bad shape," admitted a welfare inspector of the state welfare department. His statement is borne out by the number of children who escape from the homes everyday. "A viable alternative is to let them live in open houses built for the purpose and train them in skills in an attempt to make them self-reliant. Their sense of community can be developed as well as their self-esteem and dignity," Dr Sinha said.

While participating in a seminar on the rehabilitation of the street children, the state welfare and jail minister, Mr Biswanath Chowdhury, said the state government was contemplating some schemes, but the real answer to the problem of street children lies also with the voluntary organisations who should organise evening and morning classes. He also suggested running of mobile units for distributing food to the orphans.

But all these appear to be reflections on the spur of the moment. At a time when the United Nations is planning to strengthen the rights of the children following negotiations by the UN Human Rights Commission, these attempts appear to be half-baked. Article 54 of the rights includes, among other things, protection of the children "from dangers to which children are particularly susceptible such as physical and mental abuse, abduction or trafficking and economic and sexual exploitation."

When the world is thinking in terms of these rights, with 58 countries having signed these principles so far, can the state government afford to ignore the problem?■



Aaye mudise mahabat hai...

(Film: Aap Ki Parchhaiyaan
Year: 1964; Music: Khayyam
Singer: Mohammad Rafi)

If you love me indeed, gift me all your sorrows,
Promise me each fear of yours, and gift it to me,
If you love me indeed...

Lata Mangeshkar, who turned 60 last September, was honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award a few days ago. These are just three of her memorable songs from a career that spans an entire generation

When I make your sorrows mine, only then will I rest,
When I bury your pains in my breast, only then will I rest;
Each creation that gives grief, my love, gift it to me,
If you love me indeed...

Why do you not let life pale your sorrows?
Why do you not divide your sorrows and reduce them thus?



SONGS OF THE NIGHTINGALE

Aurat ne janam diya mardon ko...

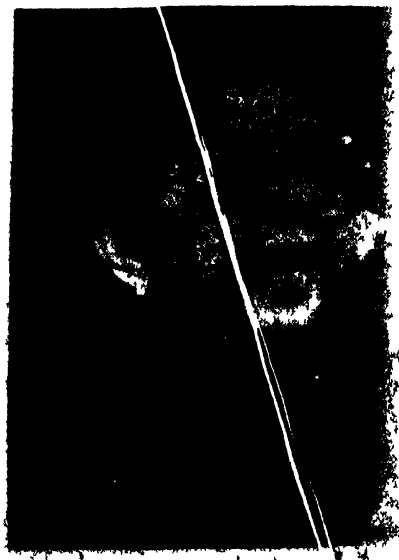
(Film: *Sadhana*; lyric: Sahir Ludhianvi; music: N. Datta)

Woman gave birth to man,
And man gave her the flesh mart;
Whenever he wished, he crushed her,
Whenever he wished, he disgraced her.

Bargained there in dinars,
Sold here in the flesh marts;
Made to dance naked
In the courts of the debauchees,
Woman is the disrespected thing
That is shared by the respected.

For men, every cruelty is lawful,
For woman, it is crime even to cry;
For men, there are adorned beds galore,
For woman, it is only the pyre;
For men, there is a right to every pleasure,
For woman, life itself is a sentence.

These lips that gave them love,
These lips they bargained in;
The womb that shaped their bodies,
That womb they sold for lucre;
The body from which they sprouted,
That body they disgraced.



Angelo Vaisse

Unko yeh shikayat hai...

(Film: *Adalat*; lyric: Rajinder Krishen; music: Madan Mohan)

He has the plaint that
I speak not a word;
It's just a habit of mine that
I speak not a word.

To speak there is aplenty,
If it comes to speaking out;
But thanks to the kind world
I speak not a word...

If someone speaks up,
The world raises a storm;
And, see, now there is tumult because
I speak not a word...

Translated by Anil Grover

VOICE

Invertebrate Knights

Male chivalry, with which one generally associates distressed damsels and medieval knights, is, sadly enough, a relic of the past. With the advent of the 21st century, those values seem poised for a volte face, with one of its best illustrations being provided by our very own city, especially during the rush hours.

When the buses are packed to capacity, three-wheeled autorickshaws do brisk business, shuttling between strategic points in the city. Previously, people who queued up for the autos permitted the women to sit at the back, while two men perched on either side of the driver. This became quite a convention, so much so that the seats at the back were synonymed "Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswati" in commuter jargon, as opposed to the "Kartik, Ganesh" seats in front.



In time, however, a change crept in. Probably irked by the concept of "women's lib" or envious of the progress made by female homo sapiens, men are sacrificing their chivalrous facade for a resolute if rather cringing kind of determination "to take the back seat," at least in autorickshaws. It would have been quite in keeping with the changing times had they done so without any accompanying feeling of guilt; women, after all, do not really harbour grudges against men. But invariably, the men who dart into the back seats of autos, despite there being ladies, often elderly ones, travelling with them, do so furtively, looking away, or muttering something about "being ill" to nobody in particular. Faced with such stoic vengeance, the women, of course, have no option but to share the driver's seat, which they do with commendable aplomb. It now remains to be seen how much longer it takes for a woman auto driver to come along and take these men really for a ride!

Keep It Up, AIR!

All India Radio is going great guns. After successful experiments with science enthusiasts and estranged married couples, it is all set for a date with addicts, every Sunday morning in 15 languages. And, on March 29, the Pune station broadcast an hourlong programme on women in distress. The women were given a hearing by counsellors who suggested solutions and remedies for their problems. Let's hope AIR regularises such broadcasts and includes other stations as well, since this would reach a far greater cross-section of the people than could otherwise be tackled.

Killer Instinct

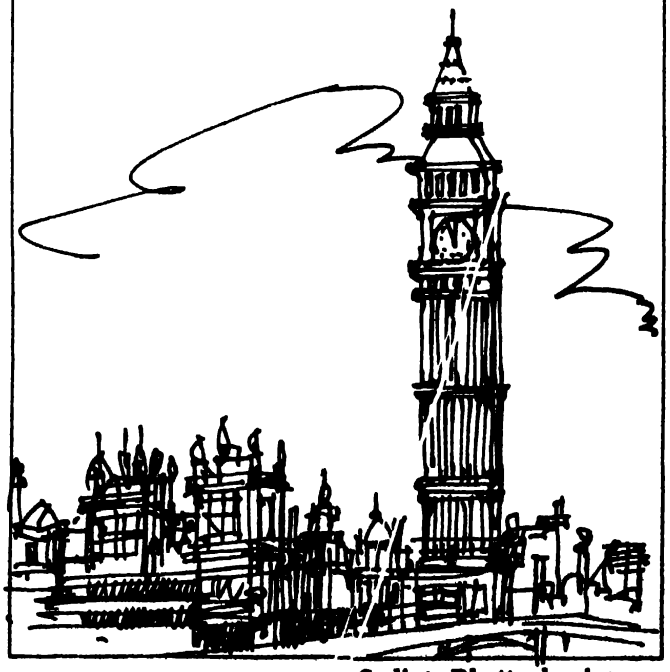
Last week, two mothers in the city murdered five children between them. This is a pointer to the grim reality where women are forced to discard their basic instincts of tenderness and compassion and take up arms against their nearest kin. These are not stray instances; women all over the world are taking to violence, be it in Kashmir, where a woman recently gunned down a militant, or in Sri Lanka where an entire 'tigress' force is stalking Jaffna with cyanide capsules tied to their necks. Or, in the West, where women of the US Army rode tanks and fired rifles recently in Panama, while Israel's women force is one of the deadliest to reckon with.

It is not always poverty and depression that provoke women to kill—either themselves or others—in such a coldblooded manner. A deep-rooted anguish, a searing resentment against society and its standards and judgments are often behind anomalous behaviour. And it is time that society came to terms with pardoning and helping aberrated cases before the gentler sex adopts the killer instinct, and the softer shades of life are banished altogether.

Trend-setter

Ms Shreela Flather, a 56-year-old Indian woman, has been chosen by the British Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, as one of the eight new members of the House of Lords. She will be the first Asian woman to sit in the unelected Upper Chamber of the British parliament.

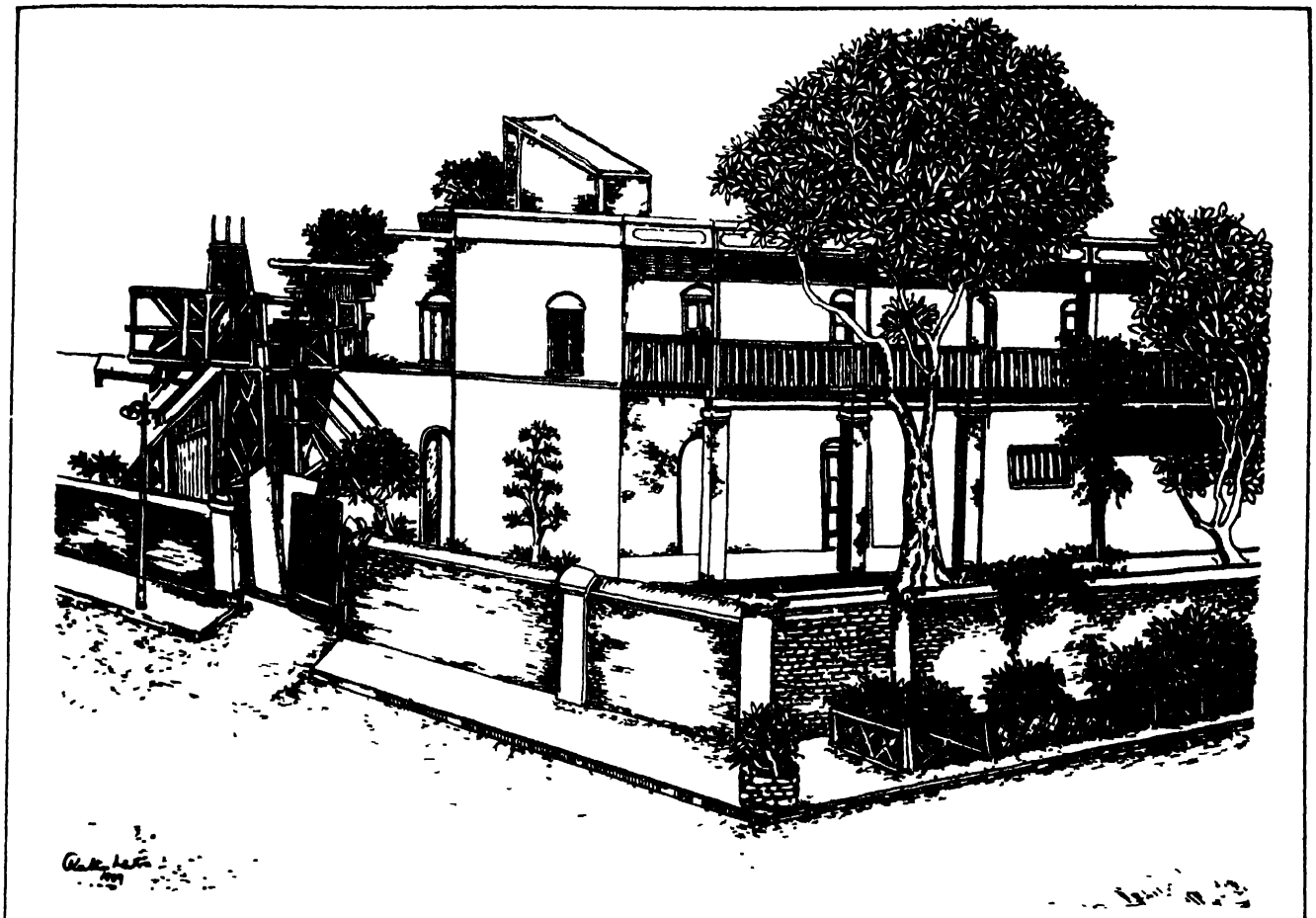
Ms Flather has an impressive record as Britain's first Asian woman mayor of Windsor, the first non-White woman magistrate and the first ethnic minority woman member of a local council in Britain. Perhaps there will be others following in her footsteps shortly, and gladden more Indian hearts!



Sudipta Bhattacharjee



AKSHAYKUMAR DATTA (1820-1886)



An eminent Bengali essayist and author of a number of textbooks, Akshaykumar Datta (born July 15, 1820 in village Chupi, Burdwan) began his literary career as a poet and later distinguished himself as a powerful prose writer and columnist in Iswarchandra Gupta's *Sambad Prabhakar*. Soon he became the member of Tattvabodhini Sabha, an association for the propagation of Brahmo ideas. He began teaching at the association school and wrote two textbooks, *Bhugol* (geography) and *Padartha Vidya* (physics).

In 1843 Datta became the editor of the literary journal, *Tattvabodhini*, published under Debendranath Tagore's supervision. Commenting on the magazine, Haraprasad Shastri wrote that "it was the missionary of European culture and Akshaykumar Datta was the first writer to introduce Western outlook and mentality among the Bengali youths". Datta's essays were later included in *Charupath* (published during 1853-59) where he created a flexible medium of expression of scientific thought and concepts. A man of rational temper, he rejected popular Hinduism and embraced Brahmoism as propounded by Rammohun Roy. But his rational approach soon created a bitterness among his colleagues, particularly with Debendranath. He persuaded Tagore to reject the doctrine of the infallibility of the Vedas and was actively associated with the 19th century reform movements. Later in his life he turned into an agnostic.

Datta's rational temper finds strong manifestation in *Bahya Bastur Sahit Manab Maner Sambandha Bichar* (1851-52), inspired by George Comb's *The Constitution of Man*. He tried to establish a relationship between the religious and moral laws and human nature on one hand and the physical laws of the universe on the other. His other publications include *Dharma Niti* (1856), *Dharmonnati Samsadhan Prastab*, and *Bharatvarsiya Upasak Sampraday* (in two volumes). His greatest achievement was the creation of a language for scientific discourse in Bengali and a style marked by clarity and precision. He died on May 18, 1886.

The house sketched above shows his residence in Bally in Howrah district.



"When and where did China test the hydrogen bomb?" asks Ajit Sinha, Dhanbad.

June 17, 1967. Word from Peking: "China successfully exploded her first hydrogen bomb over the western region yesterday." The blast over Lop Nor in Sinkiang Province proved a remarkable accomplishment for a country which had just joined the nuclear family 32 months before. The test sent political shock waves throughout the world. Indeed, Peking left no doubt that its new weapon was designed to strengthen its political leverage in global affairs. "China's hydrogen test," Peking went on, "will give very great support to the people of Vietnam, fighting against the US, and the Arab people, who are resisting the Israeli agressors." Still, Western leaders pointed out, China's new bomb was not as threatening as it might seem, for the time being at least, because Peking lacked a modern delivery system. People in nearby Japan, no strangers to the horrors of atomic warfare, complained about the danger of fallout from the atmospheric blast. But nuclear watchers assured them that China, instead of launching the bomb from a rocket and detonating it high in the air, probably had dropped the 2-7 megaton monster from an airplane, carefully setting it for detonation low over the Sinkiang desert and thereby foreshortening the fallout hoop.

After the dust had settled, one stark fact remained: Now there were four. The US, the USSR, Great Britain, and China had the H-bomb. Even more remarkable was the fact that China, while caught up in the chaos of the Cultural Revolution, still had managed to go from A-bomb to H-bomb in less than three years—an achievement which had taken the US seven years and the Soviets four years, and which still eluded the French.

I. Hussain, Telco, Jamshedpur reports—

"The 4th Tata Steel Inter Institution Quiz was held at Patna. 67 teams appeared for the preliminary round, out of which six teams made it to the finals. Patna Science College bagged the first prize. The second prize was shared by Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Jamshedpur and St Michael's Patna. Incidentally these were the only schools to participate in the competition. Both scored, leaving behind hot favourites like B.I.T. Mesra and St Xaviers' Ranchi."

Two quizzes. The first from Burdwan—

"Bandhumahal," a cultural organisation of Burdwan town, hosted an all-Bengal cultural function featuring various competitions, a quiz being part of it. Altogether thirteen teams competed, half of them from Burdwan University. Two school boys—Sheikh Abdur Rab and Murari Mohan Rakshit—teamed up to clinch the title comfortably edging out a fighting Burdwan University team in the final."

Here's a letter from Iain Vass, Ex-British Deputy High Commission, now retired:

"I always enjoy your quiz on a Sunday and never miss it. In the quiz of February 25, Dada Thakur's three intricacies of the English language made me think of English words containing the letters, 'ough', of which I can think of six different pronunciations which may interest your readers, if they do not already know of them.

"These are: bough, cough, dough, rough, through, wrought. According to Chambers Etymological Dictionary they are phonetically pronounced:—bow, kof, do, ruf, throo, and rot. George Bernard Shaw also wrote that the English word 'fish' should be spelt 'ghoti', using the 'gh' as in 'rough', the 'o' as in 'women', and the 'ti' as in 'position'."

Several readers have rightly pointed out that Ludwig Zamenhof, the man who invented Esperanto, was Polish and not Russian. But then the Russians claim to have invented nearly everything!

Mohan Kumar Agarwal, Bargarh, writes referring to question no. 2 (on February 25) *Bansi Birju* was not the first film in which Amitabh and Jaya appeared together. They acted together for the first time in the film *Ek Najar*. Obviously, *Bansi Birju* was released after *Ek Najar*.

CBS

11th Question: **What is the colour of the Monalisa's eyebrows? (Sandeep Bhattacharyya, G-4 Shakaripukur Housing Estate, Burdwan 713 103)**
Ans: **The Monalisa doesn't have eyebrows because at that time it was the fashion for women, specially of the nobility, to shave off their eyebrows.**

QUESTIONS

1. Mao Ze Dong wrote the Red Book. Who wrote the Green Book? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Bhubaneswar 4)
2. What is gallomania? (Sanjay Dayal, Ranchi 2)
3. What was 'Operation Cactus'? (K. Srinivas Acharya, Calcutta 56)
4. What is limnology? (Ehteshem Anjum, Calcutta 16)
5. Whose autobiography is *Black Beach and Honeydew*? (Manoj Kr Singh, Ranchi 4)
6. Which batsman has scored 99 runs on the most occasions in Test cricket? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)
7. Who directed the English version of the 'Nav Ketan' film, *Guide*, starring Dev Anand and Waheeda Rahman? (Mohan Kr Agrawal, Bargarh 28)



8. What did the ancient Greeks describe as "the harmony of Zeus"? (Ashok Shaw and Nandita Ghosh, Calcutta 27)
9. What is *Biosphere II*? (Shailesh Kr Singh, Bhilai Sindri)
10. Ostriches frequently associate with two kinds of animals to form mixed herds. Which two? (Tanmoy Dutta, Calcutta 6)

ANSWERS

THE GOOD BAD M



Sanjay Sayani

Standing with a painting of Raka in *Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behati Hai*: Perhaps his most memorable role

Pran. For 50 years now, he has been leering at the heroines, sneering at the heroes, torching entire villages and taking on the whole police force. But once his make-up is removed, there could not be a gentler person around. PRABHAT KUMAR on why Pran is Pran

One late evening in Lahore in 1939. A well-dressed personable young man stands with his friends at his favourite *paan* shop having an after-dinner *paan* when a total stranger interrupts the conversation and asks the young man if he is interested in acting in films. If so, he should present himself at the Pancholi Studios the next day at 10 am and meet the boss, Dalsukh Pancholi.

The young man is definitely interested but who is the stranger? "My name is Walli," says the stranger, naming one of the biggest directors in Lahore in the pre-Partition days. "After a few drinks every person imagines himself to be a Walli" (which is Urdu for enlightened man), mutters the youth almost to himself and the stranger walks off, probably without hearing the last bit. The next day, in the harsh light of the morning sun, the entire incident seems improbable and the product of some stranger's over-fertile imagination. The youth does not go.

A couple of days later, while catching up with a matinee show at a local theatre (the Plaza), the young man once again meets the stranger who had claimed to be Walli Saheb. The stranger is incensed, Mr D.S. Pancholi and he had waited at the studio for an entire day. The young man is contrite and says that he would be interested if the offer is still open. It is. This time, however, Walli Saheb is taking no chances and a car is sent to pick up the young man. By the evening of the next day the young man is playing the villain's role in Pancholi Studios' Punjabi film, *Yamala Jat*, and yet another star is born—a star who is destined to hold sway over his audience for the next 50 years and more.

Pran Krishan Sikand—for that was the name of the young man—was the son of a noted government and civil contractor, Lala Kewal Krishan Sikand, who would have definitely objected to his son's choice of career, but he never did find out till the film was released a good four months later and became a terrific hit. After that it was too late and he chose not to interfere. Pran's accidental entry into films is typical of the pre-Partition era. It was a time when actors were considered to be untouchable and though there were quite a few well known actors from decent, well-to-do families it was not exactly the profession parents planned for their children.

However, Pran's career as an actor almost came to a standstill even before it had begun. Though a Punjabi he had spent his formative years in Delhi (where he was born on February 12, 1920) and Uttar Pradesh, where his father generally took up contracts, and hence could not speak proper Punjabi. He was about to be thrown out of films when Walli Saheb's brother Nazim Panipati, took up the responsibility of polishing up his accent. Had it not been for this intervention Pran would have eventually gravitated towards the profession he was toying with at the moment: photography. And the man who was destined to face the camera would

have remained behind it all his life

After *Yamala Jat,* Pran did a few more Punjabi films (*Chaudhury* being one of them) as well as a walk-on role in the Hindi film, *Khazanchi,* which starred S D Narang (later to become a filmmaker) and Ramola and was destined to become a runaway hit But all this was mere preparation for Pancholi had bigger things in mind for the young man In 1942, Pran was signed to play the hero opposite Noor Jehan for a film titled *Khandaan* Both were making their Hindi film debuts but had acted with each other in *Chaudhary* and once before when Noor Jehan had played the heroine's sister in *Yamala Jat*

After that there was no looking back for Pran and he went to play significant roles in as many as 22 films up to 1947 when Partition rudely interrupted his career as it did the lives of so many other people.

Pran, however, was luckier than most people because he came out of the holocaust unscathed It was the August of 1947 and Pran received a letter from his wife who was then in Indore, that he should join her there to celebrate the first birthday of their son. Thinking it would be a mere weekend trip, Pran packed a couple of bush-shirts and came over for the birthday on August 11—the day the massacre started in Lahore. Three days later, Pran with his wife and one-year-old son landed in Bombay facing unemployment and an uncertain future

Matters in Bombay were much worse than Pran had imagined A number of Hindu actors from Lahore had gone there in search of work When Pran first came to Bombay he had booked a room at the Taj Mahal Hotel but the next three months saw him move from the Taj to smaller, cheaper hotels. Pran had all but given up hope when fate intervened again and the Urdu writer, Saadat Hasan Monto, and the late actor, Shyam, managed to get him the villain's role in the Dev Anand-Kamini Kaushal starrer, *Ziddi,* directed by Shaheed La'eef. The total salary that he was to receive for the role was Rs 500 of which

In his first film, *Yamala Jat*: A villain is born



THE EVIL EY

AT no period in the history of Hindi cinema were the demarcations between the various character types as rigorously drawn as they were in the fifties and sixties. Actors in pre-Partition India played all kinds of roles, alternating between leading man, villain and character role without any bother of audience acceptance. This situation was further aided by the very structure of the film industry which comprised regular registered film companies which had stock artistes on their muster from which they drew when they were casting for films. Salaried actors were, therefore, required to play whatever role they were cast in and the audience, too, did not hold a particular role against the actor concerned.

Pran was probably the first actor, therefore, who specialised in the villain's role right from the late forties into the fifties and sixties before he made the changeover, which too was destined to be emulated by his successors. To a certain extent Prem Chopra, too, became typified as the villain—an image which he has not been able to change in spite of several forays into character roles. Probably Pran crystallised into the permanent villain because he was too good at playing the role—but largely because it would have been impossible for him to change his colours midstream given the climate of the film trade.

When Pran made the changeover in the sixties he had already made two attempts to play straight roles earlier, but somehow the climate was just right at that moment. Newer screen villains were being thrown up (Prem Chopra was already established and Shatrughan Sinha was still at the Film Institute of Pune). Pran's changeover also facilitated the changeover for the other villains who were to come. Vinod Khanna, after a brief spell of villainy, made the changeover while Shatrughan Sinha took a little longer.

A fact which very few people know is that Amitabh Bachchan, that megastar of the eighties, also played villain in two early films: *Parwana* (Navin Nischol played the lead) and *Gehri Chaal* (Jeetendra played the lead). Interestingly enough even Dharmendra has played a strangely negative character in a film such as *Aayee Milan Ki Bela* (with Rajendra Kumar playing the lead).

The seventies were dominated by Shatrughan Sinha and later by Shakti Kapoor, but there was really no one who could claim Pran's mantle. Shatrughan Sinha eventually made the switchover, but Shakti Kapoor remained in the rut. Another villain thrown up by the seventies was Danny Denzongpa, but he too switched over

DOWN THE YEARS



Amrish Puri: Holding sway

to strong character roles. The major disappointment of the seventies was undoubtedly Amjad Khan who had mesmerised an entire nation with his very first film, *Sholay*. After that one brilliant performance he never really got going.

At the beginning of the eighties the field was very much open and it (villainy) could become anyone's preserve. Once again, the contenders were there., Stage actor-turned-dialogue writer-turned-actor Kader Khan was first beginning to show his mettle. Shakti Kapoor and Gulshan Grover were well entrenched. For a brief period it seemed that Kulbhushan Kharbanda (*Shaan*) would walk away with the honours, but he, too, was more keen on variety than becoming kingpin in villainy. For another brief period it looked as if Anupam Kher (*Karma*) would do the trick, but he too decided in favour of variety. Just as it seemed that things would get hopeless arrived Amrish Puri and the topsyturvey of filmdom seemed to right itself. He went on to play one hateful character after another, capping it all by playing the main villain in the George Lucas-produced, Steven Spielberg-directed *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*.

Today, Amrish Puri is well entrenched as the villain in all the top-class films with Kader Khan coming second. Kader Khan is good at playing the villainous common man—the small time crook, the bribe-taker and bribe-giver—but when it comes to large-scale villainy there is no holding back Amrish Puri.

Shakti Kapoor is all set to make the switchover to leading roles. He has played a few sympathetic roles and now has a leading role coming up. Gulshan Grover has proved to be good, but he is still away from the big league.

Pran demanded Rs 100 as advance—an amount he blew up in one night when he took his wife for dinner to the Ambassador.

It cannot be said with any degree of accuracy as to which film established Pran as an actor to reckon with because soon after he signed *Ziddi* he was flushed with roles. The very next day Wallı Mohammed Wallı (Wallı Saheb of Lahore who had spotted him) signed him for *Grahasti* and Prabhat signed him for *Apradhi*. But it is generally agreed that it was D.D. Kashyap's *Badi Bahen* (1949) which established him for all time to come. Immortality, of course, was to come much later. Between 1949, the year which solidly established him as the villain to watch out for, till 1967, when he made a successful image-change Pran played innumerable villains—so many, in fact, that he and his admirers have lost count of them.

Given the matrix of Hindi mainstream cinema Pran could not really escape the sameness that crept into his roles. He tried to vary his characterisations. The mid-sixties saw him bring a touch of comedy to his villainy and the vogue of the comic villain (which is today being carried on by Kader Khan and Shakti Kapoor) came into being.

The change was first introduced in the Shammi Kapoor-Sharmila Tagore starrer, *Kashmir Ki Kali* (1964) and carried over to *Khandaan* (1965), *Shaheed* (1965), *Dil Diya Dard Liya* (1966)—though the last film had him playing a straight villain. It was also at this time that Pran started laying an emphasis on make up to support his characterisation—a trait which was carried over into his character actor days.

Real life was always the base for his make up. In *Khandaan* his make up was derived from Hitler while for *Jugnu* he took inspiration from Sheikh Mujibur Rehman. He also introduced a series of mannerisms, varying them carefully from film to film. He would either blow smoke rings or hold the cigarette in a particular way or be the perpetual drunkard. Each of these mannerisms and get-ups made his roles interesting for the audience who would have otherwise got fed up with the repeated all-black characterisations.



In *Jangal Mein Mangal*: Guess who?

The fifties were the golden era for Hindi films and the roles that he got had enough variation to keep him playing his parts without a murmur. But in the late fifties and early sixties when monotony crept in, his artistic temperament rebelled and he



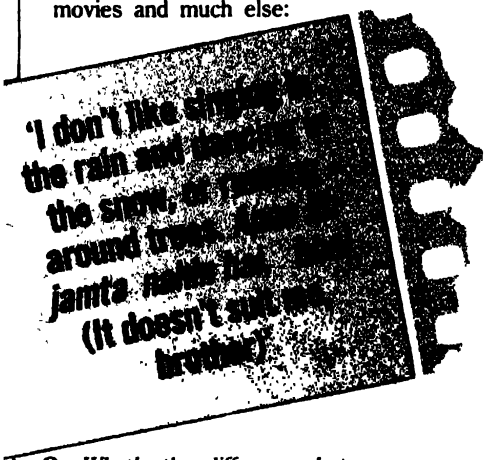
A painting of Pran and his wife

Today many of the youngsters believe that Pran's first straight role was Manoj Kumar's *Upkaar* in which he played Malang Chacha. This is really not so. Apart from the few leading roles that he played in his Lahore days he has done at least two straight roles in Bombay: the hero's role opposite Shyama in H.S. Kwatra's comedy *Pilpili Saheb* (1954) and the smaller husband's role in Raj Kapoor's *Aah* (1953)—a role which had been earmarked for Motilal who could not adjust his dates. Both roles were noticed but there was no

'I TREAT MY WORK LIKE A PRAYER AND THE STUDIO AS A TEMPLE'

Pran Sikand is just 50, that is, he's completed 50 years in films. Add 18 to that and you get his age. Villain, hero, villain, character actor, comedian, character actor, villain, that's the flip flop of his five-decade career in celluloid, and even today Pran commands and gets the respect he deserves in an industry known for worshipping rising suns and tearing apart those on the wane.

Articulate and direct, Pran thinks a bird in hand is worth two in the bush. Here he talks about life, villainy, movies and much else:



Q: *What's the difference between a villain's and a negative role?*

A: Well, in Hindi films, the villain is supposed to be bad, but I don't think all my roles have been bad, even when I was playing the villain. Take Raka in *Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behati Hai.* He torched villages and shot people, but lay down his weapons for the girl he loved and lost. I would term him as one of the greatest lovers in the world, not a baddie.

Q: *How important are mannerisms to a negative character? Do they matter to the audience?*

A: Sometimes a great deal, sometimes not at all. See, when a film flops, only lakhs see it, when it becomes a hit, crores do. We don't make films for personal satisfaction, but for audience appreciation. Coming to the point of mannerisms, well, take the example of Raka again. He keeps on running his forefinger across his tight collar. This to me signifies that he feels like a condemned man, one who either expects to be hanged or have his throat slit, but that's a nuance very few people would understand.

Q: *How important are other gimmicks like make-up, get-up, voice modulation, etc?*

A: Very important, because merely by changing my costume, or wearing a red beard and wig, I wouldn't have been very impressive as a Pathan in *Zanjeer.* So I changed my voice, too, to sound like a real Pathan. There have been occasions when I have had to do as many as 18 retakes to get the pronunciation of a word right.

Q: *But you seem to have a fascination for various get-ups.*

A: It adds variety to an otherwise dull character. It gives the role life, and when you are doing something different, you enjoy it. It maybe just prickly hair and blue contacts in *Ram Aur Shyam,* or a flowing beard in *Krodhi,* or maybe even 'drag' in *Jangal Mein Mangal.*

Q: *And these paintings that you have all over your house?*

A: A passion of mine. I guess the painter has done full justice to me and my various get-ups. I have about 70 paintings in different get-ups, and hope to complete 100 soon. Then perhaps I'll have an exhibition of these.

Q: *Why this element of farce in comedy?*

A: I was fed up of straight-laced villainy, so from *Kashmir Ki Kali* onwards I introduced comedy in villainy, something that every new villain these days follows.

Q: *But despite the change, why didn't you ever try and be a chic chocolate hero?*

A: I am not cut out for it. I don't like singing in the rain and dancing in the snow, or running around trees. *Apne ko jamta nahin hai, bhai*(It doesn't suit me, brother).

Q: *Then why the switch to character roles?*

A: I guess boredom of the same routine again and again. I think my first tryst with character acting came with Manoj Kumar's *Shaheed;* I was a baddie coming good in the end. People liked me. And then came *Upkar.* My Malang Chacha role was the catalyst.

Q: *With so much of mythology in the air, which character from Indian mythology impresses you the most?*

A: Ravana, from Ramayana. Perhaps

Holding no terror for children in real l



follow-up and Pran was destined to remain the villain. Even the story behind the change-of-image in the mid-sixties is an interesting one.

Pran first worked with Manoj Kumar in *Do Badan*. One day Sitaram Sharma, who was then making *Shaheed* asked Pran if he would play a small role of a dacoit in his film. Pran turned down the offer because his fee was meagre but Manoj Kumar persuaded him to accept. The small sympathetic role changed Pran's life. This time the role was not only noticed, but raved about by his fans and industry folk. The follow-up came when Manoj, not forgetting the favour, offered the Malang Chacha role in *Upkaar*—a film which not only dented Pran's villain's image but also gave Manoj his Bharat image. After that there was no looking back for both of them.

For some time Pran alternated between the villain's role and the golden-hearted toughie who is on the side of the hero till he bade goodbye to the bad man with *Roop Tera Mastana* (1972). This phase too saw a series of distinguished performances like *Zanjeer, Majboor, Kasauti, Victoria 203, Beimaan, Dus Numbari, Kaalia, Don* before he slowly started reducing his assignments, but not before the 'bad man' in him played one final homage to the villain's role that had made him famous. Once again, he played the bad man in *Andhaa Kanoon* (1983) and *Dunia* (1984).

Pran has definitely not retired today—as he has often said: "My ambition is to die with my make-up on—for, at 70, he is as agile as ever, but doesn't see the need to act in every role that comes his way. On the contrary, he would like to pick and choose and take the role that gives full play to his startling ability which is yet to be fully tapped for what has been seen and utilised is a mere tip of the iceberg.

In an industry fraught with politics, back-biting Pran has always been praised for his gentlemanly behaviour. Way back in 1955 when he was offered a role in *Aan Baan* which was to have been played by veteran character actor Sajjan he took the trouble of ringing up Sajjan before accepting it. Incidents like these have won for him the sobriquet of the 'Gentleman villain' and a reputation of absolute straightforwardness.

Even in his heyday, Pran was a man of varied interests. Even while he fully concentrated on his roles he found the time to organise charity shows, cricket matches, relief morchas so as to collect funds for various charities. An ardent footballer, he even had his own football team (named 'Dynamos' after the famous Russian team), six of whose members had represented Maharashtra, including one who had played for India in the Olympics. He also learnt fencing for two years, practicing daily with a noted fight master. His collection of pipes was considered to be the best till he distributed them all.

Today, Pran should be a satisfied man and though no one has named his child after him (just as they wouldn't after Ravana) his name has been on the lips of every film fan for almost half a century and his place in Hindi cinema is guaranteed. He has acted in over 350 films and been honoured with as many as 70 awards. But the most important award that he has got is the lasting affection of his fans and the enduring acclaim of the critics. ■

there is hardly anyone as powerful as him, for he could have done what he wanted to with Sita, but he didn't. And when he came to know about Ram's promise of a 14 year *banvaas*, he kept Sita in Ashok Vatika, rather than in his palace at Lanka. Can you show me another character who can match up to him?

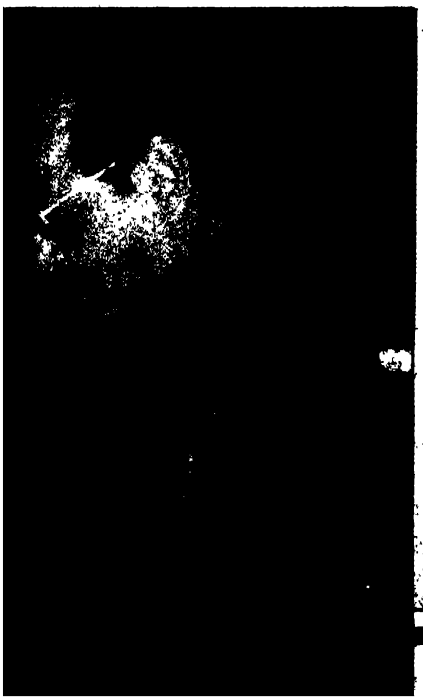
Q: *Coming back to villain roles, once again one noticed the switch from goody-goody to baddie-baddie. Why?*

A: I was too good (pun intended), and being good all the while for someone who has played the villain most of his life, I guess there was no option for me but to turn a bad leaf again, which I did.

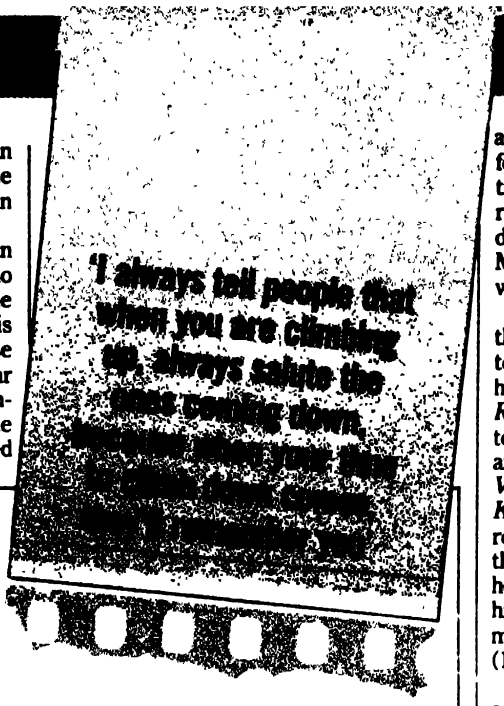
Q: *Do you subconsciously ape any actor?*

A: No, but I ape what I have seen and absorbed, like the role of Kaiku, that I played in *Heer Ranjha*. He was lame, and I mimicked the walk of a man I had seen in the streets of Lahore ages ago, limping on a stick not crutches.

Q: *All these years in films, and no gossip about you?*



Gopal Dabnath



A: Could be two reasons. One, that I am a good family man, who likes his wife and kids. Another could be that I am a much better actor in real life (guffaws)! Well, the real reason is that I treat my work like a prayer, and the studio as a temple, and for a love affair to start, it takes two to tango, and Pran doesn't dance to that tune.

Q: *You have flirted with politics.*

A: I think I have spoken out for the people. During the Emergency, I felt excesses were committed, so I canvassed for Ram Jethmalani, and openly supported the Janata Government. But these days I feel all politicians are just there for themselves, not for the country. What we really need is benevolent dictatorship.

Q: *What have 50 years in film industry given you?*

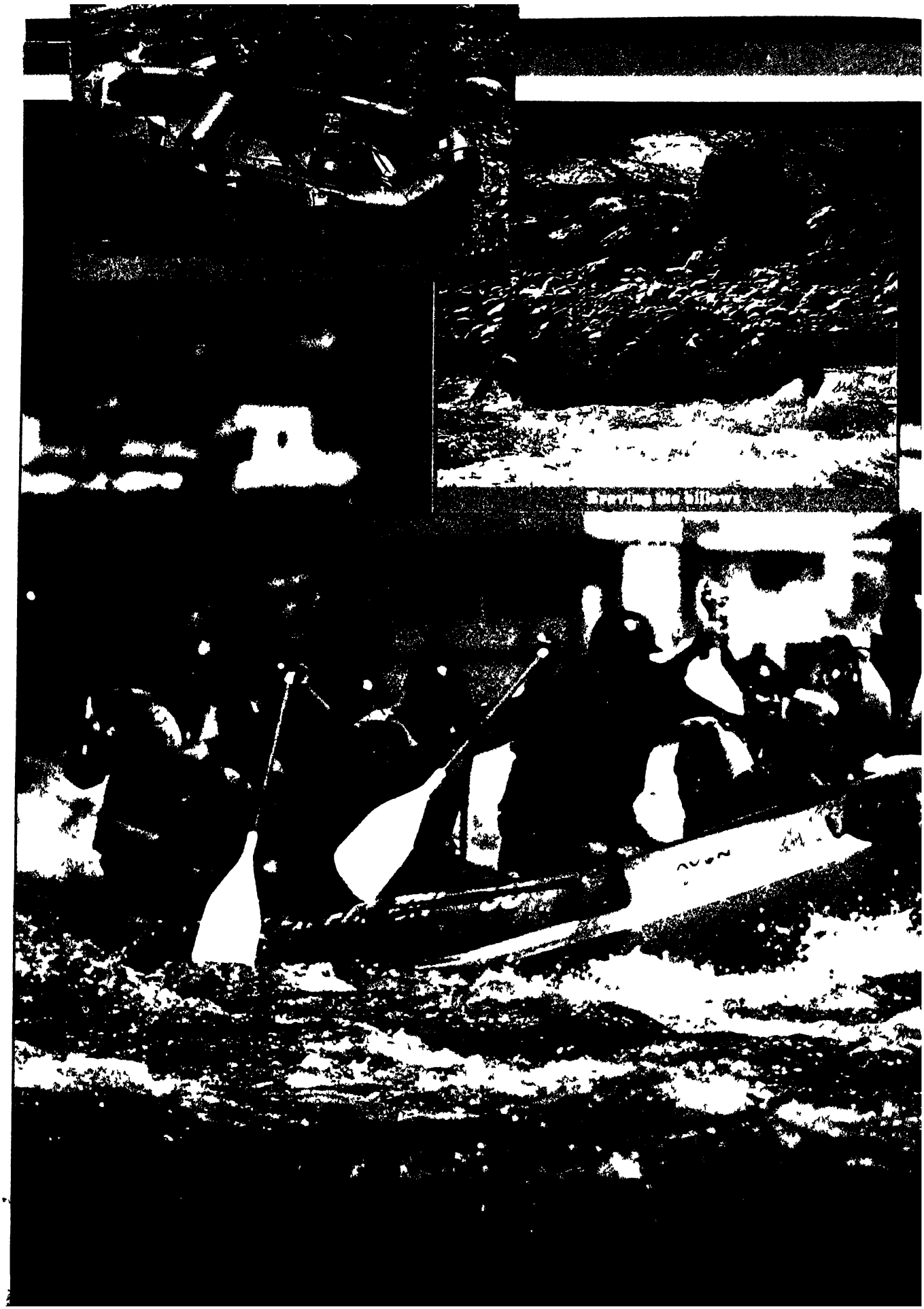
A: I remember a *sher... Khuda taufik deta hain jinhe woh yeh samajhte hai/ Ke khud apne hi haathon se bana karti hain taqdeeren* (Those who have been gifted greatness by the Lord think/ That they have attained good fortune through their own merit).

I am what I am because of the industry, I owe it a lot, and I feel grateful to all my fans who have accepted me, and my colleagues who have helped me reach this stage. That is why I always tell people that when you are climbing up, always salute the ones coming down, because when your time to climb down comes, they'll remember you.

Q: *One last question: if given a chance to be reborn what would you like to be?*

A: Be Pran all over again, and live life exactly the way I have done in this birth...

Interviewed by Sanjay Sayani



Adding colour to a routine life



Armymen have proved their mettle again The 9th Infantry Division of the Indian army recently undertook a rafting expedition on the River Alakananda

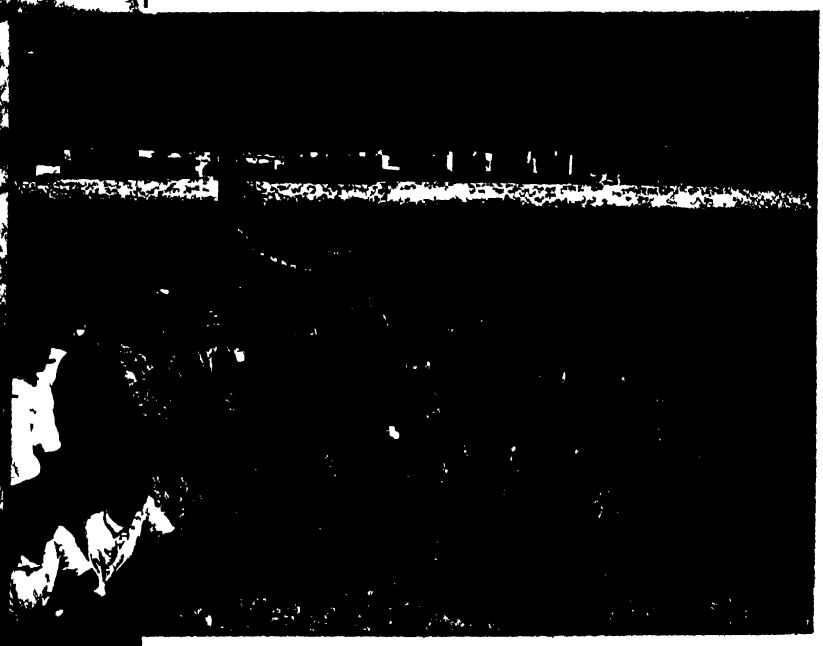
Alakananda, a tributary of the River Ganga, has its source at Badrinath and flows along Joshimath, Karnaprayag, Rudraprayag, Devaprayag and Rishikesh The rafting team of 35 men, led by Captain Navneet Mittal, covered a distance of 135 kms in five days

Christened as the Pine River Rafting Expedition, the cruise covered 25 to 30 kms down the river each day. Starting off from Rudraprayag, the two rafts sliced through the choppy, fast-flowing river during the day and halted for the night at river-side camps At Rishikesh, the finishing spot, large crowds thronged the river banks to give the men a rousing welcome

Though the stretch from Rudraprayag to Rishikesh had been covered earlier by some other teams, this was the first expedition led by the Indian army ■



Rowed out and resting



All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Agneepath:** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141)—4 shows

Directed by Mukul S Anand, the film stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty along with Madhavi Neelam, Danny Gogo Kapoor Archana Puran Singh, Aloknath Rohini Hattangady, Asha Sachdev and Tinnu Anand The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442)—4 shows

A film by Harmesh Malhotra, starring Jeetendra Rekha, Rishi Kapoor Raj Babbar Poonam Dhillon and Neelam The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Azaad Desh Ke Gulam.** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 250437) Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 551133) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464440)—4 shows, Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road, 363264)—3 shows

Rekha Rishi Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, Pran and Prem Chopra are the major attractions of this film directed by S A. Chandrashekhar The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Bahurani:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138)—4 shows

Directed by Manick Chatterjee the film stars Rekha along with Rakesh Roshan, Deven Verma Aruna Irani and Utpal Dutt The music is by Rajesh Roshan

• **Kishen Kanhaiya:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808)—4 shows

A film by Rakesh Roshan, starring Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Shilpa Shirodkar, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri The music is by Rajesh Roshan.

• **Kroadh:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849)—11 30, 2 30, 5 30, 8 30

Directed by Shashilal Nair and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Sunjay Dutt, Sunny Deol, Amrita Singh, Sonam and Anupam Kher

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)—10 45, 2 15, 5 30, 9, Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows, Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956)—3 shows

Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree are the lead pair in this biggest hit of recent times which is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya The music is by Raam Laxman



Sunny Deol in *Kroadh*



Deepika in *Ekhane Aamaar Swarga*

Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—3 shows

A film by Tarun Majumdar, starring Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Sanghamitra Banerjee, Indrani Dutta, Biplab Chatterjee and Anup Kumar The music is by R D Burman.

• **Andha Bichar:** Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108)

Mithun Chakraborty, Mandakini, Tanuja, Deepa Sahi, Biplab Chatterjee and Sadashiv Amrapurkar star in this Shakti Samanta film whose music is by R D Burman.

• **Ekhane Aamaar Swarga:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 474686)—1, 4, 7

Tapas Paul, Deepika, Sumitra Mukherjee, Ruma Guhathakurta and Soumitra Chatterjee are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Jahar Biswas and has music by R D Burman

• **Rakta Reen (A):** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080), Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567), Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 271282)—3 shows

Directed by Sushil Mukherjee and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the film stars Victor Banerjee, Meghna Srivastav, Utpal Dutt, Abhijit Sen, Anup Kumar, Tarun Kumar Biplab Chatterjee and Satabdi Roy.

Special Events

15-20 April

E.R.A. will hold an exhibition of paintings in the South Gallery.

16 April onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Goutha Pakhira in the New Gallery.

18 April onwards

Spachuia will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the West Gallery.

19 April onwards

Painters Orchestra will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

• Shekhar Paul and others will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

17 April: 6.30 pm

Metro Railway Women's Organisation presents a Bharata Natyam duet by Uma Venkitt and Kalamandalam Venkitt.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

18 and 19 April: 6.30 pm

Anamika Kala Sngam presents the political comedy play, *Ek Sansadhya Samuti Ki Uthak Barthak*, directed by Ranjeet Kapoor of Kadam theatre group, Delhi.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

20 April: 7 pm

Lavanya presents Priti and Sruti in classical Manipuri dance compositions by Guru Bipin Singh and also in their latest choreography, *Preyoshi* (The Beloved), based on Manipuri dance technique.



Priti and Sruti

At Ghanshyam Das Birla Sabhagar (29, Ashutosh Choudhury Avenue; 478717).

21 April: 6 pm

A Bharata Natyam duet by Uma Venkitt and Kalamandalam Venkitt.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

21 April: 6 pm

Anubhav presents a solo mime by Krishna Dutt, a Kathak dance



Kalamandalam and Uma Venkitt

recital by Soma Dutt Chowdhury and songs by Haimanti Sukla.

At Sisir Mancha (AJC Bose Road).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640. Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (5): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1800, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7). IC-176 at 0845, Arr. (daily). IC-274 at 1830, Arr (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7) IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily). IC-265 at 1640; Arr (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266966, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600 Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100

Trains

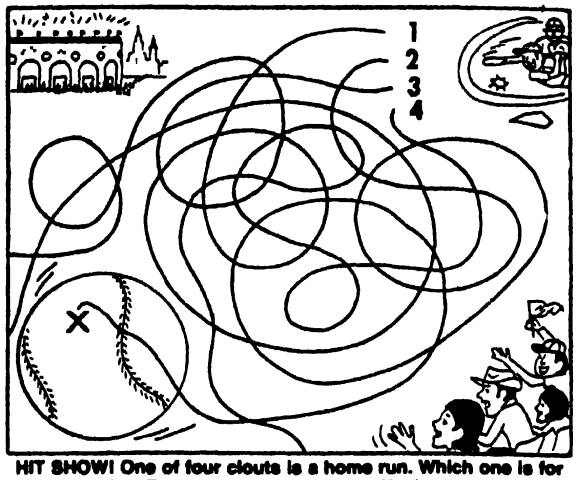
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep —Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri —Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep —Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp. Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues, Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	21-00	Madras Mail	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	Ahmedabad Express	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	Coromandel (Madras) Express	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	Ispat Express	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	Sambalpur Express	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for incoming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



HIT SHOW! One of four clouts is a home run. Which one is for you to decide. Trace path of ball to point X, shown.

• POINTS SOUTH! Which is the southernmost city in the 50 U.S states. Key West, Fla , Brownsville, Texas, San Diego, Calif , Hilo, Hawaii?

Hilo Hawaii is southernmost

1ANT_ _ _ _ _
2_ANT_ _ _ _
3_ _ANT_ _ _
4_ _ _ANT_ _
5_ _ _ _ANT_
6_ _ _ _ _ANT

ANT WORDS TO PONDER

"Go to the ant, thou sluggard," is proverbial advice, and to solve this poser you must do just that. Simply supply missing letters to complete the ANT words above. Definitions.

1. Gazelle, chamois, gnu, for instance.
2. Spanish woman's headscarf.
3. Another name for Boston.
4. Legendary sunken continent.
5. Agreement covering product sale.
6. Ring-necked game bird.

Check answers below

1 Antelope 2 Mantilla 3 Beantown 4 Atlantis 5 Warranty 6 Pheasant

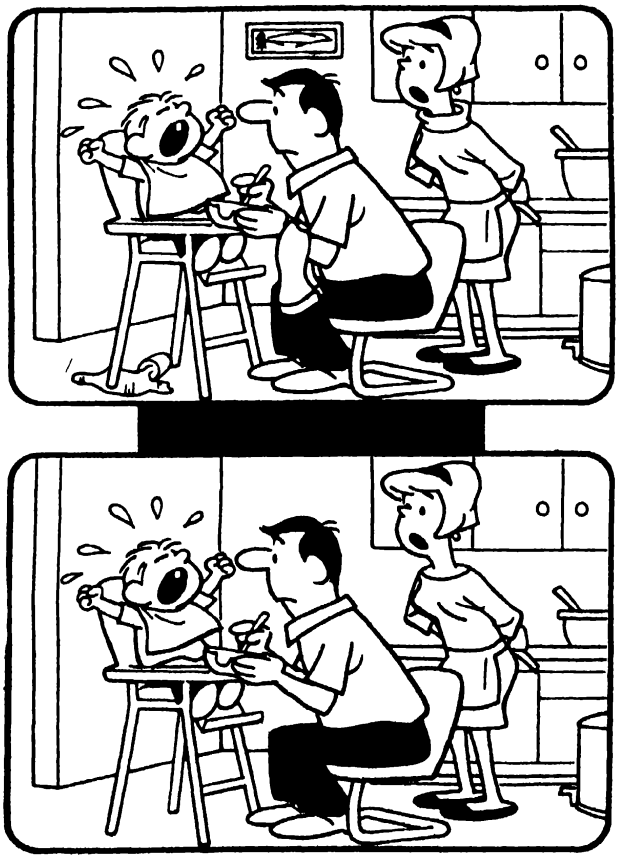
•MIND SET! Close your eyes. Picture in your mind a set of four horizontal lines an inch apart, one directly under the other. Now, imagine four vertical lines, also an inch apart, each intersecting all four of the horizontal lines.

Question: How many complete squares are formed by these eight lines?



Fourteen squares—nine small, one large and four others

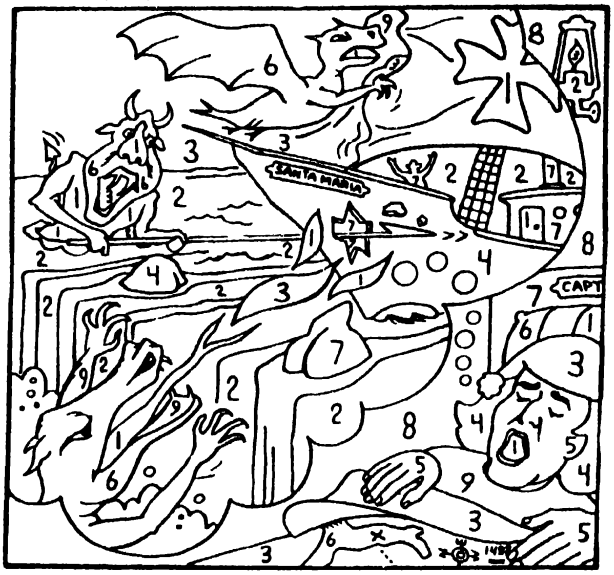
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Picture is missing 2. Bib is smaller 3 Spotted dress is missing 4 Towel is missing 5 Neckline is different 6 Bowl is smaller

FUNSPOT



SCARE WAVES! Columbus' dream, above, would send a lesser man back home. Colors: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Purple. 9—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

INERTIAL

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Nail, tire

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Partnerships, loans, funds, trips and change in the nature and scope of your work are the week's main trends. The health of parents and in-laws may cause concern In romance, you emerge outright winners Legal issues dominate Pressures to perform at various levels could tell on your health unless you learn to relax

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

The week signifies emphasis on job, profession, collaboration and religious rites for the living as well as the dead Secret love, expenses, letters and calls constitute romantic activities A deal can be struck and you will be offered a job. Safeguard your health A trip at short notice is fated Pilgrimage and long-distance connections also lie in store

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

You will have the last laugh Friends, lovers and the boss help you Children bring joy Your love will be reciprocated New attachments will be passionate Deals, contracts and assignments boost your ego and income Health will remain more or less steady You may have to travel for an important get-together or meeting

CANCER

June 21—July 20

You will be working with full steam on the home as well as work fronts Expect tugs and tensions, but you will get your work done Romance will be excellent in bits and pieces, you will be eloquent but complain frequently By dint of hard work and determination you will create the right openings in finance Expect happy results the next month A home away from home requires active preparation

LEO

July 21—August 21

Publicity and sales campaigns, journeys, collaborations, ceremonies, functions, deeds, documents, contracts, job-hop and romance constitute the week You will love royalty and the response will be wonderful As far as finance goes, you will steal a march over your rivals, but the going will not be easy. Move fast to augment your income and status.



VIRGO

August 22-Sept 22

Buying, selling, investing and probably a meeting or get-together are the salient features of the week Emotions will be stirred Romantic affairs are a certainty, as you will yearn to share and serve Gains and perks are probable Chronic health problems and imaginary fears may complicate matters A trip is definitely on the cards Home and kids promise a happy, creative phase

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

You will be building on previous efforts and consolidating resources Severing of personal relationships is possible Career advancement may require an investment in a car or other personal transport Businessmen may require to cut the running operational cost This may cause employees' tempers to flare up For many it is crucial to summon enough willpower to shed those extra kilos

BIRTHDAYS

April 15

A lucky birthyear. You will come out in flying colours in all enterprises. Marriage/engagement for the eligible and fancy free. Visitors will drop in. Pleasure trips are in the offing. Look after your health and that of your family. Make hay while the sun shines.

April 16

Moon opposition Jupiter: Success and popularity for Arians. Help and guidance will be readily available. Also, disputes can be resolved now.

April 17

Moon conjunction Saturn: While you will have to struggle against odds, success is almost assured. Muster all your grit and imagination. Expect a mixture of joy and sorrow from children and love life.

April 18

Mercury opposition Pluto: Expenses will bore holes into your pocket. These could be related to travel and property. Beware of selling is a salient feature of this birthyear A change in the nature and scope of your work is envisaged.

April 19

Moon square Mercury: Hoteliers, chefs, food and beverage specialists, restaurateurs and housewives will be in their element A shift or job transfer is likely. Ceremonies and publicity will be familiar experiences for some Parents and elders will have much to do with you.

April 20

Moon conjunction Mars: A sudden good fortune and romance, new contacts, business ventures, social ties, personal powers and relationships are signified. A journey is listed.

April 21

Moon conjunction Venus: In your entertainment efforts, you will triumph. You win laurels in social affairs. Hobbies will delight you. Those in teaching the arts will find the job satisfying. Some travel is indicated and this experience will give you an edge over other competitors.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Action and implementation, and expenses mount in connection with new acquisitions on the home or business fronts Time will prove the value of these new purchases The work front will be dominated by new initiatives. Your patience will be tried and perhaps your authority challenged You experience new levels of closeness with the love of your life

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

Reviews, revisions, entertainment, expenses, meetings and calls are well signified Meetings with government officials are likely Romance promises a smooth sailing Do not feel shy to initiate Wedding/engagements or the graduation from studies may dig deeply into your treasury Some expenses will be made in trying to undo sloppy previous work in dismissing an employee

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Reaching out to people and places, expansions, upward mobility and inter-personal hassles will keep you busy New ideas about investment prove lucrative and safe On the career front, developments start unfolding, taking you up the ladder Rivals/enemies will glare jealously, but don't show off Hassles will be there but comparatively less

AQUARIUS

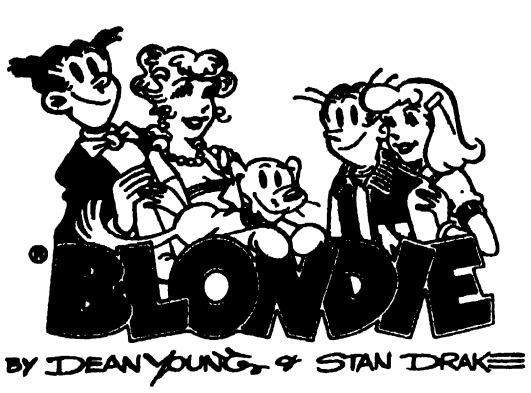
Jan 20—Feb 18

Investments and contacts lead to pleasure and profit Trips and ties pay positive results Romance will be hot, hectic and hurried Be it job, business or profession, your ratings and influence will shoot up Journeys will help you to catch up with your objectives and targets Expenses will be heavy Separations are probable The next 40 days are ideal for home and children

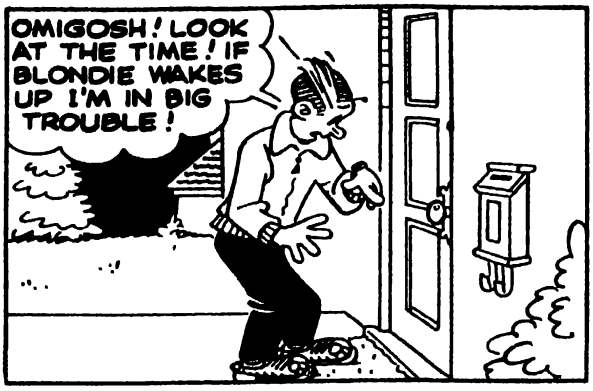
PISCES

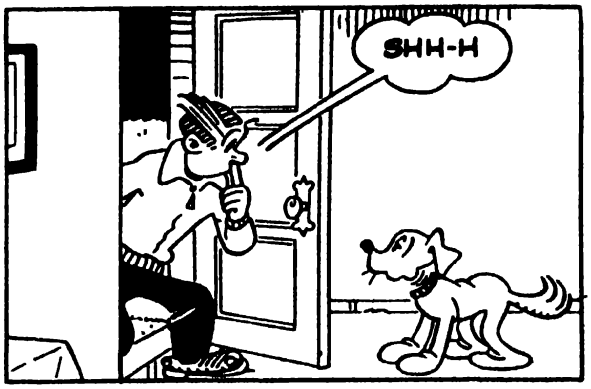
Feb 19—March 20

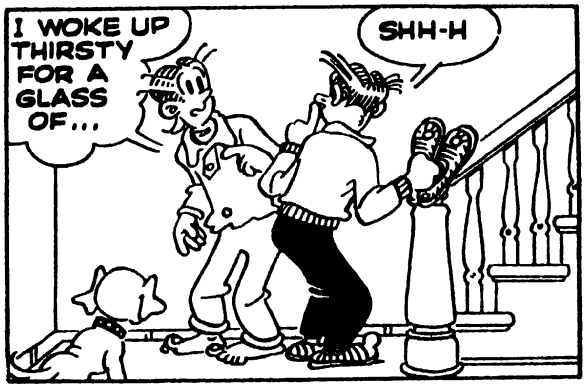
Those in finance, hire, purchase, lease, loans, banking service, arts and entertainment do wonderfully well Health of elders may cause anxiety You will fuse passion and humour very subtly and sweetly. However, cancellations of rendezvous appointments may be anticipated.


BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG & STAN DRAKE

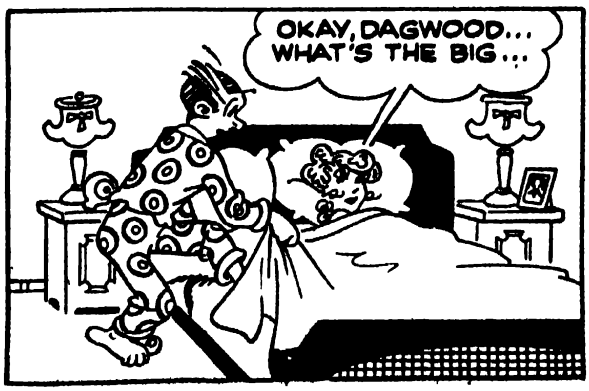

THOSE GUYS WOULD'VE PLAYED POKER ALL NIGHT IF WE HADN'T LEFT
I KNOW IT

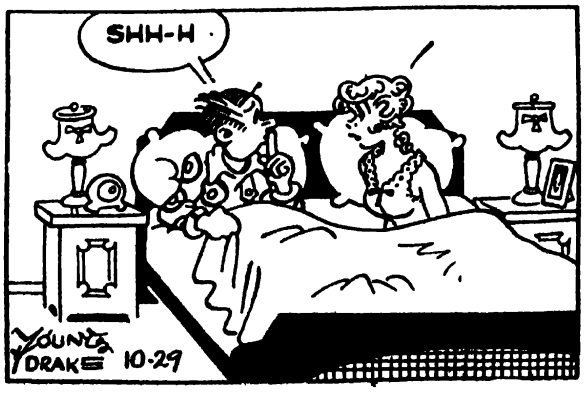

OMIGOSH! LOOK AT THE TIME! IF BLONDIE WAKES UP I'M IN BIG TROUBLE!

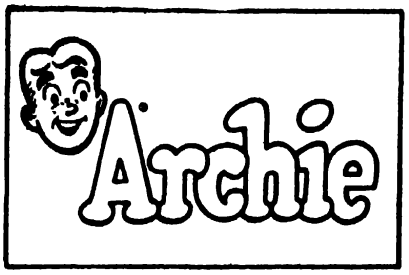

SHH-H

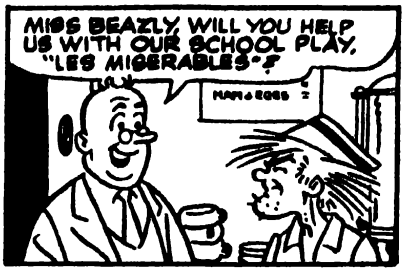

I WOKE UP THIRSTY FOR A GLASS OF...
SHH-H


I THOUGHT I HEARD A...
SHH-H

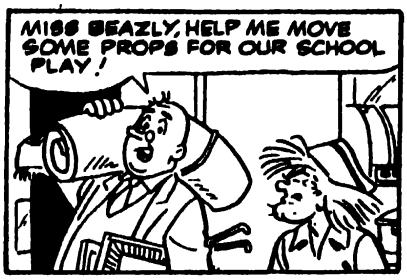

OKAY, DAGWOOD... WHAT'S THE BIG...


SHH-H
YOUNG & DRAKE 10-29

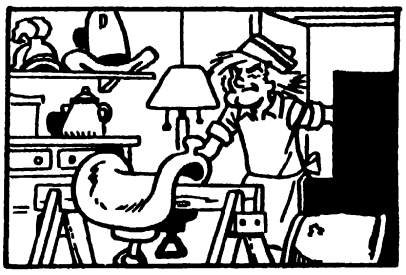

Archie


MISS BEAZLY, WILL YOU HELP US WITH OUR SCHOOL PLAY, "LES MISERABLES"?

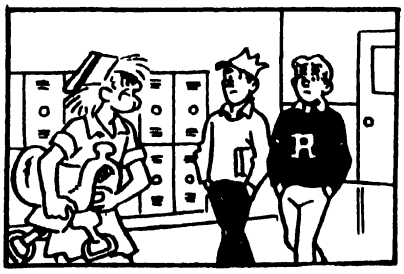

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? HIGH SCHOOL KIDS?


MISS BEAZLY, HELP ME MOVE SOME PROPS FOR OUR SCHOOL PLAY!

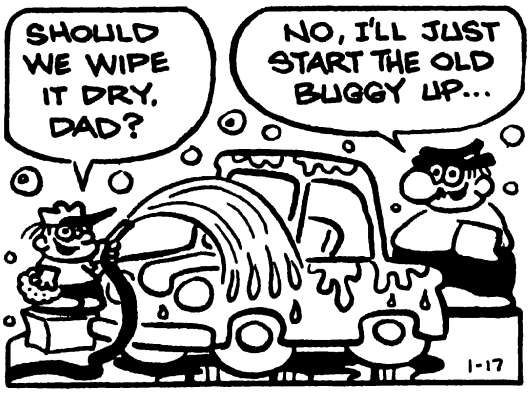

WHY NOT, FATTY? WHAT ELSE DO I HAVE TO DO?

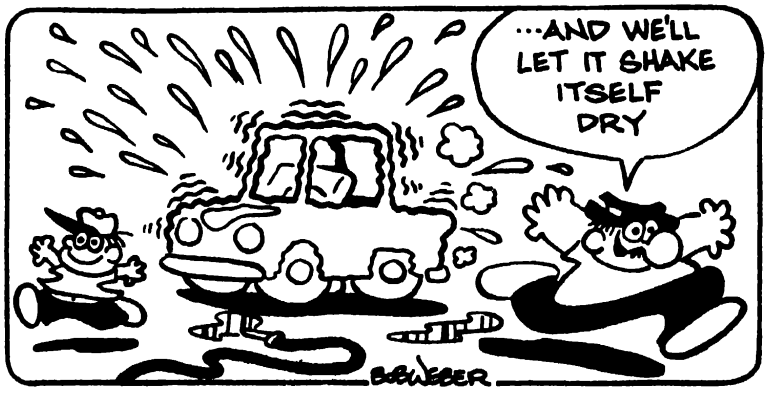



BACK STAGE
N-26




I THINK I'LL AVOID THE MEAT PIE SPECIAL!


SHOULD WE WIPE IT DRY, DAD?
NO, I'LL JUST START THE OLD BUGGY UP...
1-17


...AND WE'LL LET IT SHAKE ITSELF DRY
BOBWEBER

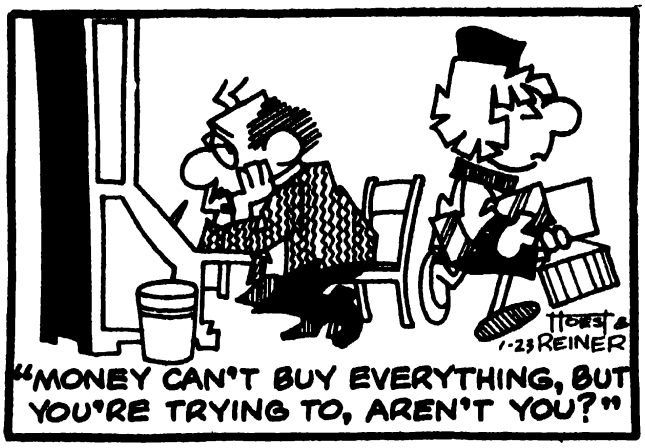

MOOSE, I SAW YOU SPEAKING WITH OUR NEW MINISTER AFTER CHURCH LAST SUNDAY
I HAVE NOTHING BUT PRAISE FOR THE MAN
1-18
BOBWEBER


YES, I NOTICED THAT WHEN THEY PASSED THE COLLECTION PLATE

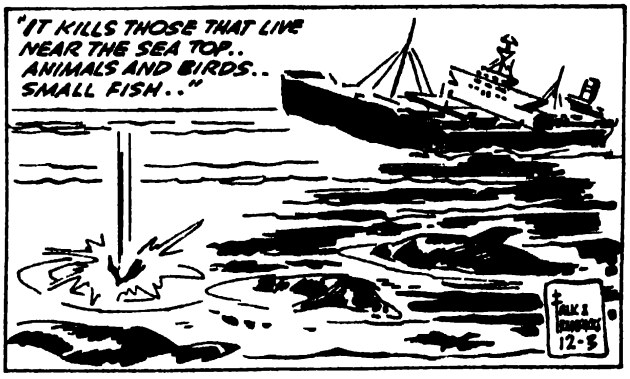

HOEST & REINER 1-19
"YOU KEEP FLITTING AROUND... DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO DO?"


HOEST & REINER
1-20
"OF COURSE I'M DRUNK... THAT'S THE WHOLE IDEA!"


1-22
HOEST & REINER
"HOW ABOUT SOME CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM?"


HOEST & REINER 1-23
"MONEY CAN'T BUY EVERYTHING, BUT YOU'RE TRYING TO, AREN'T YOU?"


THE BLACK STUFF THAT KILLS IS CALLED OIL .. FROM TANKER SPILLS..
IT KILLS ALL IN THE SEA WHERE IT GOES...


"IT KILLS THOSE THAT LIVE NEAR THE SEA TOP.. ANIMALS AND BIRDS.. SMALL FISH.."
12-5


STOP THIS BLACK EVIL YOU CALL OIL FROM COMING INTO OUR SEA-WORLD...


IF YOU FAIL.. WE WILL DESTROY ALL LAND CREATURES LIKE YOU THAT COME TO OUR SEA-WORLD.
!!
CONT'D


YOU'LL BE AMAZED AT THIS TRICK. TAKE THE ACE OF CLUBS.
NOW GIVE IT BACK TO ME
AND HEY, PRESTO! THERE IT IS!
I'M STUNNED DENNIS. YOU USE MIRRORS, PERHAPS? MAGNETS? MARKED CARDS?
NOT ANOTHER TRICK, DENNIS.
THIS ONE'S A BELTER!
NAME ANY TWO CARDS!
FIVE OF SPADES, TEN OF DIAMONDS.
NOW I MUST CONCENTRATE. YOUR TWO CARDS WERE THE FIVE OF SPADES AND THE...THE NINE OF... NO I CAN'T REMEMBER.
I'LL HAVE TO POLISH THAT ONE UP A BIT.
ONE DAY I'M GOING TO BE A PROFESSIONAL MAGICIAN.
OH, YES?
SNURF
IMAGINE GETTING PAID FOR SAWING WOMEN'S LEGS OFF!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAW THEM IN HALF, DENNIS.
WHAT?
YOU'D NEVER GET THE SAW THROUGH THEIR HEADS
I'VE GOT A NEW TRICK FOR YOU.
HOW MANY FINGERS AM I SHOWING?
TWO.
EXACTLY! HOW ABOUT THAT THEN?
I ALSO TRUST YOU NOTICED MY EYES WERE COVERED?
NOW THIS TRICK INVOLVES A HANKIE, A WATCH, A...
DENNIS!
I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH YOUR TRICKS! IF YOU MUST DO ONE, MAKE IT THE VANISHING TRICK!
RIGHT. THE VANISHING TRICK INVOLVES A HANKIE, A WATCH, A...

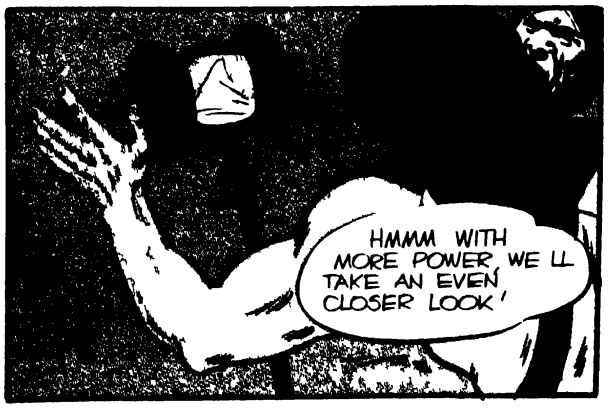
The previous six episodes appeared in yesterday's edition of The Telegraph's Saturday Special

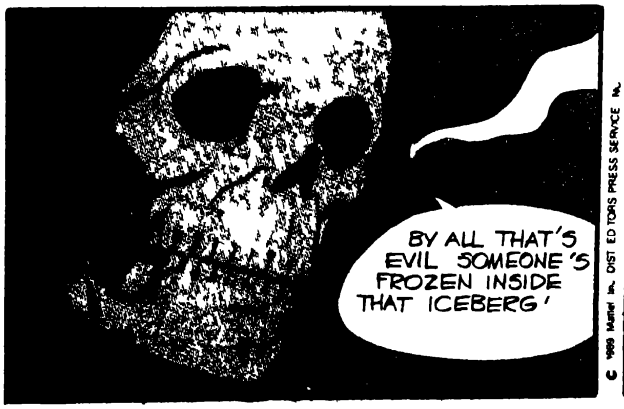












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"There is disarmament everywhere except in West Asia," volleyed PLO chairman **Yasser Arafat** in Calcutta after he met the apostle of peace, **Mother Teresa.** And, having had his say, he was off like a shot. Photograph by ALOKE MITRA



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that's a situation none of us would like to get into But then, one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of.

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Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Rs	Rs
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250	17,600	—
350	25,500	—
600*	37,750	5,250
840*	52,750	7,400
1300*	82,500	11,500

Age limit. 5-70 years. * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium.

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Hot Stuff

Congratulations to the Colour Magazine for the superb issue, 'Our Pamella' (April 1). It has become an integral part of our lives. Now I can't spend a single Sunday without the magazine.

I have only one suggestion for the maker of the film. No doubt Asha is good, but the gorgeous Kitu Gidwani, who did a dazzling role in Christian Lara's *Black*, would have suited the role of Pamella perfectly. How about giving us a still of Kitu from *Black*, anyway?

Debasis Maitra,
Calcutta

■ You must have received scores of letters complaining about the photographs of Asha. But I congratulate you for determining, without hypocrisy, the precise nature of the Colour Magazine. You have at least informed the readers of your editorial policy: spike the good and play up the trash.

Gaurab Banerjee,
Calcutta

■ I am sorry to see that the Colour Magazine is fast losing its distinction from streetside pornography. It is also painful to see your indifference to adverse criticism about the obscene pictures published regularly.

'Our Pamella' was the last straw and I have finally decided to stop subscribing to the paper. This is sad because we enjoyed reading the magazine since its inception.

In any case, why should an international prostitute like Pamella Bordes get such undue publicity? Even Asha says, "I don't think she has done anything great for people to talk and write about her so much."

Dr (Mrs) D. Bhattacharyya,
Calcutta

■ I was shocked to see the filthy pictures of Asha on the cover. Even the photographs published inside were below the rank of what appears in *Debonair* and *Playboy*.

It is equally disheartening to note that the Colour Magazine sold at a premium of Rs 5 in the market.

A.V.S. Subhramanyeswarudu,
Calcutta

■ I can't figure out why such a depraving article and photographs were published as a cover story. They were so obscene that it was hard to believe that they appeared in THE TELEGRAPH.

Bradshaw,
Malda (W.B.)

■ Everyone in our family was upset about the nude pictures of Asha. Yes, we can do with some hot stuff, but of some standard.

Joydeep Mitra,
Calcutta

New Recipe

Pop music may appear to some as hot and Western ('The Sound of Sirens', February 4). It may not be acceptable to many, but it is the sign of the times.

Indian pop singers are real assets to the country. It is not fair to compare them to Lata Mangeshkar or Bhimsen Joshi. The fear that pop music may make us forget the Latas and Ashas is baseless. Lata and Asha will always remain supreme until someone better than them in their style of music comes along.

The world is coming closer every moment, thanks to television, computer, fax, and so on. To discard any new recipe just because it is Western and not Oriental is not wise.

Sarit Datta,
Calcutta



Parvati Khan: Music, anybody?

■ I am sure that you will carry a cover story on 'Women of the 90s' at the end of 1999. I am no less sure that Parvati Khan will feature as one of them

Sudip Basu,
Chandannagore (W.B.)

■ Indian pop owes its success to feminine glamour and showbiz only. The total absence of a male star proves this point

I feel sorry for Gary Lawyer and Parvez Qadir and peeved with the Sharons and Alishas. Don't the males have genuine talent? Or do they lack something that the females can flaunt?

Manish Lalwani,
Calcutta

Inimitable Laxman

'Laxman's Calcutta' (February 11) was a pleasure to go through. R. K. Laxman is an inimitable cartoonist who has illustrated the social, political and cultural activities of this city perfectly.

Saifee Kohrawala,
Calcutta

■ I cannot afford to pay Rs 400 for Laxman's book so I was delighted to get a glimpse of it through the Colour Magazine. Laxman is my favourite cartoonist.

I was, however, disappointed to find sketches of Calcutta's processions and great sports lovers missing.

Syed Lutfullah,
Birbhum (W.B.)

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The Telegraph
22 APRIL 1990

6 A brave new world of computer entrepreneurs is coming to the forefront. What makes these whizkids bleep?

4 The All India Tennis Association is ranged against Vijay Amritraj—and the whole episode stinks.



Kushal Ray

16 A photofeature on Annapurna Puja, held in the city last fortnight

SECTIONS

10 Science
11 Heritage
12 Inner Eye
14 Panorama
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Quiz
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover Anup Ray and Subin Das

Rakesh Saha



IS THE COURTSHIP OVER?

The man in whose shadow Indian tennis stands today, is now *persona non grata* Vijay Amritraj—more a personality than a player, an institution than a man—stands censured, reprimanded and suspended by the All India Tennis Association (AITA)

For the two years since Vijay last played for the country, India have been scratching at the very bottom of Davis Cup competition Rubbing shoulders with Czechoslovakia and Italy, brushing aside the challenge of Pat Cash's Australia in their backyards, in the mid eighties, India now languish among the lesser lights of the zonal group—the step-daughter edition of the Davis Cup And the day India won something in these less-hallowed quarters, without an Amritraj or a Krishnan, it was occasion enough to deride the man whose contribution to the country transcended merely that of tennis

The decision to showcause and then suspend Vijay was taken a day before India's tie against Japan in Chandigarh Its announcement was timed to coincide with an anticipated Indian victory The mood was haughtier than the AITA statement Association president Natwar Singh boasted his magnanimity "There was a feeling in the executive committee (of the AITA) that Vijay be suspended forthwith I prevailed on them to give him a chance to explain, a showcause letter before suspending him " The reason a seven-point statement of charges against Vijay for his "actions and pronouncements" over the last 18 months

There was a second—minor in comparison—announcement made the same day

that must not be seen in isolation of the Vijay suspension. AITA secretary-general R.K. Khanna said that the association would institute criminal and civil proceedings against former secretary P.L. Reddy and his treasurer, Anil Jauhar, for "misappropriating" AITA funds. Reddy was a Vijay man.

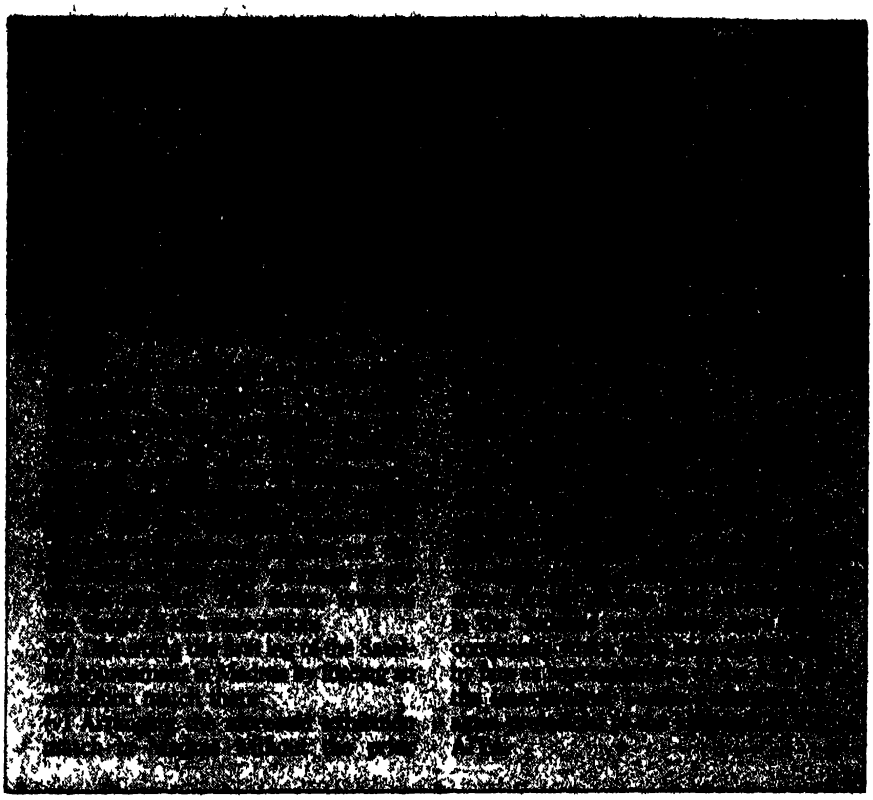
This is the most sordid chapter yet in the Khanna versus Vijay trash thriller. Dispossessed after a long stint at the then AILTA helm, Khanna regained the whip in 1988 and was itching to crack it, albeit on a horse who only sparingly returns to the fray. From beyond touch, Khanna saw Vijay's transformation. Through films and business, dining with the high and mighty and hobnobbing with the glitterati, Vijay went streets ahead. Khanna returned. Vijay took time off to prick the secretary a bit. Clothed in the lowering-the-prestige-of-the-country jargon and tucked away as an insignificant third point in the statement of charges *(see box)* is the backdrop to this scene: Vijay's endorsing former Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) chief Jim MacManus' charge of financial irregularities against Khanna.

For his part, Vijay did needle Khanna at every opportunity. Even on his stop-and-go visits to hometown Madras, he would have another ungenerous word on Khanna diligently lapped up by newsmen. It had to be coming, though few could visualise the farcical extent it has now been dragged to. Vijay read of the AITA action in the papers and immediately called PTI from his Los Angeles home to say he would "rather not deal with people of such low calibre who have managed to once again lower our international image which I have tried so hard to maintain at the highest level...it does not warrant further comment from me".

What has been made the front on the Vijay issue is his setting conditions for being available for the Davis Cup; and his withdrawing against South Korea last year on medical grounds while being fit to play elsewhere around the same time. Vijay is no fool to believe his pre-requisites *(see box)* would be met in toto. He always called them points for discussion.

Khanna saw them as the conditions they actually were and the AITA decided that apart from letting Vijay be the captain, the others could not be granted. The matter of Vijay's and brother Anand's dues from the AITA is *sub judice*. On the financial terms, Khanna maintained even in Chandigarh that there was no written agreement and therefore "same terms as before" was vague.

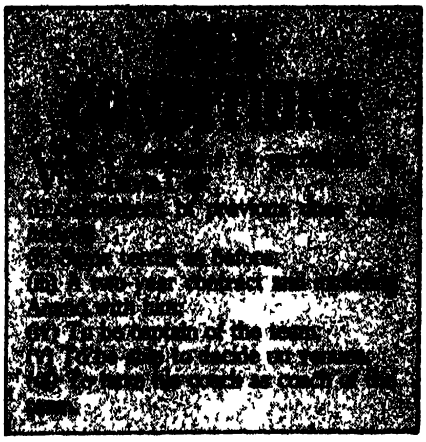
At 37, Vijay is no longer an active player and as president of the now-powerful ATP he is more into jetting around to 'run' the game. He, therefore, asked for only or two things beyond a player's purview so that he could quit the scene. His being unavailable for the Davis Cup seemed to have closed the issue.



Between the other frivolous and untenable charges, the AITA suspension is pegged on Vijay's organising an exhibition match in Madras recently without the approval of the association. It is an offence as laid down by the AITA constitution, but the point lost to the AITA was that it was a benefit arranged to raise Rs 2 lakhs for former Davis Cupper Premjit Lall who needs more support like this to get out of the crippling injury following an accident in 1988. Here the AITA has been totally oblivious to the Supreme Court observation last year in the cricketers' case when the cricket board quickly met the players on their ground and backtracked from an intransigent stand.

The action does not hit Vijay. He does not play competitive tennis anymore. Yet, it rankles. Natwar Singh attempted to lend credence to the action by saying the AITA had sought opinion from a "former Davis Cup captain who does not play anymore". But just one little incident helps sum up the AITA mood and motive.

On the train from Chandigarh to Delhi the morning after the showcause announcement, an elderly tennis official read the text of the AITA statement in the papers and congratulated Khanna for it. Khanna made the gentleman leave his seat and escorted him to Natwar Singh some rows ahead with the air of a job well done. It didn't seem half as painful as Natwar Singh had tried to portray the previous evening. ■



Vijay: In a tangle?



WHIZKIDS

Innovative Indian computer professionals are at the very top of the software boom, report **Pathik Guha** and **Saritha Rai**

The business is not more than 15 years old in India. Yet it has struck its roots deep in the commercial world, with even fledgling entrepreneurs talking smoothly in Lotus, Worldstar, Instaplan, dBASE, Dataflex, Informix, its otherwise incomprehensible jargon. These conglomerations of letters that were so far ignored by the compilers of English dictionaries will soon be an integral part of their most ordinary editions. The Software business, now booming all over the world, is here to stay.

A software is a code, message or an instructional programme designed to get specific jobs done by a computer. Designing a software on a computer disc is analogous to engraving a song on a gramophone record. In today's world, where all of us are eager to finish everything from laundry-billing to car parts assembling not only fast but flawlessly too, the importance of software can be ignored only at our peril. Computers perform specific jobs as per the programmes fed to them. No wonder, software sales and purchase have become a most crucial activity of business establishments the world over. India is no exception. With the supply of computer graduates steadily growing, new ventures are sprouting everywhere to deal with and cash in on the latest craze in the business arena. Interestingly enough, the field in India has become so innovative that groups of enthusiastic individuals very often surpass turnovers recorded by the big names. This only indicates the growth of the software business by leaps and bounds here.

The growth is most evident in one very important aspect of this business: export. Not content with barely substituting our imports from countries like the US, UK or the Federal Republic of Germany, Indian computer professionals are gradually cramming more and more stalls at the international trade fairs with their merchandise. And they do not fare badly at all. They are landing more and more orders from prestigious multinationals. The software industry in this country is registering an average export growth rate of nearly 20 per cent a year. In 1975, our exports stood at Rs 85 lakhs, but in merely 10 years have crossed Rs 42 crores. With the world demand projected to reach 100 billion dollars by 1990 (Source: The Confederation of Engineering Industry's export strategy paper on software), software exports clearly represent one of the lead areas for a quantum jump in our engineering exports. Be it domestic supply or export, our entrepreneurs are not going to miss opportunities. Computer whiz kids are all set to make a fast buck. From the nooks and crannies of the science city of Bangalore, where software creation is at its peak now, to the bustling streets of Calcutta, where software usage is yet to really catch on, the mood is buoyant.

Out there in the Big Apple, there are two things Indian that are spoken about with great reverence—Indian doctors and Indian computer programmers. As far as computers go, the American recommendation is significant because the majority of the world's computer markets use and import products which have gained a certain degree of acceptance in the US market. Among the leading Bangalore-based software exporters is Mr G.R. Itigi, managing director of U&I Software Private Limited. His company has been in the world market for some years now and this year its exports are expected to touch one million dollars.

A former Unesco project coordinator and scientist with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Mr Itigi is the driving force behind U&I. "My business has been cultivated mostly on personal contacts," he says, "I am selling my technhnology and I net good money for it. For each of my designs, along with the down payment for the software at the time of sale, I also get a royalty on the copies of the programmes if they are sold by the first buyer."

U&I software is generated with the help of the latest technology to keep up with the stiff competition. It is a serious business, Mr Itigi comments, "One has to be constantly up to date on the latest market trends and the latest machine technology." His strategy of sound investment on R&D, contacts and participation in trade exhibitions is paying off well. "People are today



Kalyan Chakravorty

C. Basu of Techno Machintel: Heading a seven-man computer force

ready to wait until I am available to design packages for them," he boasts. However, the overhead expenditures in his operation are rather high. Besides the costs of R&D or personnel, he has to spend a lot on advertising and promotion and on keeping himself updated on the latest technologies used by some of his leading clients in Japan, Korea, the US and Federal Republic of Germany.

At Infosys, another leading software house in Bangalore, the approach is more organisational than individualistic. Infosys was set up in 1981 by a group of young computer professionals, mostly from the IITs. Probably the only Indian software company with equity in the US, Infosys has tied up with the Kurt Salmon Associates, a management consultancy firm to extend its operations. It has registered 100 per cent growth in the last three years.

According to Mr Nandan Nilekani, deputy managing director, Infosys Group, the Indian software market is yet to mature. "Because of high level piracy, people still believe in getting their software at cheap rates or free of cost," he says, "pirated versions of popular American software packages are flooding Indian markets. We have to be very careful to combat this menace. We are careful enough to prepare our own softwares that are hard to copy." One of Infosys's packages is now a best-seller in the Indian banking industry. Right now, Infosys programmers are executing a $250,000-contract with Digital Equipment Corporation for designing a fleet management system. At any given time, a third of Infosys' 150 employees are abroad working on various projects.

Sonata, a division of Indian Organic Chemicals Limited (IOCL), is one of the software companies that was born to cash in on the boom in the market in the last three years. The cash flush IOCL set up Sonata just after the government announced its software policy to encourage Indian programmers. The company has been focussing on the domestic market. "We believe that it is difficult to succeed in the export market unless we have a very strong home base," comments Mr B. Ramaswamy, vice president (marketing). "We wanted to look at business possibilities without the risk of piracy. We chose three areas that were not prone to piracy." What Sonata did was to develop programmes which needed a lot of service support and thus were less likely to be pirated.

Now with an affiliate in the US, Sonata is marketing its software and programming services abroad. "In the automobile industry, India may be churning out car models of the 1950s even now, but in the software industry we are apace with the rest of the world," comments Mr Ramaswamy. "We have an advantage in that the curriculum in our IITs, IIMs or IISc are not more than three months older than the curriculum in the leading US colleges. Sonata intends to fully encash on this advantage in the coming years."



Kalyan Chakravarty

Debajyoti Das of Zoom 16: A computer professional from Visva Bharati

Software Research Group (SRG), headed by Mr T.S. Muthukrishnan, is yet another leading software house in the south. Worldlord, one of its bestselling programmes, is an integrated office automation software consisting of a powerful word-processor with a built-in device for other services. After marketing its products in Holland, Switzerland and the Federal Republic of Germany, SRG now plans to venture into the US market. "With the encouragement that we are getting from the government, export prospects look extremely good in the coming years," Mr Muthukrishnan observes.

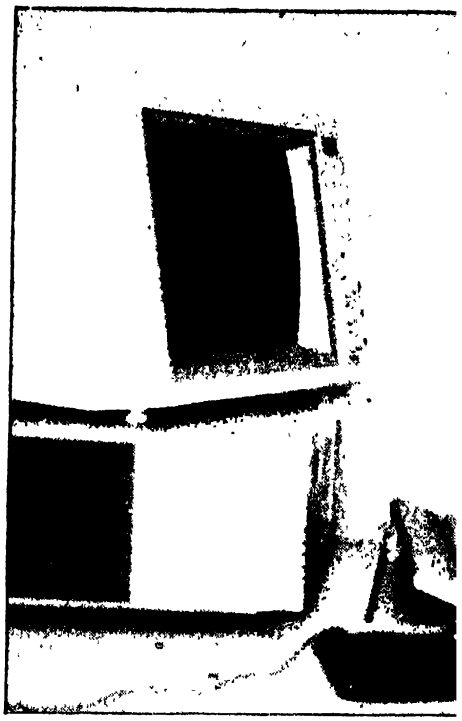
Mr Debajyoti Das, a think tank with the Zoom 16 Software Services Private Limited in Calcutta, is another young computer professional who aims high. An MSc in mathematics from Visva Bharati ("I am probably the only computer professional that Tagore's abode of learning has produced so far"), he took the banking services examination five times. "I was planning to be a probationary officer in a nationalised bank," he says, "I passed the written tests five times. But my interviewers were not so kind as to like my face. I failed in those tests four times. I was selected in my fifth attempt and got an appointment letter. But I was already employed in a software company and decided not to join the bank. I was working in DPS, a leading company in the software business in this city."

When Mr Das opted for the Zoom 16, it was because of the enticement from his friend, Mr Saibal Mitra, that prompted him to join a company which was not even a year old and employed barely three per-

sons. Zoom 16 had a starting capital of Rs 1.5 lakhs. The company did business worth Rs 6 lakhs and Rs 10 lakhs in 1988 and 1989 respectively. "We are procurring orders worth Rs 28 lakhs this year," informs Mr Das proudly. The steep rise in business is attributable to the overseas orders bagged by Zoom 16. "Those orders are billed in dollars which when converted into rupees gives you a handsome figure to brag about," explains Mr Das, who had gone to the Cebit fair in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1988. "We had our software exhibits at the Indian pavilion. We must have impressed some East European companies who wanted to place orders in just across-the-table talks. My friend had been at the Comdex fair at Las Vegas in the US last year and he too bagged some orders. Now we are planning to make Zoom 16 100 per cent export-oriented."

The lure for the city companies to go for overseas orders is not foreign currency alone. "Software business in eastern India is not recording a growth matching that in other parts of the country," explains Mr Das, "we are forced to look for greener pastures in the West. We may have a reputation for churning out efficient programmes, but do you know many of the foreign buyers still think twice before placing an order with us? I have seen this at international fairs. The name India evokes a grimace on the visage of many of those buyers. They confess that the unwieldy communication system in India is what puts them off. If they want to renovate their demand plans or want to know about the progress of the orders, placed, they are often at a loss. This is a bane in today's global village."

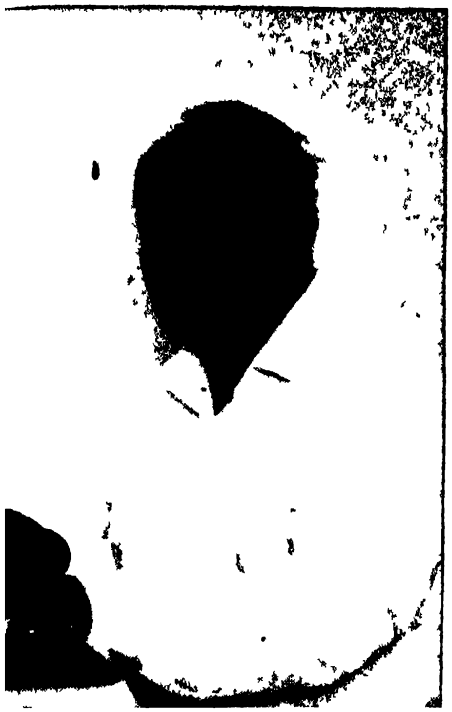
One of the software programmes developed by Mr Das's company is now being used by a big private sector investment company. With its help, the managing director of the company can check, at the touch of a button, the performance records of 40,000 of his agents spread all over the country. The individual record of a particular agent, even the comparative progress made by him over the years, flashes on the computer screen in front of him. "The programme we have sold to the US has gone to a banker that extends loans among the public," Mr Das explains, "the company needs to assess several parameters (service record, age, expenditure habit, income potential etc.) of hundreds of thousands of persons, before it



G.R. Itigi of U&I Software: 'People are



. Ramaswamy of Sonata: 'We are apace with the rest of the world'



dy to wait until I am available'

can fix the amount to be sanctioned for him. We have designed a programme to get everything ready at hand in a flash on the screen."

Mr Chandranath Basu, who runs the Techno Machintel Private Limited from the ground floor of his Park Street residenc, along with three other friends, set up the company in July 1986, the year he passed with an MTech in computer science from the Indian Statistical Institute, Baranagore. "I could have joined any software company on a fixed salary," he says, "but all of us planned to start our own business." Taking a risk? No, he answers, "The reason behind many fresh university graduates like us starting our own ventures is that we are pretty sure of our capability of landing jobs, at least in the near future. We know the job market. It may not remain the same a decade later." Having started "without any working experience," he is not faring badly at all The starting capital of Rs 2.5 lakhs has now grown to Rs 14 lakhs, with a yearly turnover of Rs 6 lakhs This is quite impressive for a company that employs only seven persons Not satisfied with supplying programmes to Indian giants like IOL or Indal, Techno Machintel is now planning to go West with a new programme for cutting metal plates according to various sizes and shapes. The process has wide usage, specially in the shipping and automobile industries. Right now Indian companies are purchasing programmes from US software suppliers. Mr Basu aims to first substitute those imports before selling his design to overseas buyers.

One reason why Indians are finding the stiff competition in software business rather soft is the cheap labour available here, explains Prof. Probal Sengupta, lecturer in computer science in the Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur. Companies in the US or Europe cannot churn out programmes so cheaply and so have to charge more from their buyers. But, according to him, buyers in the West have now learnt this secret. "That is why they are now less reluctant to pay the usual prices for their purchases from India," he comments, adding, "This explains why Indian software designers are now giving thoughts for import substitution too. After all, it is business that matters. If pastures overseas turn grey, there is no reason why they cannot remain green here."

Anyway, business is booming and Indians are riding the crest. ■

BARTER BANK

• **Dumb-bells:** I offer a pair of dumb-bells of 16lbs each for anything of corresponding value Contact Rajesh Sherpa, 12/A, Ahiripukur Road, Calcutta-700 019

• **Study material:** I would like to trade Brilliant's Elite for IIT-JEE-1989 and Agarwal's-1987 for a stereo tape-recorder or anything of corresponding value Contact Debashis Dutta, H/O, late J C Sen, South Office Para, Doranda, P.O Hinoo, Ranchi-834002

• **Lenin's Works:** I offer several issues of V I Lenin's Collected Works and Ameerican Fiction (novel) in brand new condition for anything of corresponding value Write to Sharmila Banerjee, c/o Copy Centre, P.O. Khardah, Dist-24 Parganas (north), Pin: 743155.

• **Voltas air-conditioner:** I offer an early Voltas air-conditioner (Carrier) in very good condition for a good music system, imported camera with accessories or anything of corresponding value Contact S V Cousik, Flat-11, Ellora Apartments, C I T. Complex, No 2 Ganahat Road (south) Calcutta-68.

• **Magazines** and **Stamps:** I would like to exchange 200 and more issues of *The Telegraph Colour Magazine*, more than 500 different varities of match/-box labels and over 1500 well-maintained Indian and foreign stamps for a small carnivorous animal or anything of correspnding value. Write to Asish Agrawal, c/o Prabhudayal Agrawal, B N Lal House, Chotisadak, Sambalpur-768 001

• **Cassette:** I offer a new cassette of Robert Palmer's *Heavy Nora* (EMI) for a copy of *'People'* magazine or any good novel. I also offer a new English and Hindi video cassettes for other cassettes Please write to. Sourav Sen, 7/5/1, S.N.C. Lane, Calcutta-35.

• **Wristwatch** and **toy car:** I offer one Seiko-5 automatic wristwatch with one year guarantee and in perfect condition and a new 'Gabriel' full radio-controlled Japanese toy car for any 80-watts car-stereo. Contact V Babu, 13/71 Parnasree, Calcutta-60

• **Hawaiian Guitar:** I would like to exchange an almost new Hawaian Guitar and 50 Indrajal comics for anything of corresponding value Please contact Debabrata Mukherjee, 27/1 Northern Avenue, Calcutta-37.

• **Radio:** I want to exchange my new National transistor with any electronic watch in running condition Contact Praveen Kumar Paritosh, Navin Nivas (2nd floor), Kasturba Path, Patna-800 013

• **Study material:** I want to exchange my Agrawal's tutorial course books for the IIT-JEE '89 examinations for anything of corresponding value. Please write to Subhasish Dey, 103 East Kamalapur, Dum Dum, Calcutta-28.

• **Audio cassettes** and **records:** I offer 30 audio cassettes of Hindi and English songs, and five LP records of Hindi film songs for anything of corresponding value. Please write to Birender Kumar Keswani, 25-B, Bhuneshwar, Nagar Colony, Orderly Bazar, Varanasi-221 002.

• **Coal mining books:** I offer four volumes of I.C.F Stathum's *Coal Mining Practice* for a good, new Philips transistor (all wave) Write to S N. Sanyal, 29/11/3 H.K Sett Lane, Calcutta-50.

• **Solar radio:** I offer a solar radio with headphone (made in Japan) for anything of corresponding value. Contact Khandakar Nasima, C/o Dr K.A. Zaman, 28 Phul Bagan Road, 2nd floor, Flat-5, Calcutta-14.

• **Video games** and **stamps:** I would like to exchange a mirror-screened video game along with 250 Indian stamps and an equal number of foreign stamps for a Walkman and the novel *"Three Men in a Boat"* by Jerome K. Jerome or something of corresponding value. Write to Anand Almal, 4 Harket 1st bylane, Howrah-711 101.

LET'S FACE IT

Ever since I came across the Orwellian punch line—at 50 a man has the kind of face he deserves—I admit I have become a trifle too conscious of a largely ignored side of my anatomy. Though still a comfortable distance away from the 50th milestone, I am seriously planning to commence some face-saving acts in order to spare viewers any discomfiture when the time comes.

For the purpose of this discourse, I have not made any special mention of the alluring charms of feminine visages, not out of any chauvinistic considerations, but for the simple reason that I never mustered ample courage to come close enough to do them justice. Nor do I intend to encroach upon the exclusive domain of beauticians and facial experts. Male faces of all sorts, clean-shaven, moustachioed, bearded and bespectacled, with props like cigars or pipes have been included. The last category is a fast vanishing species, surviving only among politicians who, with a modest income, can afford a Havana and question the integrity of another belonging to the same tribe.

Poets and bards over the centuries have sung the praises of female faces. Even if you are the poor loved-and-lost fellow, still smarting from the pangs of unrequited love, you have Lord Byron for company, whose success with females was a legend. "I'll cross the whitening foam, I'll seek a foreign home, till I forget a false fair face.." Ladies will excuse my audacity when I daresay the false-fair faces of today far outnumber those of Byronic times.

That reminds me of the early days of my unhappy brush with chemistry at Presidency College when celebrated Prof. P.K. Dutt once recounted an incident of the faces of Victorian ladies turning black to the consternation of all viewers, while they were

There's plenty that a visage reveals...and doesn't

passing through a farmhouse, where considerable hydrogen sulphide gas was present in the atmosphere. The gas had promptly reacted with the lead oxide-rich facial make-up, yielding a black compound called lead sulphide and moisture. I still remember the vicarious grin on Prof Dutt's face and the observation, "So, you see, at least some painted faces do turn black at times!"

Right from my childhood, I have been having problems with my face. During school days whether or not I participated in a prank perpetrated by others, the roving eye of the class teacher would always rest on my face and I would be pulled up, while the real culprits would look cool, composed and even glare back if necessary, and escape scot-free.

Situations have not changed much even after my coming of age and entering marital life. My wife claims she knows the moment an attractive lady steps into a public conveyance, by merely looking at my face. On being persecuted, I have since adopted a strategy to maintain a studied indifference in my face, in similar settings, when angels flutter down and make their appearances in crowded Calcutta minis.

My wife maintains the switching of expression has made her task all the more easier.

Faces, they say, reflect the minds beneath. The veracity of the adage has diminished considerably today, the camouflages being far too many and well contrived. Like the refractive index of various materials, the dictum is applicable only to a varying degree, from person to person. The O'Henry story, *Madison Square Arabian Nights*, revolves round a society painter, whose portaits would invariably bring out the inner hidden aspect of the persons, more often than not uncomplimentary to themselves. Soon he was out of business and was reduced to a pauper.

Also, a Daphne Du Maurier story tells of a vision a lady underwent, in a post-operative spell, in a nursing home cabin, when she noticed human heads of the attending nurse, doctor and her husband being replaced by a serpent, dog and vulture's, respectively. But few today can match the Byronic description of a face possessing "nameless grace," mellowed to that tender light which heaven to gaudy day denies".

A number of professions have some set facial patterns long associated with them. A tough cop ought to have a huge moustache with the right twirls covering a considerable area of his face, as a token of his authority. The grim countenance of the mathematics teacher should send chills down the spines of students weak in the subject. A random beard and long hair have been accepted as those belonging to creative artists, poets and new wave filmmakers, though exceptions have come up lately. If you are a policeman having a civilian face, and engineer looking like a writer, or the only one among half-a-dozen public service men sitting at the desk, whom people instantly recognise as approachable, I am afraid you are bound to be a misfit of sorts.

Situations have not changed much even after my coming of age and entering marital life. My wife claims she knows the moment an attractive lady steps into a public conveyance, by merely looking at my face

Celebrities and successful men seldom display smiles lest they be identified with commoners. They keep an air of indifference, a "Do not disturb" look in their ivory tower physiogomy. Of the twin celebrities of Bengal, hogging the limelight at both the national and international level, for the last 30 years or so—Satyajit Ray and Jyoti Basu—notwithstanding the altitude difference of a foot have one point in common. They seldom smile. Talking of smiles a funny story I read years ago in a children magazine comes back to mind. Someone was advised by his godman to keep a perpetually smiling face. After a few initial obstacles, he made his way smiling into a tramcar, where in a few moments, another man's pocket was picked. In a vain bid to apprehend the culprit by elimination, the fellow passengers challenged our smiling Buddha for having committed the act. The victim, however, came to our hero's rescue, pointing out that his pocket could not possibly be picked by someone, sitting a good seven to eight feet away. A little bewildered, our hero jumped out of the running tram, only to be approached by a shifty-eyed *mastan* who thrust a wad of notes into his pocket as his share of the loot and vanished. The pickpocket was sure that our hero had noticed him in action which accounted for his smile.

Soumitra Sinha

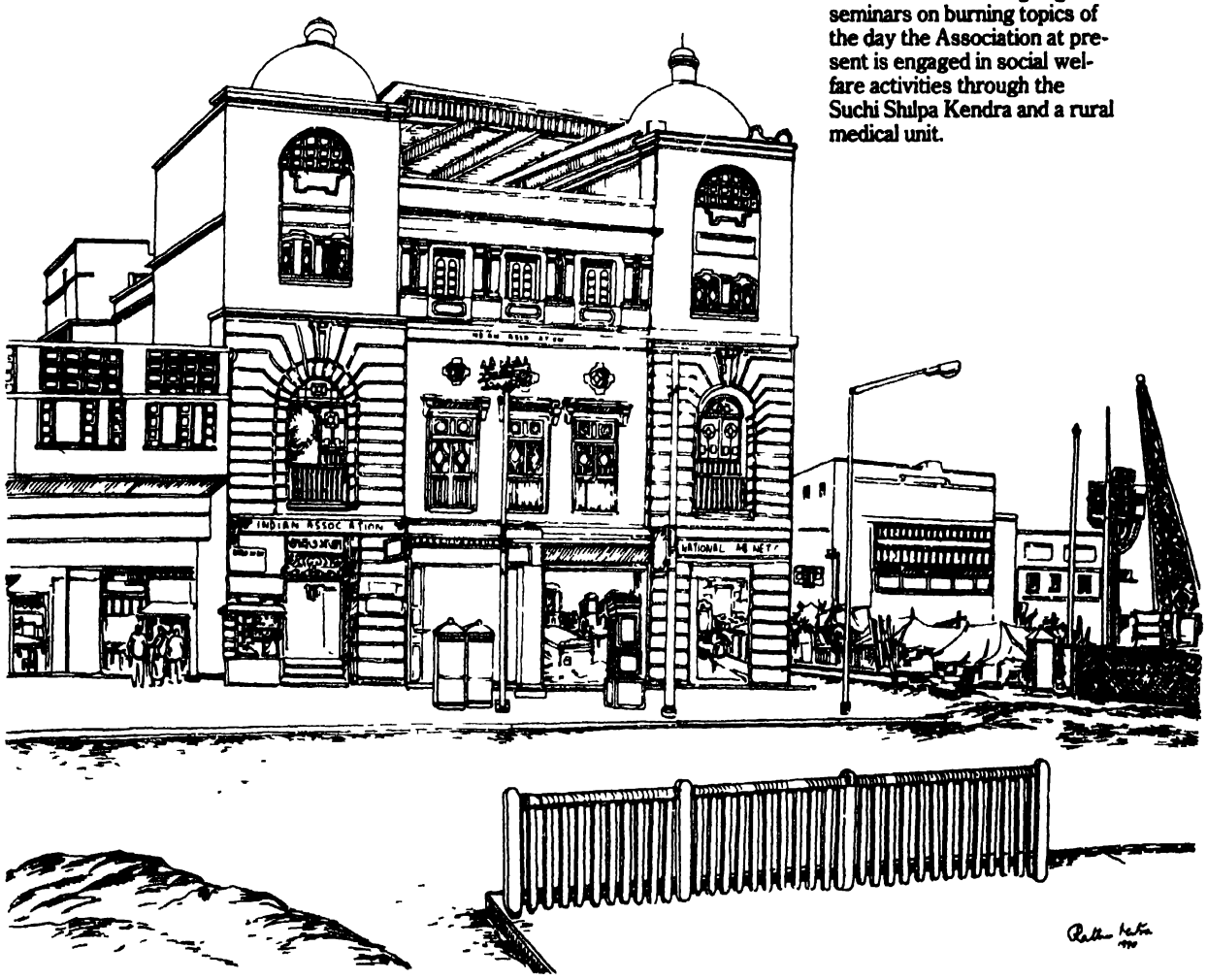
INDIAN ASSOCIATION (Founded 1876)

The Indian Association situated at 62, Bowbazar Street (now Bipin Behari Ganguly Street) and founded on July 26, 1876 by Surendranath Banerjea, was intended to be the centre of an all-India political movement. This was achieved by an all-India tour undertaken by Banerjea himself. The Association was established to help the formation of public opinion and promote by legitimate means the intellectual and material advancement of the people. It also served as a forum where representatives of the educated Bengali community could express themselves on controversial issues of the time, like Vernacular Press Act and Arms Act, and also to protest against the reduction of age limit for the civil services competitors from 21 to 19. However, the actual aim of the Association was to awaken a spirit of solidarity among the Indians.

The Indian Association library has an invaluable collection—leather-bound volumes of the *Imperial Gazetteer, Quarterly Review* (from 1878 onwards), *Encyclopaedia Britannica, Life of Gladstone and John Morley*, Legislative Assembly debates dating back to 1922 and copies of more-than-100-year-old Bengali newspapers. Earlier, scholars from all over the world consulted this library. The Jawaharlal Nehru Museum even prepared a microfilm on India's political developments based on this library's records.

The Association building, which stands witness to its once glorious days, now also houses a variety of institutions. The tenants of the flats that were leased out by the Association now refuse to move out, thereby aggravating its problems further. Lack of funds has prevented the Association from investing in new books.

Besides conducting regular seminars on burning topics of the day the Association at present is engaged in social welfare activities through the Suchi Shilpa Kendra and a rural medical unit.



ARIES

March 21—April 20

A round of hard, sustained work will be suitably rewarded. Trading, manufacturing and investing make a happy trio. Romance takes a backseat, but light flirtations are in order. Trips and commuting could be well for business-cum-pleasure. Except for headaches, lack of adequate sleep and foot problems, your general health will be in order.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

An exceptionally creative week. But remember, creativity is not restricted to the arts and architecture. Two hearts beat as one and therefore moments of happy romance for many. Deals, campaigns and collaborations assure you sufficient gains. Travel is a salient feature of the next 27 days. Visitors, foreigners, relatives and business associates will drop in.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Loans, funds, legacy, joint finance and, perhaps, a long-awaited shift or sojourn are the week's main trends. Promotion, buying or selling and unexpected gains help to augment your resources and capital. Romance may be worthwhile, but rather expensive. Travel is favourable for the next 21 days despite the possibility of a last-mintute cancellation or postponement. Health safeguards are necessary

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Socialising, group activity, engagement, marriage, collaboration and travel are well signified. You will earn as much as you want to spend. Romance will be remarkable, the week being resonant with love calls. Health will take a turn for the better. Get your travel kit ready. Your family will be proud of you; loyalty and affection will bowl you over.

LEO

July 21—August 21

It is absolutely certain that you will be carrying a heavy workload and working full steam ahead. Romance can wait for a week or so while your work momentum picks up. You will earn your money as well as success. Work and family pressures could mean visits, interviews and conferences. A few health snags and ailments are likely. You will buy utensils, flower vases, glasses and crockery for the household.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The main trend will include romance, children, education, vacations, hobbies, entertainment, engagement and marriage. As far as romance goes, you will be in your element. Partnerships, commission, brokerage, assignments and contracts help you to rake in the money. The next 20 days are excellent for travel. Your health remains in perfect shape. Childbirth or conception, a home away from home, refurbishing and happy entertainment are also foretold.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Property and real estate are in focus, buying, selling, investing, shopping and fund-raising are highlighted, and the home has a new look. Passion has a crimson flame and love a thousand hues.

It is time to shift, commute and emigrate. You could have some problems with your back, legs and eyes. You will do much to make the home your castle. By the end of August a wish-fulfilment is likely.

BIRTHDAYS

April 22

Moon conjunction Neptune. This combination exalts part of your aura and Aquarius. There is the arts, chemicals and electronics will make it big. Journeys give ample satisfaction.

April 23

Moon square Neptune. Resist impulsive buying and spending. Be practical. Common sense is the key to happy life. Expenses will mount.

April 24

Moon square Saturn. This aspect could put a [illegible] your way. Be alert. A [illegible] or [illegible]

April 25

[illegible]

you of money, good living, better business prospects and more opportunities in profession or career. In short, you can see a romance.

April 26

Moon joins Saturn. Travel will prove lucky. There is activity, astrology and correspondence could [illegible] level. In short, [illegible] out to [illegible]

April 27

[illegible]

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Ties, trips, wedlock and the locking of horns make an exciting week. Love will be intense and passionate. Use your influence in the field of finance. In May, contracts, deals, tenders, collaborations, import-export and propositions are well signified. Neighbours may have much to do with you. Minor health problems around April 26, 27. Entertainment, children, hobbies and shifting things around should be interesting.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

A job-hop, more power for you and of course added responsibilities are the week's highlights. Buying, shopping, selling and investing also figure prominently. You will not have much time for romance. Health problems will be there, but you will surely overcome them. Wait for a week before undertaking a journey. The week is also favourable for communications.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

New vistas and horizons will be open for you. Romance will be in abundance. You will have plenty of opportunities to boost your finances. Health will be solid and steady as ever. Travel, advertising and correspondence leads to gold and gaiety.

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Expenses, travel, property, land, building and construction for lovable Aquarians. Romance is your destiny. Negotiations, bargaining, company takeovers, erection of a plant and installation of machinery are also fated. Work pressures could tell upon your health. Home and family will bring joy and happiness.

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Journey, visits, interviews, and signing of contracts, deeds, documents, instruments of negotiation and bonds are the salient features of the week. As regards romance, you will have your hands full. You should make a quick buck as a deal with a long-range impact should come through. Those in the arts, communication, import-export and trading do wonderfully well.

THE POSITIVE Kwality OF TAURUS





His concentration & tenacity master every flavour of life



Others think he's "so sweet."



Her home life's deliciously calm.



He's sure to get every job licked



Her thoroughness is a treat



We've all the Kwality of a real Taurus

HTA 4008

Milestones to the Past

A cool wind scudded over the crest of the low hill as I walked up the rough shingled path. The sight on the top was spectacular enough to take my breath away: sprinkled on the undulating top were seven magnificent Hindu temples, all of them of drab, fossiliferous limestone merging into the background of equally drab hills absolutely devoid of vegetation.

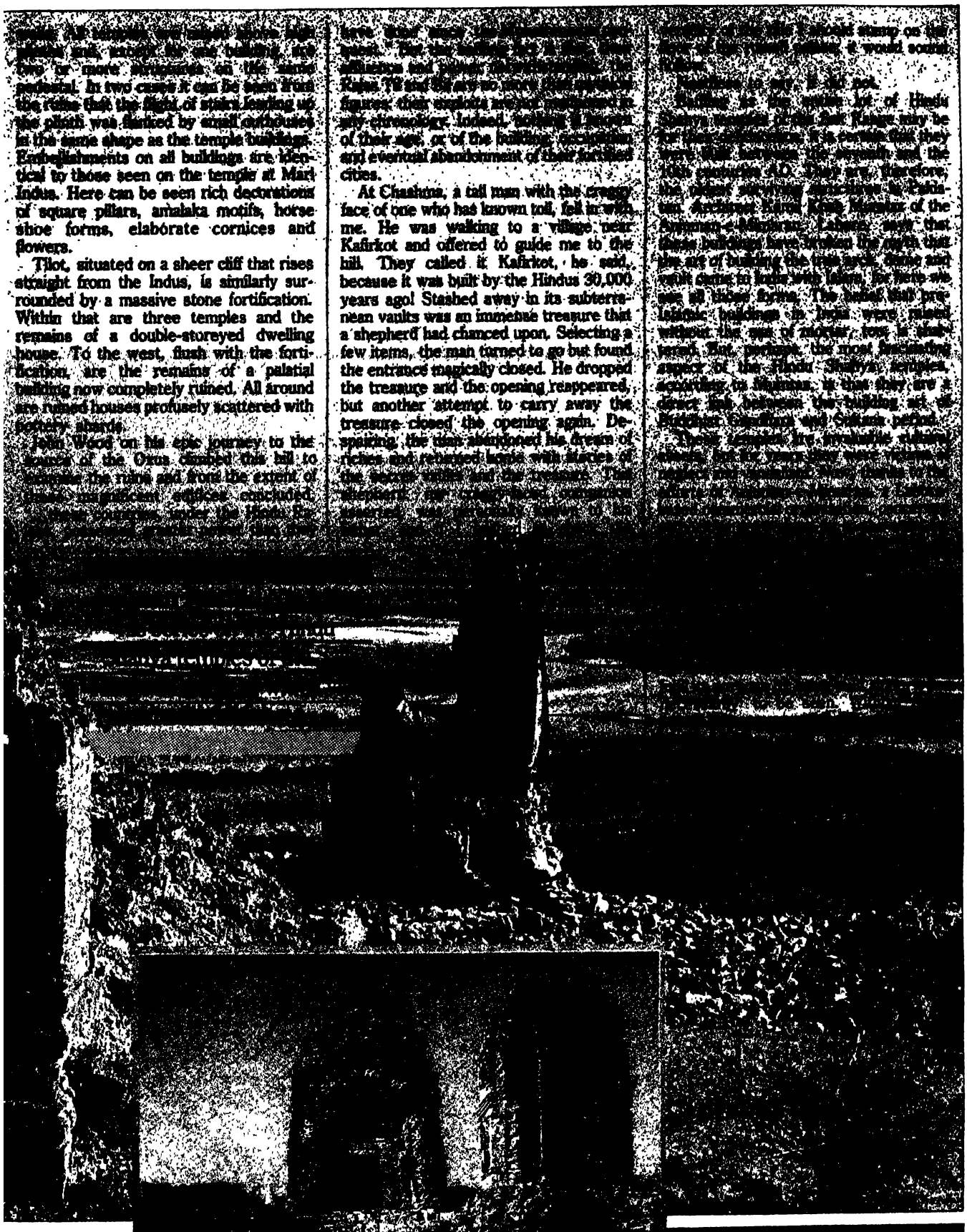
I had reached Bilot on the right bank of the Indus, 35 kms north of Dera Ismail Khan in the North-West Frontier Province, on the last leg of a fantastic journey exploring the Hindu Shahya temples of the Salt Range. Geographically, Bilot (Kafirkot South) and Tilot (Kafirkot North) are well beyond the Salt Range, but I had come here because these houses of worship originated about the same time in the misty, barely perceptible period of the Hindu Shahya rulers between the seventh and 10th centuries AD.

Surrounding the built-up area of temples and ruined houses is a massive fortification wall interspersed with hefty semi-circular turrets giving an appearance of great strength to this fortified temple complex. Bilot, it is said, is derived from Bil Kot—"The Fort of Raja Bil"—and Tilot, 35 kms further up the Indus near Chashma Barrage is named after his brother, Til. According to tradition, a third brother, Akil, ruled from his fortified town of Akilot, now known as Akra near Bannu in the North-West Frontier Province.

History is silent with reference to these great rulers; locals therefore transform them into Pandavas who built these forts and temples during their years of wandering in exile. Had these buildings lacked their stark Brahmanic accent they would, instead, have been attributed to the jinns of King Solomon. Now their origin is less metaphysical, they are simply known as Kafirkot—Fort of the Infidels.

All but two of the temples at Bilot face east and in keeping with Kashmirian architectural tradition have two, sometimes three, storeys, the upper being accessible via [illegible] those through the

Ruins of the temple and the two-storey house at Tilot



...ful carvings, two lingas above right ... and, according to the belief, it has ... or more storeys on the same pedestal. In two cases it can be seen from the ruins that the flight of stairs leading up the plinth was flanked by small outhouses in the same shape as the temple buildings. Embellishments on all buildings are identical to those seen on the temple at Mari Indus. Here can be seen rich decorations of square pillars, amalaka motifs, horse shoe forms, elaborate cornices and flowers.

Tilot, situated on a sheer cliff that rises straight from the Indus, is similarly surrounded by a massive stone fortification. Within that are three temples and the remains of a double-storeyed dwelling house. To the west, flush with the fortification, are the remains of a palatial building now completely ruined. All around are ruined houses profusely scattered with pottery sherds.

John Wood on his epic journey to the source of the Oxus climbed this hill to ... the ruins and from the extent of ... magnificent edifices concluded, ...

... spot were ... figures ... Kafirkot. He and the ... figures their exploits ... any chronology. Indeed, ... of their age, or of the building, decoration and eventual abandonment of their fortified cities.

At Chashma, a tall man with the craggy face of one who has known toil, fell in with me. He was walking to a village near Kafirkot and offered to guide me to the hill. They called it Kafirkot, he said, because it was built by the Hindus 30,000 years ago! Stashed away in its subterranean vaults was an immense treasure that a shepherd had chanced upon. Selecting a few items, the man turned to go but found the entrance magically closed. He dropped the treasure and the opening reappeared, but another attempt to carry away the treasure closed the opening again. Despairing, the man abandoned his dream of riches and returned home with stories of the secret vaults and the treasure. ...

... Kafirkot ... Hindus ... Kafirs ... Kafirkot ... Kafirkot ... Kafirkot



1



2

Kushal Ray captures the pomp of the Annapurna Puja, held in the city last fortnight

Annapurna is the original form of Durga, who represents power and prosperity As her name suggests, she also ensures *anna* (food) for all her worshippers While Durga represents more of power and glory, Annapurna's benign image is of concern for home and family happiness She is the source of food, and women offer her rice grains during the annual two-day festival in her honour

Though Annapurna is not as

CAPTIONS

(1) Women bringing out the *annakut*, a mound of *prasad*; (2) Offering vermilion to Annapurna; (3) Farewell to Annapurna; (4) *Baran*, the grand finale to the two-day festival; (5) Rice grains for the goddess; and (6) Bowing to the Kumari



3



4





popular as Durga, Kali or Lakshmi, she is the presiding deity in the homes of Calcutta's traditional families Prominent among them is Dati Sen's family in Shyambazar where about 100 members live together in a virtual world of their own

The Annapurna puja is the biggest occasion for the Sens, who celebrate it in style, almost as a defiance in the face of the winds of change playing havoc with traditional values The festival begins with Kumaripuja (worshipping of an unmarried girl), then passes through a series of interesting rituals The *baran* (ceremonial send-off) is the most spectacular when all the women of the house, numbering around 40, form circles and move around the deity seven times

The deity is then taken on a lorry for her journey to the Ganga for immersion while all the family members and curiously moved neighbours stand in silence, caught in a sudden sadness after hours of joy



What is time?

Ask six people to explain it today and you may get six answers. A physicist, for instance, might say time is one of the two basic building blocks of the universe, the other being space. For a banker time is money; for a Buddhist monk time is contemplated in nature's eternally returning cycles.

A graffiti on a cafe wall in Austin, Texas, attempted an answer: "Time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening all at once."

"We have given more attention to measuring time than to anything in nature," says Gernot Winkler, director of Time Services at the US Naval Observatory in Washington, DC. "But time remains an abstraction, a riddle that exists only in our minds."

In reporting on the enigma of time John Boslough writes, "We have come to place a premium on measuring the flow of time—as if by measuring it we could begin to understand it."

Today more than half-a-billion watches a year pour off assembly lines, with some 300,000 sold daily in the United States alone. The world's largest timepiece manufacturer, Japan's Seiko Group, produces more watches than does all Switzerland. More timepieces have been built, Boslough theorises, than all other machines combined.

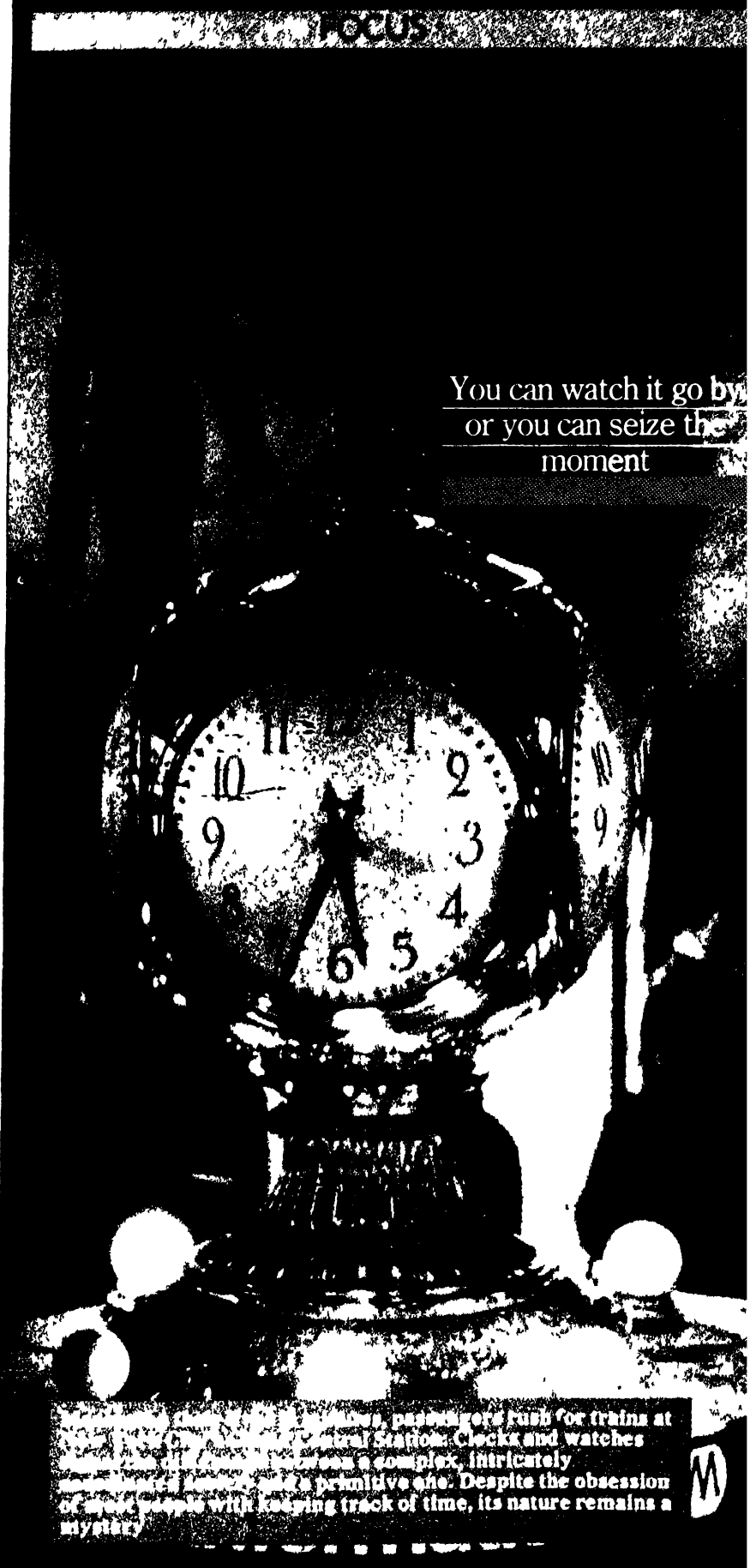
Without the clock, and now the watch, there is no modern world, says David Landes, a historian of timekeeping at Harvard University. "It is the difference between a complex, intricately coordinated society and a primitive one only vaguely aware of time's possibilities."

A vast global timekeeping system keeps all civilisation synchronized—to within a billionth of a second a day. In today's technological world a navigator at sea or aloft, plotting his location by satellite, relies on a time signal accurate to within a single millionth of a second. Deep space probes are guided by radio signals timed to billionths of a second (nanoseconds).

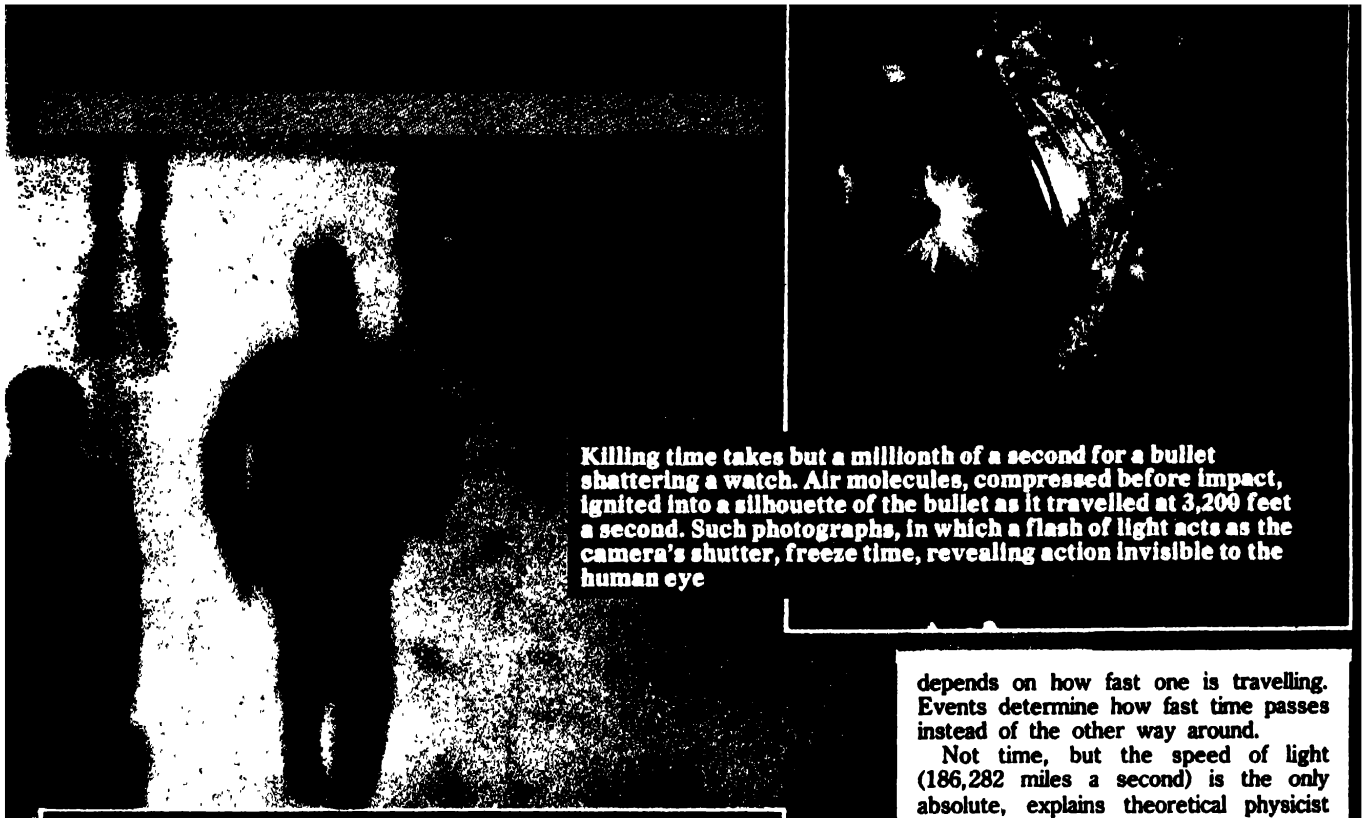
Physicists tracking motion inside an atomic nucleus reckon in picoseconds (trillionths of a second) or even femtoseconds (thousandths of a picosecond). There are more femtoseconds in one second than there were seconds in the past 31 million years.

At some 50 timekeeping stations around the world, atomic clocks allow this remarkable splitting of seconds by counting the oscillations of atoms to tell time. The most precise US atomic clock, located at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder, Colo., is accurate to within one second in 300,000 years. A second is virtually infinite, says David Allen, a time theorist at the institute. It can be split into as many pieces as technology allows.

The notion that time is absolute was shattered by Albert Einstein's special theory of relativity. For Einstein time



[illegible], passengers rush for trains at [illegible] Station. Clocks and watches [illegible] complex, intricately [illegible] a primitive one. Despite the obsession of [illegible] with keeping track of time, its nature remains a mystery.



Killing time takes but a millionth of a second for a bullet shattering a watch. Air molecules, compressed before impact, ignited into a silhouette of the bullet as it travelled at 3,200 feet a second. Such photographs, in which a flash of light acts as the camera's shutter, freeze time, revealing action invisible to the human eye



Photographed as if receding into a black hole, a term he coined for a superdense body created when a massive star collapses of its own gravitational pull, Princeton University physicist John Wheeler says time there would stand still. A pioneer in quantum theory, Wheeler is at home measuring time by billionths of a second

depends on how fast one is travelling. Events determine how fast time passes instead of the other way around.

Not time, but the speed of light (186,282 miles a second) is the only absolute, explains theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking of England's Cambridge University. In a sense the speed of light is Einstein's master clock, because there can be no velocity without time, and the speed of light never varies. So the speed of light is the best way to measure a distance.

Yet gravity affects both light and time. In the universe of Einstein's relativity, gravity is caused by the intrusion of a large chunk of matter such as the sun into space and time.

Gravity bends both space and time. In the presence of a large stellar object light must travel farther between two points and time slows down, relativistically speaking. This presents a problem. On the surface of Jupiter, with 318 times the mass of Earth, an atomic cesium clock would run noticeably slower.

A black hole, a superdense body created when a massive star collapses of its own gravitational pull, has a gravity field so intense that not even light can escape its surface. There time would stand still.

"This shows us," says John Wheeler, the Princeton University physicist who gave black holes their name, "that time is a measuring tool, not an absolute flow or a substance." Without an event there is no time. This means, Wheeler believes, that time may be a secondary feature of nature, not a basic one. "But we're only talking about the physics of time here," he notes.

What is time? Boslough concludes: "I believe that Professor Wheeler's concept of time comes the closest to an actual explanation: that it is a dimension and, like any other dimension, only a secondary quality in nature." But, he adds, humans have internalised it so powerfully that time has taken on a meaning all its own.

(National Geographic News Service)



A scene from *Sach*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442)—12, 3, 6, 9.

A film by Harmesh Malhotra, starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Raj Babbar, Poonam Dhillon and Neelam, the music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Azaad Desh Ke Gulam:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440)—4 shows.

Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, Pran and Prem Chopra are the major attractions of this film, directed by S.A. Chandrashekhar. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Kishen Kanhaiya;** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—12, 3, 6, 9; Basusree (S.P Mukherjee Road; 484808)—11.45, 2.45, 5.45, 8.45.

A film by Rakesh Roshan, starring Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Shilpa Shirodkar, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri. The music is by Rajesh Roshan.

• **Kroadh:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849)—4 shows.

Directed by Shashilal Nair and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Sanjay Dutt, Sunny Deol, Amrita Singh, Sonam and Anupam Kher.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road, 241383)—10.45, 2.15, 5.30, 9; Indra (Indra Roy Road; 471757)—4 shows; Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)—11.30 am.

The biggest hit of recent times, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree. The film is directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman

• **Meri Laikaar:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277473), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046)—4 shows.

The film stars Sumeet Saigal, Rohini, Sriprada, Rajesh, Vivek, Shiva, Sadashiv Amrapurkar and Kader Khan.

• **Sach (A):** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

A film on adult love, directed by Vinod Pande.

Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan;** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 354740)—3 shows.

A film by Tarun Majumdar, starring Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Sanghamitra Banerjee, Indrani Dutta, Biplab Chatterjee and Anup Kumar. The music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Andha Bichar:** Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—3, 5.30, 8.15; Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)—Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108).

Mithun Chakraborty, Mandakini, Tanuja, Deepa Sahi, Biplab Chatterjee and Sadashiv Amrapurkar star in this Shakti Samanta film whose music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Ekhane Aamaar Swarga:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 485593)—1, 4, 7.

Tapas Paul, Deepika, Sumitra Mukherjee, Ruma Guhathakurta and Soumitra Chatterjee are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Jahar Biswas and has

A still from *Women Against Rape*



music by R.D. Burman.

• **Rakta Reen (A):** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—3 shows; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Directed by Sushil Mukherjee and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the film stars Victor Banerjee, Meghna Srivastav, Utpal Dutt, Abhijit Sen, Anup Kumar, Tarun Kumar, Biplab Chatterjee and Satabdi Roy.

Special Events

22 April: 10.30 am

Steel Club (SAIL) presents Praveen Kumar and his orchestra, and a Mohini Attam recital by Radha Dutta.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

22 April: 3 pm

Moner Basana Shyama—a programme of classical music features Sohanlal Sharma (harmonium), Samar Dutta (sarod), Deben Das and Nupur Ganguly (vocal) and Bimal Roy (tabla).

At Natmandir (Dakshineswar Kali Bari).

22 April: 5 pm

The Arany Banerjee Memorial Prize for 1990 will be awarded to the noted vocalist, Malabika Kanjan. The award-giving ceremony will be followed by a vocal recital by the artiste herself.

At Ashutosh Centenary Hall (Indian Museum).

22-24 April

Spachula will hold an exhibition of paintings in the West Gallery.

22-25 April

Painters Orchestra will hold an exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

• Shekhar Paul and others will hold their paintings exhibition in the New South Gallery.

22-27 April

Nirmal Das, Manab Deb and Gautam Bhowmik will hold an exhibition of paintings and sculptures in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).



Neeraja G. Pal

23 April: 6.45 pm

Rasika Ranjana Sabha presents a Bharata Natyam recital by Kumari Lakshmi Raman and a Kuchipudi recital by Neeraja G. Pal.

At Sri Thyagaraja Hall (P-530 Raja Basanta Roy Road; Calcutta 29).

23 April onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by the students of Sangeet Shyamala in the New Gallery.

26 April onwards

Association of Creative Photography will hold a week-long exhibition of photographs in the North Gallery.

• Painters '80 will hold a 10-day-long exhibition of paintings and sculptures in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915, Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640. Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily). IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr (daily) IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily) IC-265 at 1640; Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266899, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4). IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7), IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr (2, 4). IC-244 at 1230, Arr (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1). IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100

Trains

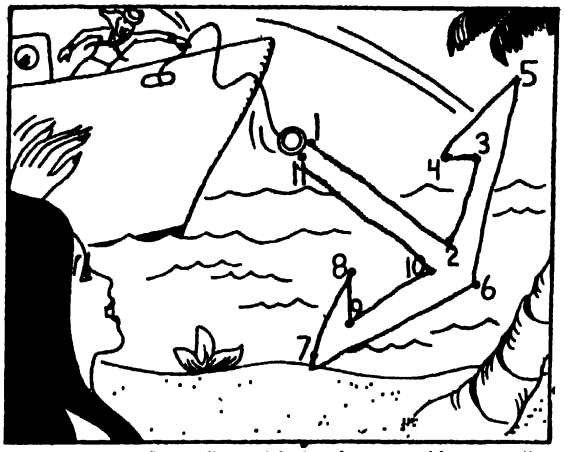
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues, Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues, Fri & Sat Arri —Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri —Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	21-00	**Madras Mail**	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14#15	2859
8034	21-25	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	**Ispat Express**	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	**Sambalpur Express**	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



DROPPING IN! Our sailor pal is tossing something over the ship's side. What can it be? To find out, draw dot to dot.

• **BOX SEAT!** A large box contains four smaller boxes and each of these smaller boxes contains four more How many boxes in all? Answer quickly

Twenty-one boxes in all

1	SON
2	SON
3	SON
4	SON
5	SON
6	SON
7	SON

SEVEN "SONS" FILL-IN

Clues to seven memorable names ending in SON are given below. Three names have six letters; four have seven (see above).

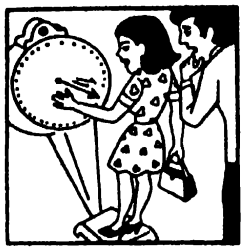
1. He was tricked by Delilah.
2. He sailed on the "Half Moon"
3. He invented the light bulb, etc.
4. Yikes, a Vike, son of Eric the Red
5. He penned "And fired the shot heard round the world."
6. He compelled an English dictionary.
7. "Father of the US Constitution"

Fill in the names

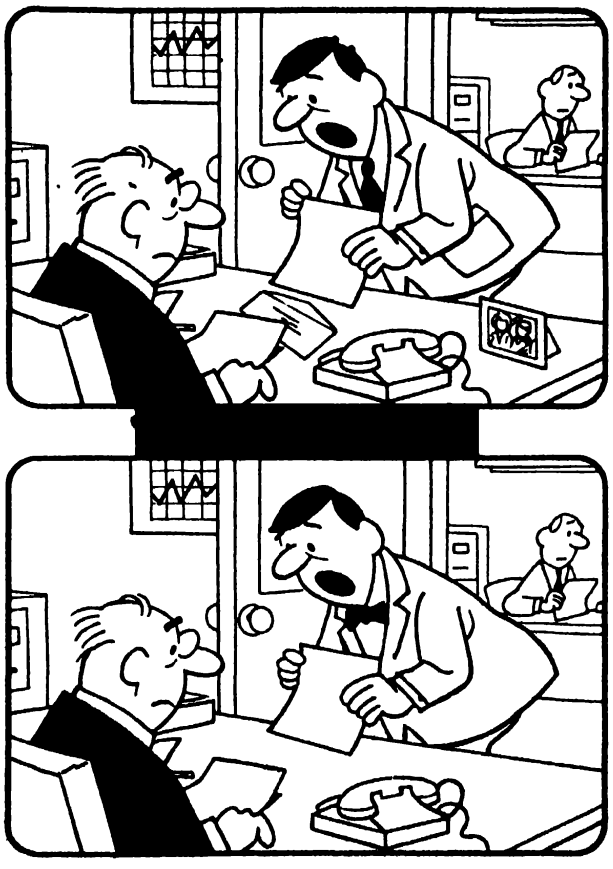
1 Samson 2 Hudson 3 Edison, 4 Erikson 5 Emerson 6 Johnson 7 Madison

• **MATH MAGIC!** You can figure out a person's weight and age with a simple composition. Here's how: Have the person multiply his or her weight by two, add five, multiply by 50. Now, add 1739, and subtract year of his or her birth. Result from left to right reveals weight and age.

Next year, add 1740.



HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Chart is smaller 2 Envelope is missing 3 Hand is moved 4 Tie is different 5 Pocket is missing 6 Picture is missing

FUNSPOT



FALL GUY! Ever play catch with a falling leaf? It's not easy. Add these colors neatly above: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Orange.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

INFRARED

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Dam, fire



"Which artist was called 'The Divine Painter'?" asks Anil Lal, Calcutta 33

During the 37 years allotted him as life from Good Friday, 1483, to Good Friday 1520, Raphael became known as the prince of Renaissance painters Born in Urbino as Raffaello Sanzio, he began his training early His first teacher was his father, a competent painter but one of no great merit, who was connected with the court of Federigo da Montefeltro, Duke of Urbino Raphael was already considered a master by the age of 17, when he was apprenticed to Il Perugino, an illustrious Urbinan painter

In 1503 Raphael received a commission to paint the first in a long series of Madonnas which were to be among the crowning achievements of his career The following year, lured by the spreading fame of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, Raphael moved to Florence He studied under under Leonardo for a brief time, and the immediate influence of the Mona Lisa can be seen in Raphael's first portrait in Florence of Maddalena Doni, the wife of his patron, Angelo Doni Although Raphael was influenced deeply by Leonardo and Michelangelo, he was not merely an imitator He culled the most lasting elements from the artistic tradition of the 100 years prior to his time and adapted them in his own unique style

Invited to Rome in 1508 by Pope Julius II, Raphael was commissioned to fresco the walls of a suite of rooms in the Vatican (referred to as the Stanza) The walls were already covered by masterpieces of earlier painters, but they were plastered over to enable Raphael to depict scenes from the Old and New Testaments, which were to be the basis for nearly all future scriptural art The only panels which Raphael would not allow to be affected were those painted by his former teacher, Perugino

A man of amazing industry, Raphael simultaneously undertook the architectural plans for St Peter's Basilica and the design of tapestries for the Sistine Chapel while engaged in painting the Vatican Stanza Raphael's energy was matched by his popularity With delicate features, a smooth, beardless complexion, and his hair in a fashionable pageboy, Raphael was nearly as lovely as his paintings He had an aura of perpetual youth and seemed to blend the qualities of both sexes, gentle to the point of being effeminate, yet self-confident and possessing unquestioned authority Practically worshipped by the intellectuals and artists of Rome and constantly surrounded by an entourage, he was envied by other giants of his day, but he was always ready with a reply to any jealous taunt When Michaelangelo said to him, "You walk as a general at the head of an army," Raphael retorted, "And you as an executioner going to the scaffold"—referring to the platform Michaelangelo used while painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Although known as "Il Divino" (the divine one), Raphael's personal life was far from saintly He had a reputation for revelling in the sensual, and it was rumoured that he engaged in many love affairs At one time he was betrothed to the niece of Cardinal Babbiena, but the greatest passion of his life was a woman who served as his model for several paintings, including the *Sistine Madonna* It is believed that she lived with him until his final illness, at which time he dismissed her from his house but provided generously for her in his will Regardless of the details of his personal relationships, it is known that the men and women that he loved and knew best inspired the figures in his paintings

In addition to his role as an artist, Raphael was superintendent of the excavatin of ancient Rome It was while involved in these diggings in the marshes surrounding the city that he contracted the malarial fever that was to take his life Never robust, and doubtlessly overtaxed by the prodigious amount of work he had undertaken since his youth, Raphael succumbed to the fever His life was cut short at the peak of his artistic powers Raphael was laid out in state with his unfinished masterpiece *The Transfiguration* behind his bier Rome's entire community of artists filed past his coffin, mourning the premature death of their city s last great Renaissance painter

Postscript: The Dalhousie Institute Quiz for the Errol Cowper Trophy is scheduled for 17, 18, 19 May Please send your entries to, Dalhousie Institute, 42 Jhowtalla Road, Calcutta-19, not later than May 3 Please note that last-minute scratch teams may not be accommodated

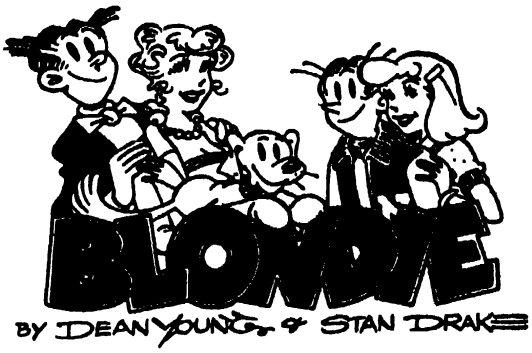
CBS

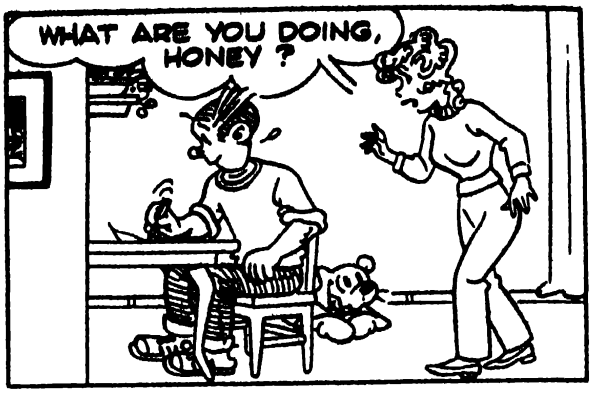
11th Question: **What is 'holiday heart'? (Dr Suptendra Nath Sarbadhikari, WIB-(R) 15/6 Golf Green, Calcutta 700 045)**
Ans: **Within 24 hours of heavy drinking, atrialor ventricular arrhythmias especially paroxysmal tachycardia, occur after a binge in individuals showing no other evidence of heart disease.**

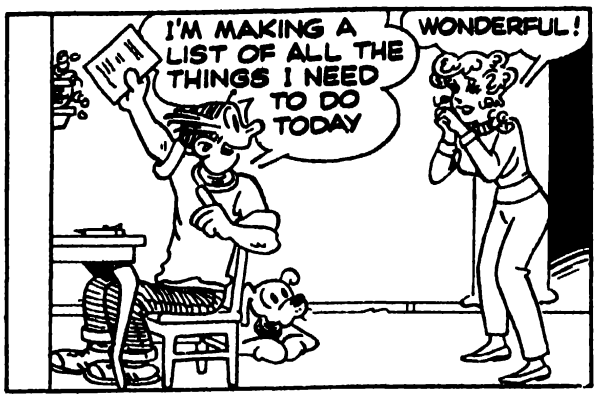
QUESTIONS

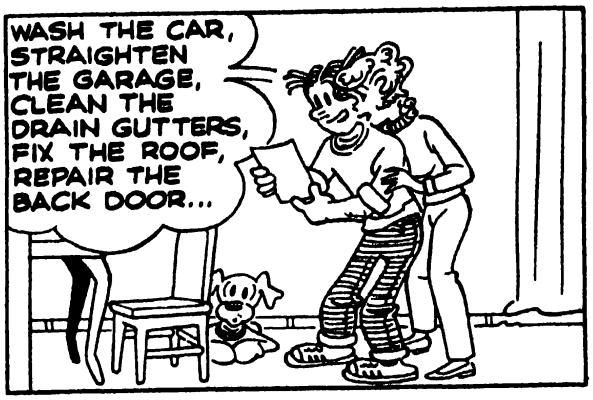
1. Which Indian state has the largest area of wasteland with 18 million hectares? (Sheikh Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
2. Which island volcano lies off Sicily? (Nirmalya Kr Sarkar, Asansol 1)
3. What signal indicates that a new Pope has been chosen? (Anjaneya Datta, Calcutta 31)
4. What did Einstein once poetically refer to as "God's Shadow"? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3)
5. Name the only player who played cricket for Australia against England and for England against Australia? (Akshaya Kr Pati, Jharsuguda 1)
6. Which US President said, "Blondes have the holiest kisses, redheads are fair-to-middling lovers and brunettes are the wildest of all"? (J.L. Chopra, Rourkela, Jharsuguda 2)
7. Which is the only country that has all its world [illegible]
8. Who was the first candidate elected in the ninth Lok Sabha election? (Randhir Kr Sinha, Ranchi 8)
9. Dadasaheb Phalke made 125 films throughout his career. Name the only talkie produced by him. (Mohan Kr Agarwal, Bargarh 28)
10. Name the Malayalam film in which the late Smita Patil acted. (Roy George, Dimapur)

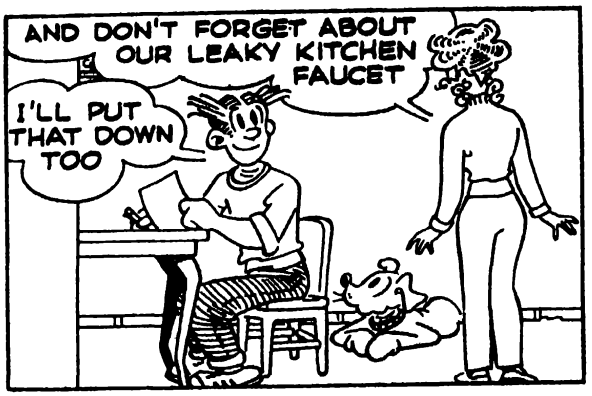
ANSWERS



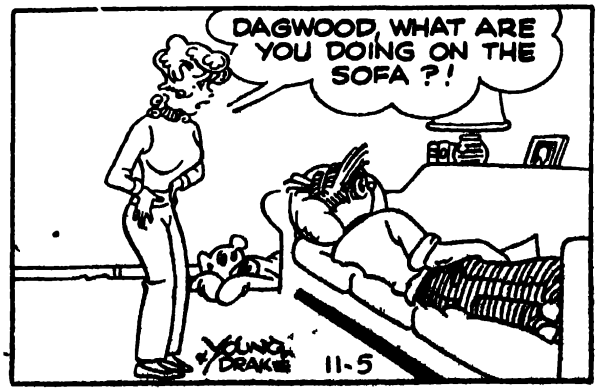




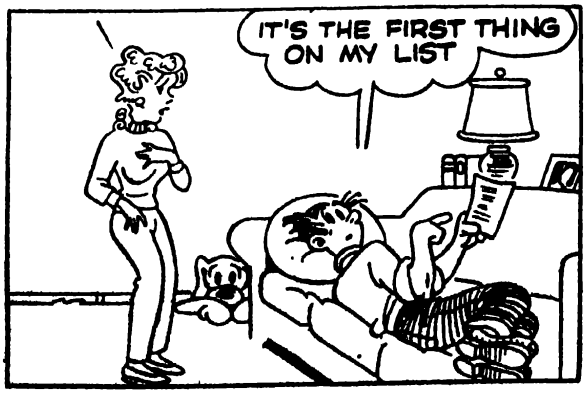








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Archie
ARE YOU READY TO GO TO THE CAFETERIA?
READY!
I FIND IT HARD TO STUDY IN THE CAFETERIA!
THERE ARE SO MANY DISTRACTIONS HERE!
THERE'S SO MUCH ACTIVITY!
DIST BY ABIA FEATURES
SO MUCH CHATTER, SO MANY PEOPLE I RECOGNIZE!
HOW ABOUT YOU, JUGHEAD, ARE YOU ABLE TO STUDY?
4-15
NO!


RING
HELLO, MIKE! WHAT'S THAT? THE CURTIS BAY SHIPYARD NEEDS WORKERS?
1-19
BOB WEBER
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JUST A MINUTE, I'LL CHECK WITH MOOSE... YES, HE'LL BE GLAD TO GO ALONG WITH YOU AND APPLY FOR A JOB, TOO!
DAD! WRITE SOMETHING ON A PIECE OF PAPER..... FOLD IT, TOSS IT ON THE FLOOR AND PUT YOUR FOOT ON IT
OKAY... NOW WHAT?
I CAN TELL YOU WHAT IS ON THE PAPER
WHAT?
YOUR FOOT!
1-20
BOB WEBER
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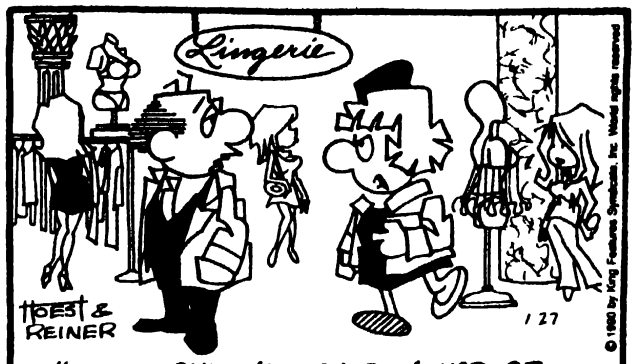
"I'M PAINTING A STILL LIFE.... AND, BELIEVE ME, THERE'S NO STILLER LIFE THAN LEROY."



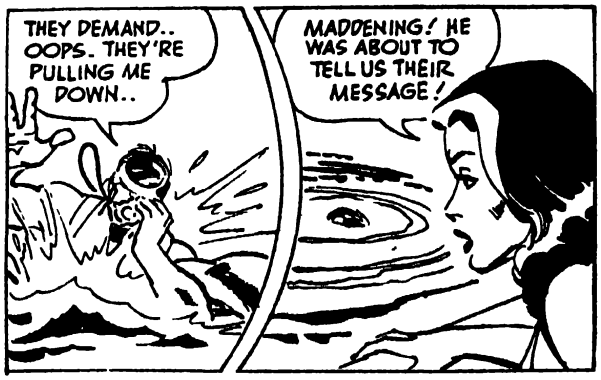
"NO, I DON'T WANT A SECOND HONEYMOON. I WANT A SECOND MARRIAGE."



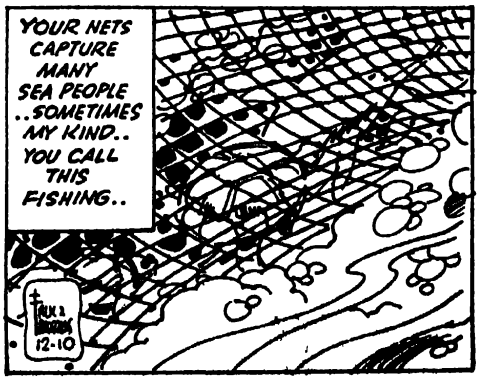
"YOU'RE LINED UP PERFECTLY:.. NOW EASE IN SIDEWAYS."



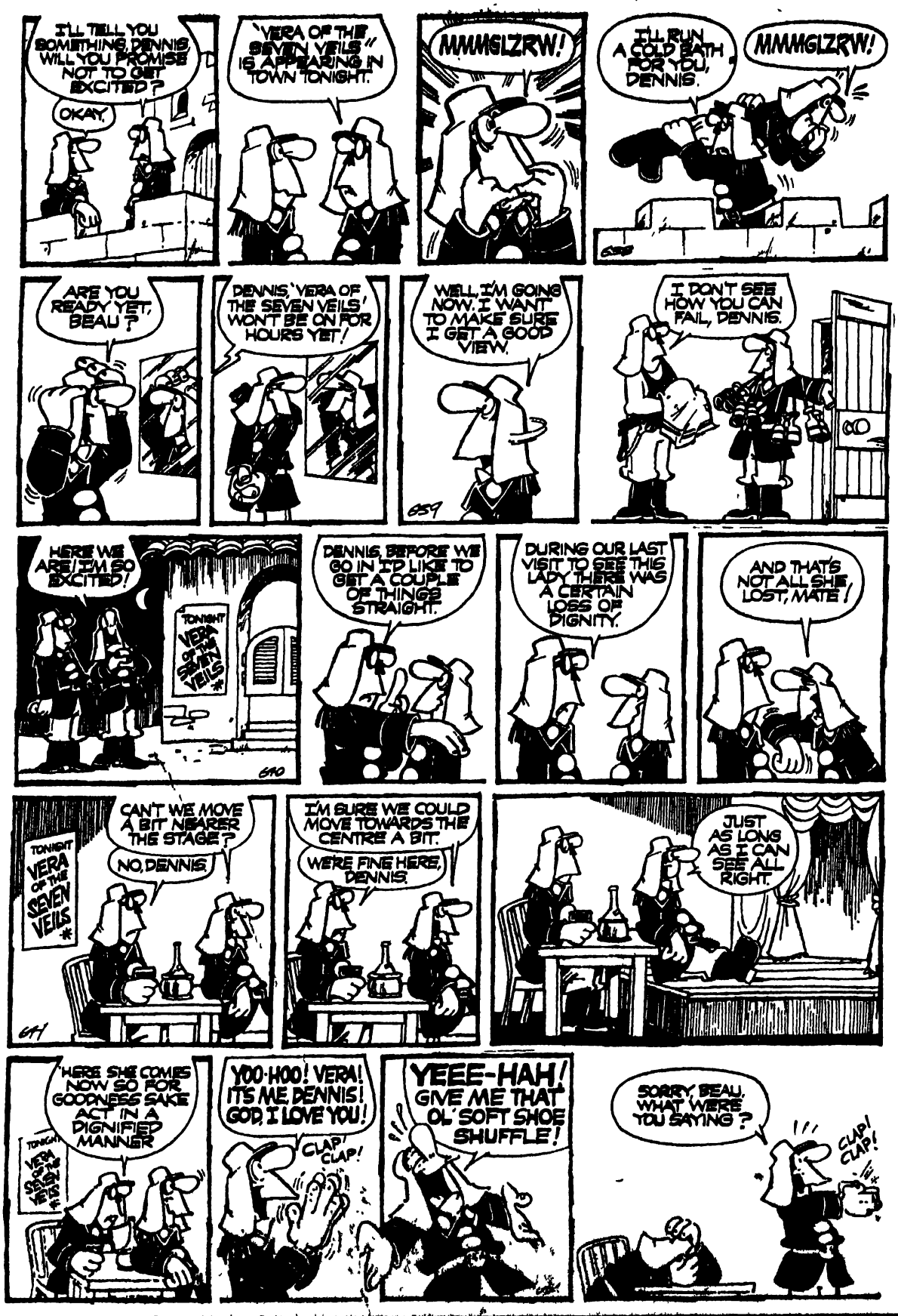
"I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU'D BE WAITING IN HARDWARE!"



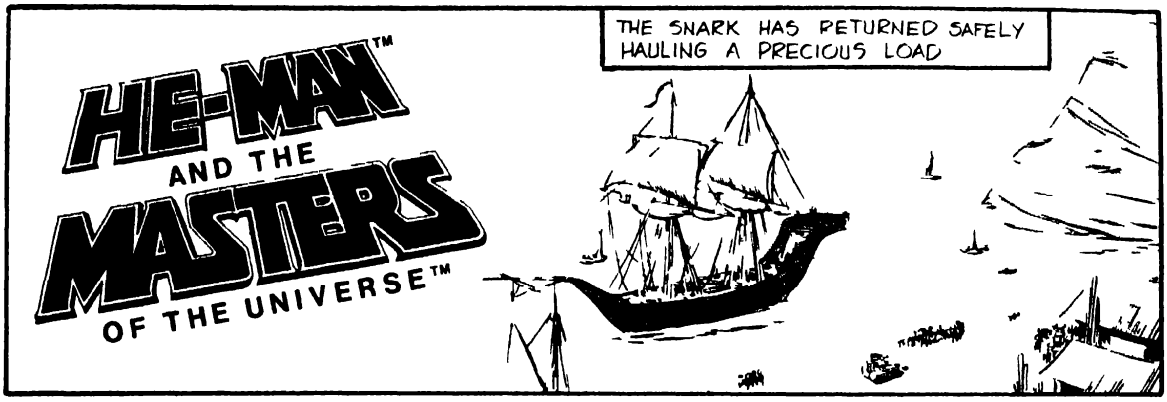


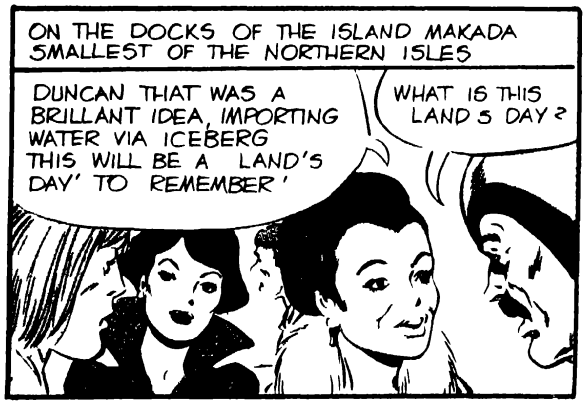


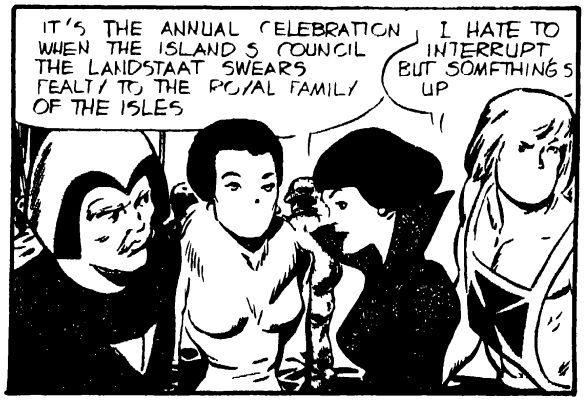



I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING, DENNIS. WILL YOU PROMISE NOT TO GET EXCITED?
OKAY.
"VERA OF THE SEVEN VEILS" IS APPEARING IN TOWN TONIGHT.
MMMGLZRW!
I'LL RUN A COLD BATH FOR YOU, DENNIS.
MMMGLZRW!
ARE YOU READY YET, BEAU?
DENNIS, "VERA OF THE SEVEN VEILS" WON'T BE ON FOR HOURS YET!
WELL, I'M GOING NOW. I WANT TO MAKE SURE I GET A GOOD VIEW.
I DON'T SEE HOW YOU CAN FAIL, DENNIS.
HERE WE ARE! I'M SO EXCITED!
TONIGHT VERA OF THE SEVEN VEILS *
DENNIS, BEFORE WE GO IN I'D LIKE TO GET A COUPLE OF THINGS STRAIGHT.
DURING OUR LAST VISIT TO SEE THIS LADY THERE WAS A CERTAIN LOSS OF DIGNITY.
AND THAT'S NOT ALL SHE LOST, MATE!
TONIGHT VERA OF THE SEVEN VEILS *
CAN'T WE MOVE A BIT NEARER THE STAGE?
NO, DENNIS.
I'M SURE WE COULD MOVE TOWARDS THE CENTRE A BIT.
WE'RE FINE HERE, DENNIS.
JUST AS LONG AS I CAN SEE ALL RIGHT.
HERE SHE COMES NOW SO FOR GOODNESS SAKE ACT IN A DIGNIFIED MANNER
TONIGHT VERA OF THE SEVEN VEILS *
YOO-HOO! VERA! IT'S ME, DENNIS! GOD, I LOVE YOU!
CLAP! CLAP!
YEEE-HAH! GIVE ME THAT OL' SOFT SHOE SHUFFLE!
SORRY, BEAU. WHAT WERE YOU SAYING?
CLAP! CLAP!

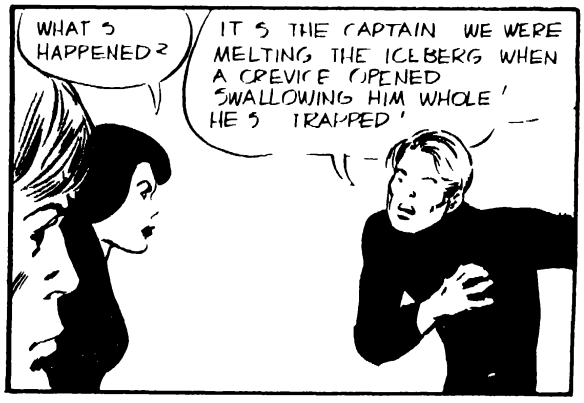
HE-MAN™ AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™





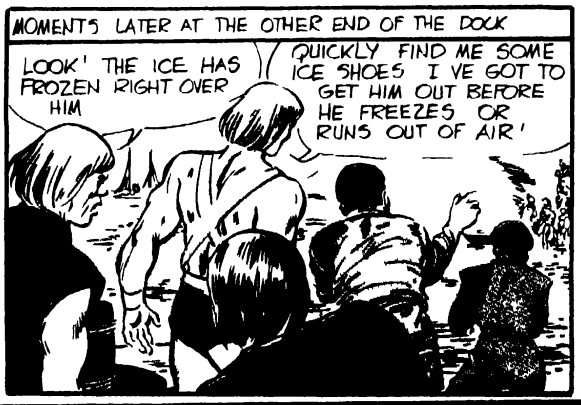












CANDID CAMERA



Hello, what's **Chandra Shekhar** up to? Well, he's been at the receiver end of the phone tapping scam and decided to let himself be heard this time, loud and clear. Photograph by KALYAN CHAKRAVORTY



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

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350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

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MEDICLAIM

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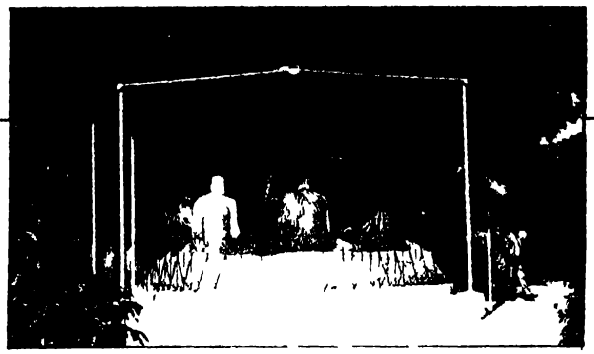
The Telegraph
29 APRIL 1990

The bad news first: Summer is here again. Sweat. Stickiness. Soaring celsius.

And now the good: It's time again to pack up and get away from it all. To climes that are aaah. To hills that are oh-ho. To seasides that are phew, with the waters going lap-lap.

It's time for the cool and the calm.

It's time for the great escapes.



Ashok Das

4 Some of the places in Bihar and Orissa where you can be far from the madding crowd.



Sujoy Das

21 Sandakphu and Dzongri are two and four days' treks from Darjeeling, respectively—and they could hardly be matched in the pleasure they give.

8 The grand wilderness of Simlipal can be better enjoyed than described.



Debabrata Banerjee

10 Goa spells magic, mirth and music. And many things else besides the swipe of feni.

26 Nepal is God's great idea in tourism and the kingdom this year is all dressed up and ready to welcome visitors.



Debabrata Banerjee

13 Khajuraho is a spectacle in stone which draws everyone from Swiss undergraduates to Japanese businessmen to the intense artists from France. Everyone, it seems, except Indians.

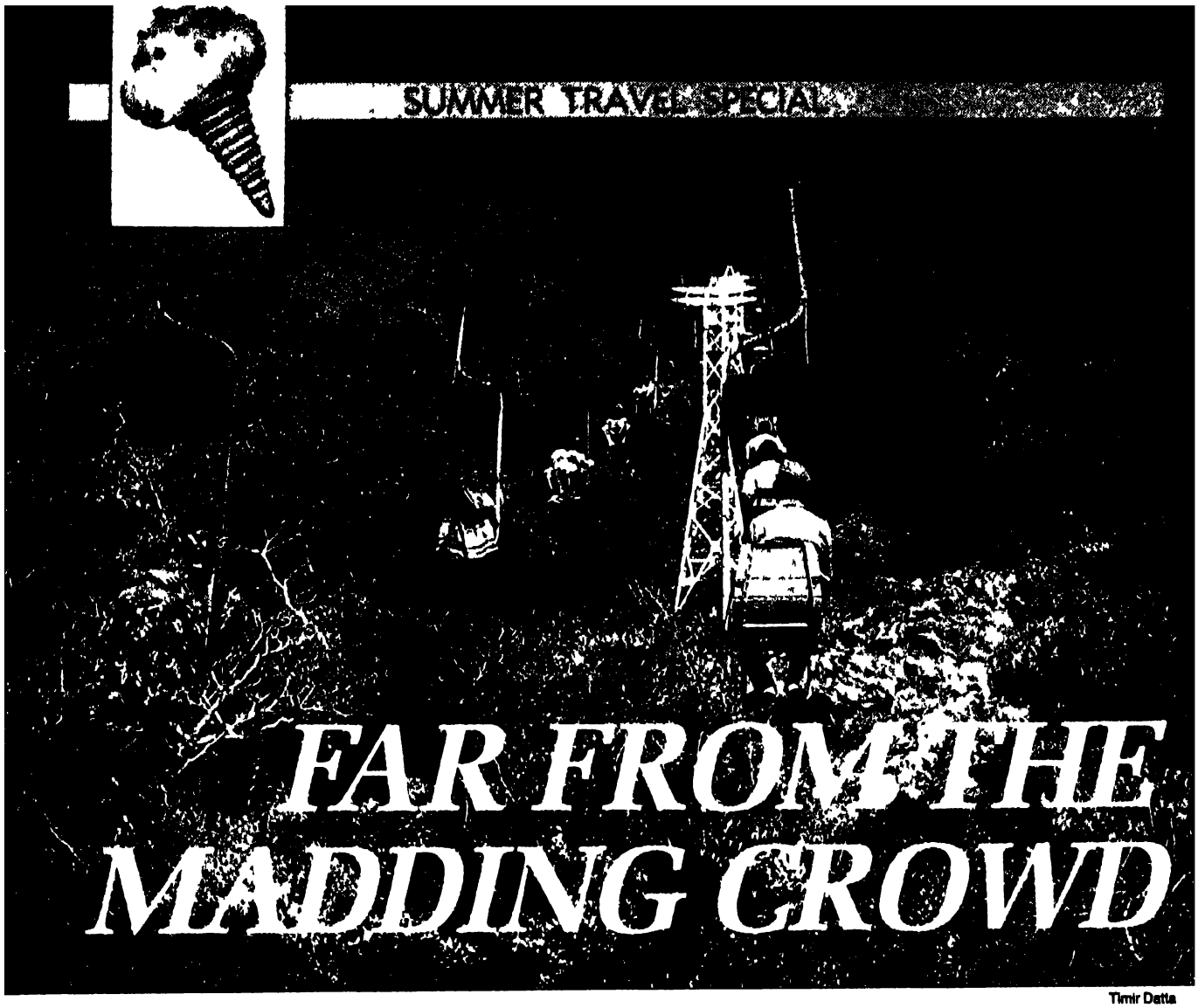


Gopal Debnath

SECTIONS

32 7 Days
35 Post Mortem
36 Quiz
37 Heritage
39 Junior Whirl
40 Inner Eye
41 Comics
46 Leisure

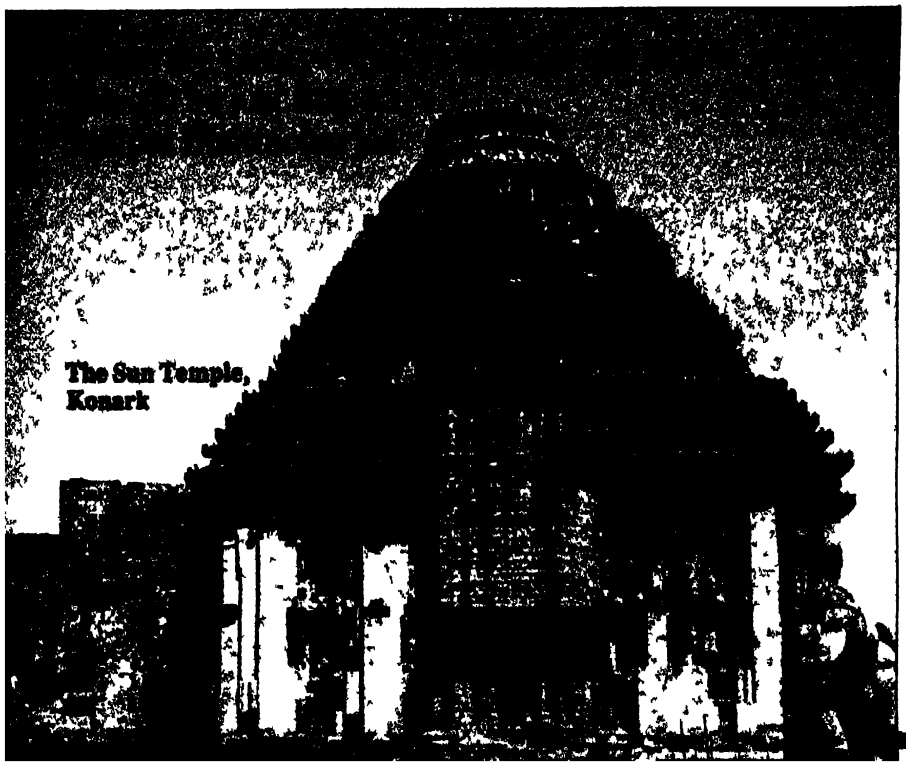
Cover The fern-clad forests between Yuksam and Bakhim, by Sujoy Das



SUMMER TRAVEL SPECIAL

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

Tirnir Datta



The Sun Temple, Konark

Tirnir Datta

"The people of Bengal," goes a saying in the vernacular, "are *bhojan bilashi* and *bhroman bilashi*"—food and travel being their two greatest passions. And while the heat of summer and end-of-school term relief call for a holiday, the tropical climate and the inevitable rush make long distance travel a nightmare. What bliss, then, to discover that the neighbouring states of Bihar and Orissa offer resorts as yet untouched by the bane of civilisation, where hills and rivers merge with cool, whispering forests to wipe away the city cobwebs and infuse a sense of renewed well-being which gears one to cope with a hectic routine once again!

Bihar often comes as a pleasant surprise to those who least expect to find mystique and natural splendours in that state. If you are fond of nature and solitude, or even travelling in a group, head for McCluskieganj. The name evokes nostalgia, for a sleepy hamlet nestling amid the rocky glades of Ranchi district, beckoning the traveller to savour its dew-drenched walks, its hilly forests, and yes, even a haunted house that is said to have belonged to McCluskie himself!



McCluskieganj

Kamalendu Sarkar

Take the Doon Express from Howrah, and board the Barkakhana coach, which is disconnected at Gomoh and attached to another train while you are blissfully asleep. At Barkahkana, simply hop off and board a bogie towards the front of the train, and you'll be in McCluskieganj in no time. Once there, walk along the metalled road for about 10 minutes to one of the private bungalows which offer accommodation. R. Miller's Queen's Cottage is a pretty house with a lovely garden, if you like it, and offers rooms for Rs 50, and a kitchen Those who like being waited upon can avail of the chowkidar's culinary skills or opt for one of the eating-houses nearby.

Rest awhile, then set out to explore The inhabitants are simple, honest folk, if any guidance is called for. The more adventurous can visit the 'haunted' house at night, especially by moonlight It is an out-of-this-world experience. There are charming picnic spots to spend your days, on the banks of the gurgling Chattu river, from where one can watch soul-stirring sunsets Only the bells tinkling as the cattle return from distant pastures will bring you back to earth

The entire Ranchi district, in fact, offers such delights Children generally resent an overdose of quiet contentment, and for them, Ranchi town itself, situated 2,140 feet above sea level in the very heart of the Chhotanagpur belt, is a perfect base for excursions The Hundru falls, where the Subarnarekha cascades down from a height of 320 feet, the Johna falls of the Kanchi river, or Dessamgarh, are all within a radius of 45 kms or less The beautiful Hirni falls, 75 kms from Ranchi, are also a must. The climate, as the tourism department unfailingly points out, is "salubrious," but the rocks and verdant scenes are enough to restore you anyway!

From Ranchi, one can head for the hill station of Netarhat. Known as the 'Queen of Chhotanagpur', at an elevation of 3,700 feet, these hills lack the grandeur of the Himalayas, but provide enjoyable trekking ground and offer glorious views of sunrises and sunsets Stay at the tourist bungalow or Palamau Bungalow if you are an early riser—it offers the best views of sunrise Sunset is visible from Magnolia Point, 10 kms away Picnic spots like the upper and lower Ghagri waterfalls and the Koel Viewpoint (for a breathtaking view of the Koel river), or excursions to the Lodh and Sadni falls (by jeep) are recommended

If time permits, head 104 kms east to the vast sanctuary of the Palamau National Park With its panoramic valleys and ridges, silent lakes and turbulent waterfalls, this part of the Chotanagpur plateau houses the famous Betla tiger reserve Abundant wildlife in the form of elephants, langurs, sambhars, gaur, cheetal, nilghai, sloth bear, and if you are really lucky, the tigers themselves, will greet you in their natural habitat. Once the seat of the Chera kings, the park, covering an area of 250 sq. kms houses a fort and several historical monuments. Palamau was the world's first forest to enumerate its tiger census in 1932 and has three watch-towers to give you the vantage points for sighting wildfire at waterholes The Swiss Family Robinson treetop tower is a favourite haunt of tourists.

Hazaribagh, too, has a national park. About 26 kms from the popular health resort, the park stands at an elevation of 2,919 feet above sea level The Canary Hill and Hazaribagh lake are sights to behold The wildlife at this sanctuary includes panthers

From Hazaribagh, one can visit Rajarappa, 89 kms away Or, if you are on a shoe-string budget, travel to Rajarappa directly from Howrah, taking the Black Diamond Express to Dhanbad, and subsequently a bus or jeep. This place spells wild beauty Blessed with hills and forests and two very different rivers—the gushing Damodar and the gently flowing Bhairavi. The confluence of the two is an exquisite sight. The huge boulders, the white sand, and the waters dancing merrily on the rocky bed, drench the senses. Relax with your feet in running water, or walk in the hills, or spend your day in the forest. The *dharamshala* is happy to accommodate



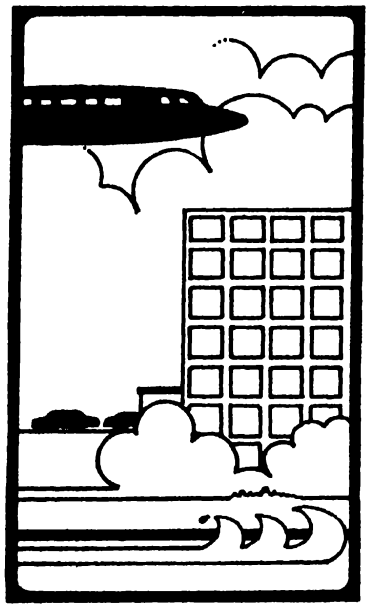
Beach at Puri

Biswaranjan Rakshit

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you, free of cost.

For tourists who prefer historical associations to nature's glory, Rajgir and Nalanda offer excellent gateways. Rajgir, where Buddha lived and Mahavir was born, is just a village today, but vestiges of its legendary past remain. A cyclopean wall encircles the town and local folklore ascribe the rock engravings to Lord Krishna's chariot. A ropeway provides the link with a hilltop stupa built by the Japanese. One of the hills houses the Saptparni cave, where the first Buddhist council was held and which is the source of the local hot springs. One can fly to Patna, or take a train to Gaya. Buses and taxis are readily available from these points to Rajgir. Nalanda, 12 kms away, has the ruins of one of the world's most ancient universities. Founded in the 5th century AD, at one time, nearly 2,000 teachers and 10,000 students graced these hallowed portals. The excavations reveal stupas, a large stairway, decorated panels, lecture halls, dormitories and images of Buddha, some of which are displayed at the Nalanda Museum.

For sea-lovers, the coastal state of Orissa provides ample holiday fare. If you are weary of the madding crowd at Puri and Konarak (although the Chandrabhaga beach, three kms from the Konarak Panthanivas—as the Orissa tourism hotels are called—is fairly quiet) go to Chandipur. With the casuarina forests, this beach is unique because the water recedes upto five kms at regular intervals everyday. To get to one of India's finest beaches, the sand dunes and the unhurried lifestyle of fisherfolk, take a train to Balasore. There are regular bus services for the 16-km route to the Panthanivas. At Balighai, where the river Budhabalanga meets the ocean, lies a superb stretch of sand. Join the fishermen in a boatride here—and return with memories galore.

Another cool resort in summer is Harishankar in Bolangir district, on the southern slopes of the Gandhamadan hills. Streams cascade down hard granite rocks. This is an interesting venture for trekkers. A good motorable road connects rocks. This is an interesting venture for trekkers A good motorable road connects this pilgrim spot with Bolangir.

Another expanse of water is at your disposal at Chilka, the largest brackish water lake in Asia. One can fly to Bhubaneswar or take a train to Balugaon and stay at either Rambha, Barkul or Balugaon. The OTDC has launches to visit the myriad little islands which have rather fascinating names. Besides cruising around, one can also visit charming spots like Nirmaljhara and Narayani in the hills bordering the 1,100-square-km lake.

Fifteen kms from Berhampur is another tourist resort, that of Taptapani, with lush green forests and hot sulphur springs. The sulphur water is channelised to a nearby pond and also to the shower-baths at the Panthanivas. A visit here is bound to have recuperative effects.

Besides seashores and forests, Orissa is also blessed with heights. One can head for the majestic Mahendragiri, set at 5,000 feet above sea level in the Parlekhemundi subdivision of Ganjam district. With its associations with the Ramayan and Mahabharat, this hill is covered with evergreen forests and has a trickling stream by the name of Mahendratanaya. One can reach this area with its archaeological findings either by bus (125 kms from Berhampur) via Taptapani or Parlekhemundi. It is then another 46 km busride to Khainpur, a jeep ride to the Burkhat pass, and finally a 10 km trek. Those equipped with the energy to accomplish that can put up at PWD bungalows at Jeeranga and Parlekhemundi, or the Circuit House and REO restshed at Parlekhemundi.

If one travels further south to the Nilgiris, Panchalingeshwar helps saturate the senses with its unkempt beauty. Nestling in the foothills, this place is lavishly blessed with springs and wildlife. Five invisible Shivalingams give the place its name, where, curiously, no temple has been built. The Dhauli Express takes you from Howrah to Balasore, a bus to Rajpathbari, from where you can either trek the remaining seven kms or take a rickshaw to the tourist bungalow. And next morning, step out into the jungle and look for the herds of elephants that amble down the forest path and yet catch you unawares.

Orissa has yet another quiet retreat in the Saranda range, the forests of the 700 hills, in Kiriburu and Meghatuburu. Take a train either to Jamshedpur or Chakradharpur and then a bus. Meghatuburu has a beautiful guest house for which bookings must be made in advance. There is also the Bokaro Steel Plant hostel, where one can breathe in the magic spell of the hills, 4,500 feet above sea level. Trek to the viewpoint and witness the glory of nature.

Any nature lover travelling to Orissa should head for Simlipal, 200 km from Calcutta, which houses the Project Tiger and was the home of Khairi. With waterfalls at Barehipani and Jaranda, and the grassy belt of Bachurichara, Simlipal has a number of forest bungalows and log huts for tourists to bask amid its fauna. If possible, enter through Bangriposhi for a drive through the 'ghat roads', and spend a night in the watchtower for a rewarding experience. The sound of waterfalls and birdcalls, the quaint dwellings, complete with a moat and drawbridge, helps induce a sense of thrill only forests can. To visit the park, prior permission must be obtained from the assistant conservator of forests, Jashipur. ■



SUMMER TRAVEL SPECIAL

WESTWARD, HO!

Oh, to be born in the west. Oh, to be a NRI or BBB *Bharat se bhagi hui Bharatvasi*. Oh, to be anywhere, even the Upper Limpopo Valley, any where but *jis desh me ganga behti hai*.

Schools over next stop US of A. Remember the cardinal truth always, that studies abroad guarantee splendour in this life and may be in the hereafter also. Of course, no one's blaming the kids, wouldn't we do the same again given half a chance when we were that age, or any other age for that matter Anything to escape from a country which still hasn't managed to produce a dry cell battery which lasts as long as its *phoren* counterpart or a safety pin which doesn't rust in less than a week, but has perfected a people who are ready to dump the country at the word 'green' and join the other 'Green Brigade' who live (oh, lucky!) that side of the Atlantic

The other side, where the grass is greener, the sun is sunnier, the lunatics are crazier and the junkies are jumpier So happy they are, these people who made it, with their computerized washing machines, their sausage-pizzas delivered on their doorsteps, their cards of many colours, their BMW's and Porches, their jacuzzis and condominiums, their freeways where commuters on their unlucky days out can be freely killed, their adopted culture of drugs, AIDS and dropout children, who yell child abuse at the word discipline, and their social life where they keep strictly to their own kind and within their strictly defined social perimeters Foreigners, always never one of them. Yup, they're so divinely happy there, that their children don't know that they have a mother tongue other than English, and that the sitar isn't an extra terrestrial, on a short visit to planet earth.

So, who cares, when the greenbacks keep rolling and you can take a vacation in the Club Med, have your own automatically Hoovered house (it dusts itself! The housewife's ultimate dream!), shake hands with Mickey Mouse in Disneyland, fly in aeroplanes, which never crash, and lastly but never leastly, pile up enough of the big bucks to come back to Hicksville Bharat, at regular intervals So you can congratulate yourself everytime on a decision well made Thank God you don't live here anymore! Imagine gas costing nine bucks a litre, cooking on kerosine stoves, generating your own electricity, digging your own tubewells and oh wow, the roads Of course, the Marutis are kinda cute (that's because of the Japs, naturally) and India has managed to produce Agni and mineral water, but the mail, the rail, the planes! Too much

So, knock out the relatives by spreading around the loot a little bit, hand out the Revlon lipsticks, Charlie perfumes to the dames, the sugarless bubblegum to the kids, flash the gold Piaget, carelessly give away the Marlboro's, talk of your Lincoln stretch limo back home to the guys, and watch the eyes glaze and the mouths water Watch the parties being thrown helter skelter in your honour, in the hope of largesse to come overseas A guy 'helping' out another chap in another *desh*, for a small monetary consideration, has nothing to do with depriving the country of your birth.

And ho-hum to that...



Time to go, has nothing to do with actually wanting to go back, because hey, it was good to be here for a little while Really felt great to feel loved and wanted by the home folks again, good to know that you've finally made it (by Indian standard, that is), chuffed to be able to relate to people on the same level, without being constantly aware of the colour of your skin or your accent, and hush, don't say it, to actually belong. Of course the kids were'nt really very happy. They're not really used to hearing Bengali being spoken or eating greasy food, and Thums up ain't really Coke y'know. Still, good to know India's trying hard to keep up with the hamburger age!

Invite all, to visit you back home (thank God they'll never be able to dredge up the 12,000 bucks), promise to send medicines, Pampers, Clairol hair colour, and Cross pens, but not to worry, folks are so happy with words alone that they forget just as fast Feel secretly pleased that a great holiday with everything thrown in didn't cost you a dime Not your fault that folks know that you're used to 5-star cultures, and that visa and Mastercard aren't of much use here

Heave a sigh of relief at the tremendous success of your visit and admit, now that you are at long last on the flight back home, that you're safe to drop all the pretences Hope sincerely, that no one guessed that back home you still prefer eating *bhundi* (only its tropical soul food now) to pizzas, that the limousine and the duplex apartment aren't yet a reality, and that you still dream (when you have the time) in Bengali of those good old days back in Calcutta

Try not to remember the words of some drunken moron who called you a ABCD—All Bharat Confused *Desis* Hardly relevant right?

Right on babe, you've sure come a long way!

Diti Sen

TRUMPET CARD

The glorious green of Simlipal, which harbours 600 elephants, is better enjoyed than described, says **Amarendra Lal Bose**

Simlipal is a "mirable visu" (wonderful to see) natural reserve. The Simlipal hills are at their best between late September and early June. Moonlight streaming through the dense foliage of trees lulls you to sleep in any forest rest house that you may occupy during your sojourn. So, if any city dweller is going to respond to the call of the green in Simlipal, he should plan his holiday around this time.

The forests of Simlipal are accessible by rail from Balasore, 56 kms from Baripada, and also from Jamshedpur, a distance of 115 kms from Jashipur. The nearest airports are Bhubaneswar and Calcutta, 270 and 230 kms away, respectively. Simlipal Forest Development Corporation (SFDC), a state-owned organisation, offers conducted tours in 24-seater buses and five-seater luxury jeeps.

By their floristic composition, the forests in Simlipal broadly come under the northern tropical moist deciduous forests type and northern tropical semi-evergreen forests which intermingling with each other and having been influenced by the configuration of ground, edaphic and biotic factors have evolved intermediate forms peculiar to the tract. The main types met include plain sal forests, dry deciduous hill forests, high level sal forests, grasslands and savannahs.

But what is so special about Simlipal?

In Simlipal, nature has epitomised the beauty of the verdant tropical forests. A rolling tableland, 800-1,000m. high in an oval expanse over 2,750 sq.kms in north Orissa, Simlipal holds everything that a tourist needs for a healthy recreation in pristine nature.

Its endlessly rhythmic, rolling hills, and happy valleys, its versatile vistas of silvan glory on red and saffron soil, its numerous murmuring brooks and rocky glens, perennial rivers of transparent pools a gorgeous falls, and its azure sky wi leisurely drifting clouds are eve refreshing and picturesque. The swe melodies of Simlipal are soothing and t avian life of Simlipal has a vast variet

Simlipal is where elephants can be se and heard everywhere and that is why it better known as the 'sanctum sanctoriu of elephants'. There is a saying that elephant must visit Simlipal at least on during its lifetime. According to an en nent naturalist, Simlipal had the large concentration of elephants (an estimat 600), in the country.

The baby elephants here appear to the choicest dish of the tiger, though. Simplipal tiger will doggedly follow a he for days to pounce on a baby elepha outside the protective ring of the adu The drama in this living vibrant nature awe-inspiring even by its sound. Wh witnessed, it reveals the tiger's renown strength, strategy and speed.

The rivers of Simlipal are rich with th famous sportive fish, mahseer and mu gers (the marsh crocodile) are also four in some of the rivers. Amor the important larger denizens of Simlipal the unique four-horned Chowsingha whi the toothless, long-tongued scaly an eater, the pangolin, is among the interes ing smaller ones.

The tranquility in the dense forest Simlipal seeps into the marrows to gene ate a sense of relaxation that lingers lon after you are back from these hills, an one feels restless to revisit the place.

The open valleys in south Simlipal– *Bachhurichara* (the tender graze calves), with its meandering flow of th clear Deo river through miles of lush gree carpet and the magnificent frost sculptured wolf trees are unforgettabl scenes.

At Chahala, cool and serene insid dense sal forests, you may stay in th forest rest house or the Eucalyptus Villa It is very likely that you may make you first acquaintance with the elephants, th Sambar, the muntjacs, chausinghas, an with luck, the tiger, too.

Barheipani (the rope of water) has pucca rest house and a log cabin, the latte facing the gorgeous Barheipani waterfal 1,308 ft high on river Budhabalanga.

Bakua, unlike its name, is calm and coo



A herd of elephants



Aranya Nivas at Lulung

excepting the occasional trumpeting of the elephant, the bellowing of the sambar, the barking of the muntjacs and the alarm of the cheetal, all alert for the prowling tiger. Not far off from the log cabin, is the huge monolithic peak of Atharadeuli, the holiday home of the aboriginal Bathudis. At the foothills there, you will find the dilapidated remains of a small temple, the silent witness, perhaps, of a long-lost civilisation. The Atharadeuli tigress is probably today its regular devotee.

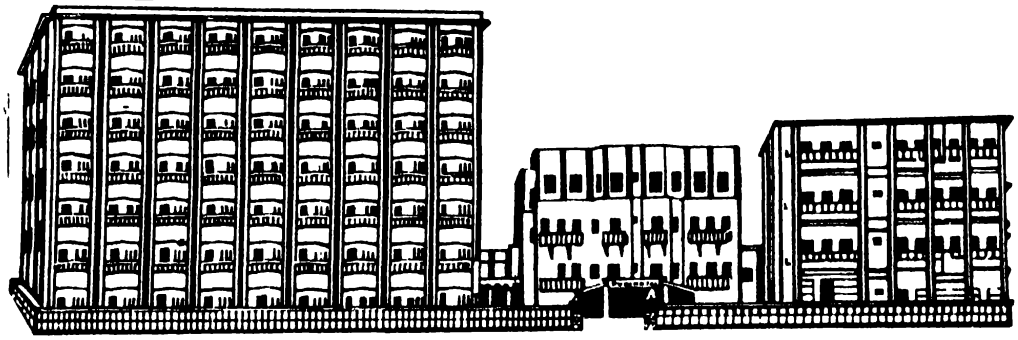
At Bhanjabasa, literally meaning the 'Camp of the Bhanjas' (erstwhile rulers of Mayurbhanj), is the permanent abode of elephants, tigers and many other wild animals, birds and reptiles. A dense moist forest, rich with champa and nageswar, you can see a riotous display of rare orchids and acres and acres of beautiful lilies. Up there in the north, not far from the rest house is Meghasan (seat of the clouds), the highest peak in Simplipal, 1,256.9 m. above sea level. On a clear day, the Bay of Bengal can be seen from here lapping the coast, 80 kms away to the south-east (at Chandipore-on-sea).

In a bid to give a boost to the development of tourism in Simlipal, the department of tourism recently opened an Aranya Nivas (forest lodge) at Lulung in the lap of Simlipal, about 26 kms from Baripada. The lodge, funded by the tourism department of the Government of India and the state government of Orissa, was constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 70 lakhs. The lodge provides two dormitories of 12 beds each, four cottages of four beds each, and one central cottage with two beds.

The Central government has provided two pet elephants for this lodge so that the tourists residing here could be taken round the forests, while safely ensconced on the back of these elephants. The elephants are, however, yet to be put into service. Two wagonettes, each a 16-seater, have also been provided at this lodge for the movement of the tourists. With these infrastructures available, it is hoped that there will be a big spurt in tourist flow into Simlipal, one of the finest genetic treasuries of the wild in this country.

Simplipal is one of the best managed 'Project Tigers' in the country. The tiger population in this reserve was estimated at 17 only when Project Tiger was launched in October 1973. And now under the protective umbrella of the project, the estimated number of tigers in the reserve has gone up to 93, turning the forests in to a prestige project for the country's imperilled national animal. ■

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MIRTH AND MUSIC

Behold a glorious sunset through the green fresco of swaying palms, the shimmering gold of sunlight on sand, the azure of a seemingly endless horizon beyond surf-caressed seas, the intoxicating hues resulting in a perfect Rembrandt of memories To the starry-eyed tourist, Goa spells magic, mirth and music, and yes, that inevitable swipe of feni

Like everything beautiful, so much has been said about India's youngest state that one tends to overlook the dragnet of cliches The erstwhile Portuguese bastion may have seen the last of its hidalgos and cavalheiros, but tourism is an art Goans can never be accused of neglecting Blessed with a surfeit of beaches, the state also sports a wildlife reserve, a lake amid undulating green stretches, and rivers with names that spell music, not to mention the cathedrals and temples that seem out of this world

With so much in store, there is, naturally, a spate in tourist trade, and accommodation in government tourist lodges call for bookings months in advance For the affluent Dalmia Resorts has established the Apartment Hotel, at the Old Anchor on Cavelossim beach, Salcete, and the Oberoi Bogmalo Beach also offers holiday packages round the year For the majority, however, mediocre and small hotels cater quite competently in Panaji and other Goa towns like the bustling Mapusa, though beach locations seem fairly reserved for government hotels

Goa is very well connected with Bombay, Pune and towns down south by road, rail and air, but the treat is to cruise along the coast and sail into port at Panaji via the Mandovi (restricted to the winter season only) This beautiful river lends its name to Panaji's five-star hotel on the strand and also caters to river cruises on full-moon nights



The Bom Jesus Basilica

Thanks to the tourism department, on three consecutive moonlit nights, a ship festooned with fairy lights holds a fiesta on deck as a group entertains in real Portuguese fashion—songs and dances complete with the mantillas and humming strings—as the boat cruises along

And as the festive spirit seeps in the spectators are called to watch the moonrise the huge silver sphere literally rising out of the water Dinner on board is optional, but delicious, and the music resumes while the ship slowly returns to port The evening indeed opens a delightful vista of joy for the lucky tourist at a nominal sun The Oberoi pack-





Goa is the shortest name of everything that throbs with life

age, too, includes a cruise on the Mandovi, but only to watch the sunset. The Old Anchor packages, on the other hand, offers a cruise in a pleasure boat down the river Sol.

The rivers, however, are probably the least of Goa's scenic delights. The average tourist opts for the two trips—to north and south Goa—by luxury coaches, and departs the next day wondering where the magic really lies. It lies, of course, on the sun-drenched beaches: Vagator, Anjuna, Baga, Calangute, Candolim and Miramar to the north of the capital, and Colva, Benaulim, Cavelossim and Mobor to the south. Of these, the first three are relegated as hippy domain, although the ban on nudism may have alleviated their appeal for foreign tourists to some extent. These beaches, especially Anjuna, have a wild and unkempt beauty, where cliffs and rough seas seem engaged in a timeless interaction. Unfortunately, government residential facilities are almost nil here, preferring the sedate and more conventional beaches for investment. Calangute, of course, is the "Queen of the beaches" while Colva has its share of renown as one of the world's longest beaches, stretching for nearly 9 km. Both have excellent tourist lodges right on the beach.

Goa is also justifiably famous for Se Cathedral and the Bom Jesus Basilica, where the body of St Xavier rests. The Manguesh and Shanta Durga temples, the old prison and Fort Aguada are the other panoramic spots, to name a few. There are places like the Bandla forest reserve which are generally not covered by the guided tours, leaving visitors in the dark about one of the most sylvan sanctuaries

The Mayem lake is another resort which offers scope for paddling and rowing after a memorable drive, an expanse of blue dotted with colourful boats with the quaintest jetty amid green rolling hills. But water sport is best at places like Dona Paola, which is also the most vantage point for witnessing glory nonpareil in the form of sunsets. A few kilometres from Panaji, this confluence of the *Ek Duuje Ke Liye* fame offers speedboats to help you zoom off to vast blue yonder.

And once the sights are seen, and Goa cuisine, with its xacutis and vindaloos, sampled, what better way to round off a vacation well-spent than to gather at the little tower at Dona Paola to watch a fiery Apollo sink into the arms of Poseidon, blessing mortals with the promise of a new day. And in the gathering twilight, birds trill home, fishermen return, nets in tow, and lights begin to twinkle at the distant port, satiating the senses and initiating the first tinge of reluctance to bid paradise adieu.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee

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TRAVELLER'S TALE

Or, what happens when you head West

Whenever I travel abroad these days, which sadly isn't as often as it used to be, I am always struck by the abundance, the sheer plenitude of consumer goods displayed on store shelves, specially in that geographical area some people still refer to as the New World.

Last year in Montreal, for example, my daughter asked me to pick up a packet of cornflakes from the corner supermarket when I came back from a downtown junket. She didn't mention any particular brand, nor did I think it necessary to ask. After all, cornflakes are cornflakes.



Imagine my surprise, therefore, to find an entire section of Steinberg's piled sky-high, rack upon rack, from one end to the other, with nothing else but breakfast cereals. There must have been a hundred varieties, from plain crispies as we know them to others dipped in honey or flavoured with coffee or chocolate, and yet others reinforced with raisins, walnuts, apples, strawberries—you name it—these made up from corn, bran, rice, oats and what-have-you. I picked up a 12-pack of miniatures in different varieties and fled in utter confusion.

Aruna burst out laughing. "Oh, Daddy," she remonstrated, "we don't use any of these, but not to worry. I'll nip over and change this for our usual brand." One of the good things in Western shops is that you can return anything you don't want, no questions asked, and have your money back or something in exchange.

There was the same unending variety in almost everything—toiletries, wearing apparel and even proprietary medicines. But the prices! Everything was about 10 times the cost of equivalent goods and services available in India.

I nearly fainted when I was told that the limousine the children had hired to bring us from the airport had cost them 80 dollars, and again when they paid $10 for a bottle of eye-drops—the contents of which I had spilled along the way. I had paid Rs 12 for this in Calcutta. "Forget it, Dad," they said, when they saw the look on my face. "Conversion only complicates. Reckon that a dollar equals a rupee and you won't feel so bad."

A day or two after our arrival, my wife and I were taken to the offices of the Quebec Transport Ministry, where we were issued passes entitling us to half-fare on all public transportation—buses, metro etc, the pass served as an identity-card and proved to be a boon, money-wise. Senior citizens (those 65 and over, even visitors) are pampered in many ways in North America, and apart from discounts at theatres and restaurants, most stores organise special sales from time to time when retired persons are offered goods at much reduced prices.

There were other pleasant surprises. Despite the tales of muggings in New York and of rape, highway robbery and general mayhem from coast to coast, we saw no evidence of these in a three-month visit. Instead, we found courtesy, discipline and honesty of the highest degree.

When my wife lost her purse in a large department store, it was delivered to us at the flat the next morning, its contents intact. The latter included our passports and the entire amount of traveller's cheques we had been allowed. The messenger refused a tip.

Indians were everywhere—in the upper echelons or government and industry; doctors, professors, engineers, bankers, entrepreneurs of infinite variety. They can be counted in tens of thousands in cities like Washington and Toronto, whereas there had been only a handful when I served in these very places in the mid-forties and early fifties.

The owner of a restaurant—named the Taj Mahal, what else?—refused to take any money for our meal, but when we insisted, he cut down the bill by half. And while coming out of a travel office, someone who was standing next to me at the counter offered to give me a lift home. I told him that I lived at the other end of town, but he ignored this and almost pushed me into his Chrysler convertible.

As he switched on the starter, I could not believe my ears when this pink-cheeked, clean-shaven man-about-town turned to me and said in Americanised English: "My name is Buta Singh, sir. My grandparents came out to Vancouver from Moga at the end of World War I. My dad will be tickled pink when I tell him that I gave a ride to someone from the old country". The next day he sent a bouquet of flowers for my wife.

Things like these make a trip what it is. They can be more memorable than the sights the guide-books tell you about.

But perhaps our greatest surprise was on our return to India. At Sahar airport, a mountain of luggage at our feet, a plainclothes inspector came up and asked: "Anything to declare, sir—electronic goods, something like that?" When I shook my head, he quickly chalked each suitcase, got hold of two loaders, and we were out of Customs in two shakes of a lamb's tail. Few people believe this story.

And despite the tales that are now being told about Indian Airlines, our flight to Calcutta was dead on time. The interior of the Airbus was spotlessly clean, the hostesses smiling and helpful, and the food eminently eatable. The flight itself was smooth as silk and we arrived at Dum Dum right on the minute—altogether a fitting end to an old pilgrim's journey to the New World.

P.L. Bhandari

SPECTACLE IN STONE

Anjana Basu on Khajuraho, a sight for the gods

The road, a dusty snake, winds through the villages. March is grey scrub and thorns with here and there a scarlet spatter of bougainvillaea and dark dust green trees burnishing to gold in the mangoes. Cows and water buffaloes graze in the scrub, while the tree furred rocky hills in the distance threaten tigers, a sudden bone breaking pounce in the night. The rocks are granite, the soil arid until the water trickles up from its hidden depths into pools and cascades.

Newspapers disappear without a trace in the remoter corners and telephones are few and far between, but the snake road winds past a concrete building where the sign reads, 'Gare de la Polizia' and past a Lisieux Anand School at least 27 hours away from civilisation in any modern sense.

The only sensible way to get to Khajuraho is to fly. If you can catch the flight, that is. The half an hour flight from Venaras; theoretically lands 28 times a week, but has been reduced to five—and even those five flights are subject to cancellation. The other way is to take the train to Satna, the nearest railhead, and then board a three-hour bus that bumps its way with Hindi film music disco-style through the Vindhya Hills.

Everyone comes to Khajuraho: Swiss undergraduates trying to find ethnic release as Jain monks, Japanese businessmen looking for an alternative to Bangkok, intense artists from France. Indians, barring the local population, are probably the only ones in short supply. From the four corners of everywhere, the cosmopolitan world comes and settles in the main square at the foot of the western temples and its manicured lawns, in a huddle of fake antiques, modern plaster of Paris and cafes boasting Swiss management.

Khajuraho is a mismatched marriage between a village and a tourist spot. It is literally a series of dust roads punctuated with cows that wind past the budding stone shikharas of a Chandela Vatican City, centuries old. The prayers have gone and what remains is tangible only to the senses.

'Sensuous and sublime' is the way the tourism blurbs put it. Svelte *apsaras* frozen in stone, excited and exciting.



Anjana Basu

Tangles beyond the wildest possible imaginings of pornography. The guides crowding the main square have it all worked into their patter, starting with the obligatory, "You must understand that these are not simply sexercises."

The temples are the blue movies, the cinema and the night life of Khajuraho, restricted by law to the hours between sunrise and sunset. One of the temples, dedicated to Shiva, is still in use and cordoned off from the rest by barbed wire. Streams of women, many newly married, flow up the steps chanting, the *sindoor* fresh and red in their hair. After *darshan*, they visit the other temples with their menfolk in tow, frieze by frieze, comparing notes or gaping at physical impossibilities.

"There are three levels of sculpture," drone the guides. "On the first level we see her removing thorn from her foot while attendant stands by with vanity bag...writing love letter...receiving love letter...sad because she has bad news-...then exciting...being excited...finally reaching the highest level of excitement...pinching noses..." We race frantically craning our necks to see this one and finally discover an ecstatic couple rubbing noses Eskimo style , ..."and after the honeymoon she does not settle down, she does not relax, she paints her house..." Incredibly, she does too, every hair in place after her exertions, or coolly poses, chisel in hand, to sculpt.

In the lobby of the Chandela Hotel, on a far-away wall, is framed the following irreverent commentary: "There is a praiseworthy economy about the sculptures. Apparently only two models were used, one a man, the other a woman. The man has been depicted as fat, thin, hairy, bald, clean shaven and with a beard, depending on the role he plays. The woman is depicted as fat or thin, but never old—it is understood she was the girlfriend of the then ruler. Most people consider she is nude, but this is incorrect; she is dressed in the finest Indian muslin which—as everyone knows—was perfectly transparent.

Three activities are portrayed in the carvings—war, worship and physical culture. All three follow a set pattern. Large numbers of men, all really the same man, go to war. After about 50 yards of mayhem, they switch over to physical culture with the aid of the female model. They are careful not to overdo it: within a few yards they turn to worship. The technique of warfare is curiously modern, with much emphasis on the tank (the elephant). The physical culture is obviously of Yogic origin, including the Shir Shasan.

"The beauty of Khajuraho is the beauty of proportion. The vital statistics are an exotic 37-25-37."

In the curio shops, the erotic art business is brisk. Sets of plaster of Paris plaques in shades from shiny brown to virulent purple compete with hammered brass at Rs 85 and shiny stone for Rs 500, with the emphasis heavily on detail rather than on art. The beautiful *apsaras* and *surasundaris* engrossed in their love letters and their lipstick are curiously absent.

Khajuraho is a beast with the number of backs multiplying from two to four to six, rather than the heights of medieval Indian art with the stone slipping out of rigidity into an incredibly fluid three-dimensional form.

In the Raja Cafe, the most respected of the guides, known to all Khajuraho as Mamaji, sighs. "I think of all the tourists I dislike the Japanese. They look at the temples and ask if you can get call girls. I tell them I know what they are like, with their trips to Bangkok to befool their wives and I laugh and try to get over it with humour...but they make such filthy jokes in front of the women...no one else does that..."

The Chandela dynasty began in the 9th century AD, when the beautiful daughter of a Varanasi Brahmin staggered into the forests of what was then known as Gondwana, and gave birth to a baby boy. She was a widow and claimed that the father of her child was the moon god, Chandra, though the gossip of the time attributed paternity to a young Rajput warrior. The boy took full advantage of his supposedly divine origins, grew up into a king and named his dynasty after the moon god.

Khajuraho, where the temples blossomed from the local sandstone, was named after the oasis of *Khajur* trees surrounding it. It was the religious capital, the Chandela centre of life and prayer. It thrived between 950 and 1050 AD and boasted a cluster of 85 handhewn temples, manually dragged block by block from the local stone quarries and assembled without cement. (A frieze in the museum shows this in progress with a slight mithunic diversion at one end of the procession.)

Time erased the Chandela dynasty. The temples stood where they were, hidden by jungles and thickets and deserts, in the middle of nowhere, on the road to nowhere, until the Maharajah of Chattarpur renovated them in 1905 and presented them at the climax of a party to his irate British resident. The resident, who was in the middle of complaining to the Viceroy about the Maharajah's extravagance, found himself confronted by an archaeological discovery. Edwardian England was entertained and scandalised. This erotic extravaganza, they said, could never have been remotely religious. It was all part of those depraved decadent Indian goings-ons in the harems, didn't you know?

Over the neat green and bougainvillaea trimmed temple lawns, the sun was casting its long shadows. Preparing to set behind the shikhara of the Kandariya Mahadev Temple, the twilight streaking the sandstone and deepening the curves of the eternally smiling lips. "In Hindu philosophy, the female form represents energy and the male consciousness. When you unite energy and consciousness, you have creation in its most perfect form. Jugal, or union, symbolises this fusion." That was Mamaji's explanation, offered just before the temple gates closed for the night. Others said the walls were a celebration of life as it was lived then like the sculptures in Konarak. With a few Tantric and yogic elements thrown in for good measure. No one has yet had the last word on the subject.



Danseuse Kanak Rele at Khajuraho

Whatever the reason, 50,000 tourists come every year to visit a sleepy place that holds barely 3,000 people. The sign on the Khajuraho police station is written in five languages, and none of them are Indian. Peasants sitting by their heaps of brass and *gilat* antiques turn their noses up at hagglers. "Rs 30 for that? Keep your Rs 30. The *sahiblog* will give me Rs 150." Shoulder to shoulder with *mithunas*, *nayikas* and anklets are laughing Buddhas and bronze Ganeshes with carefully weathered features ("An Angrez paid Rs 400 for this. They like taking these things home with them)".

The tourists congregate at the Raja Cafe, which is also the local book exchange service and offers Japanese maths books. The cafe is run by a strapping bleached blonde from Calcutta. In a blue kaftan or sleeveless white sweater, she chases her fat dachshunds in and out of the cafe, defending them fiercely from the depredations of the local mongrels.

While Americans twirl spaghetti fascinatedly on their forks, a brother of the Maharajah of Panna wanders in, his forehead streaked with the victorious red *tilak* of a BJP MLA. He sits down next to Mamaji and the conversation wanders from MDs of Calcutta corporations to tiger hunts, to the successful Independent candidate of the region, a gentleman reputed to have a taste for feeding his

enemies to the lake crocodiles.

Violence strays into the middle of sex. The tourists pause, even more fascinated. On the Gwalior high road, says the prince, every man carries a rifle strapped to his two-wheeler. And it was a fact that one of the last election slogans in the Chattarpur area went: *Chhap do haathi mein, Na goh khao chhati meain.* Betty, the blonde, returns triumphantly with her dachshund, coffee sweetens the conversation and the forks busily set to work again.

Balanced on cycle rickshaws, sightseers perambulate up and down the road from temple to temple. In the Eastern Group, the Jain influence has taken over and the Jain monks are active amongst the stray carvings of an *apsara* lining her eyelids and another posed demurely in what must be one of the first printed muslins in Indian fashion. Dutiful Dutch novitiates wander up and down taking in the ruins. Gisela, a tour leader from Paris, takes a stroll around the temples while her group recovers from the sun in the airconditioned comfort of the Jass Oberoi. The Maharajah of Panna is holding his election celebrations there tonight and all the elite of Khajuraho will be present—MLAs, Anglo-Indians, Bharata Natyam dancers down for the Festival. There is just time for a quick bite at the Marwari restaurant, where the owner claims direct descent from the Chandela rulers.

Once every year in March, the temples came to life. Classical dancers from all over India performed on the floodlit chattar of the Kandariya Mahadev temple echoing the symmetry of the stone with their own grace. Until the Archaeological Survey reluctantly but firmly pointed out that the combined effects of the tablas and the floodlights might damage the old stones. But they came up with an alternative location a few hundred yards outside the temple enclosure, where the domes still formed a graceful backdrop to the whole performance.

For the TV cameras, however, the romance is still undisturbed. Early in the morning, just after the temple gates have opened at six and the grass *os* still busy with the attentions of *malis*, you can find Yamini Krishnamurthy or Swapna Sundari in full performance in front of the cameras just a few yards away from the Kandariya Mahadev. Morning fitness fanatics are the only spectators apart from the *malis* and the Shiva temple garland stringers.

At night, under the cold starlight of an early March sky, the scene is very different, with floodlights, coloured ball lanterns in the trees and the lightning flashes of Nikons freezing every pose. The glitterati of Khajuraho dress in everything from Chanderi saris and Jamavar shawls to jeans and denim jackets. Hysterical Italian tourists scuttle around like chickens looking for the tour leader and their missing seats. Babies bawl and contacts are made and for a few short hours the temple village takes on a little of big city urgency.

There are no hospitals in Khajuraho—though there is a veterinary hospital near Panna's Rajgarh Palace. There are no schools and colleges. Shrews scream in the night and mice dance over stone floors. Winter is icy cold and summer hot enough to set wood on fire in a world mainly without airconditioning...there is nothing...until the first cloud of spring floats over the deep valleys of the Narmada and a poet's dream of a loved woman curves to life in stone...Shakuntala, rising from her bath wrings out her long hair and a swan, mistaking the water droplets for pearls, raises its beak in adoration. Ganesh dips his trunk into a bowl of rossogollas, his arm curled possessively around the waist of a beautiful woman. Shiva and Pravati brood in majesty. And forever in stone stand the forms, joyful, exciting, excited...■

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TRAVELLING IN TIME

Dotted by relics dating back to the 12th century AD, Dulmi has its own story to tell

Subarnarekha still shines in the early morning and its sand dunes turn golden. Then the adivasis come in groups and scan the sand for gold dust. Very poor and jobless, they are desperate to eke out a living from the river sand. Ironically, Subarnarekha, like her people, is also fighting for survival. She is being choked by factory effluents.

Dulmi is a remote picturesque village which can transport you to a serious world shrouded in mystery. Situated 65 km north of Jamshedpur on the Subarnarekha bank it is a low lying fertile plain traversed by Sakhai, a swift flowing tributary of Subarnarekha with flat-topped volcanic plateaus encircling it. Lying 15 kms away from Raghunathpur, a small Purulia town, the region forms the heartland of the Chhotanagpur plateau.

The villages here may appear nondescript to the urban eye, but one will soon run into the remains of an unidentified civilisation and get caught in a mystical milieu. It is simply amazing to come across temple tops, with intricate ornamental carvings, fragments of chiselled stone blocks lie strewn on the outskirts of Sima village. What catches one's attention at the burial ground of the village is a 6'×2' stone slab, carefully inlaid with a kind of inscription that resembles the proto Bengali or the Ardha Prakrit script of the post-Gupta period. Significantly the dialect of the local people has its roots in Ardha Prakrit.

From here, one moves to Dulmi, a few kms away from Sima, an obscure village hugging the left bank of Subarnarekha. The famed Ayodhya Pahar of Purulia is on the right while on the left the land gradually slopes towards the river, being subjected to severe erosion.

In the village a huge image of a Nandi Bull carved in grey sandstone half sunk in the ground beside an ancient Shivalinga of massive dimensions, arouses one's curiosity. It bears a striking resemblance to the Deccan style of architecture executed in the early medieval age by the kings of the South. The shrine of Nandi in the Kailashmath of Ellora exhibits the same kind of architectural peculiarities, as those of this area. Icons of Hindu deities like Vishnu, Ganesha and Cahmunda, popularly known as the 'Kothari Ma,' exquisitely carved and inlaid with intricate ornamentation, lie heaped near local temples, where the villagers had carried them from the sites of the assumed archaeological ruins. A large reservoir, just outside the village, stands apart from the rest of the local water links and ponds, in its scientific layout and accurate geometrical dimensions. Popularly believed to be an existing specimen of a reservoir laid out by the dynasties of the past, it attracts considerable attention. Known as Chaapookoor, this pond is exactly a square in shape, the water free of sediment, crystal clear and sweet, never drying up even during the hottest of summers, when all the pheripheral water sources dry up in the intense heat and the raging *loo* scroches the 'table-tops.'

Lying in and around the pond, scattered in a careless manner, almost half-sunk in the wet clayey sub-soil are numerous figure heads and busts of divine deities of the early medieval period. Local villagers have many interesting anecdotes to tell, for every stone surface has a folklore attached to it. The place popularly known as Vikramaditya's Garh (kingdom) is believed to be the ancient nerve-centre of a ruling dynasty, dating back to almost 1,000 years.

Glancing back through the pages of medieval history one can almost visualise the wars waged between the two great dynasties, the Palas and the Senas, which ruled Bengal, Bihar and Orissa for more than four centuries (from the eighth to the 12th century AD). The Palas who were staunch Bhuddists were succeeded by the Senas who were zealous Hindus. The Senas occupied Bengal during the 11th century. Vijaysena, the founder of this dynasty, ousted the Palas from Bengal and conquested the neighbouring provinces of Bihar and Orissa. The Senas continued to rule till 1199 until Muhammad—Bin-Bakhtiyar Khilji invaded Bengal and Bihar.

An eerie feeling creeps up the spine, as one delves deep-



Relics of the past





Madhushree Chatterjee

er into the history of this part of the Bihar-Bengal border. A rather intimidating feeling and it is made even more so, as one steps into Dayapur village, a secluded settlement comprising a few homesteads, set at a distance of 500 metres away from Dulmi. Here, the ruins of a temple complex that succumbs to an on-surface collapse are breathtaking. Chains of facetted stone slabs, inlaid with ornate carvings, are visible around the archaeological mounds marking the site These perhaps belonged to the surface boundaries that formed the outer walls of a previously existing temple Terracotta figures, earthenware utensils intricately designed and chips of casted metals lie embedded in the ground, by the serrated bank of the Subarnarekha Chips of casted metal reminds one of the armoured chieftains of the bygone eras One can almost hear the clanging of shields and spears amidst the gory din of an ancient battlefield. Burnt bricks of unfamiliar designs are littered around in stray heaps, extending right into the river itself, indicating the presence of residential complexes.

Apart from these, icons of Jain *tirthankaras* have also been discovered in this area. This clearly indicates that both Jainism and Hinduism received equal favours from the ruling dynasties and flourished synonymously Ruins of a temple complex in Jaida, along the National Highway no 34, on the bank of Subarnarekha, contains some Chakras like those of the Sun Temple in Konark Facetted pillars and exquisite sculpture adorn the inner walls of the temple

Similar discoveries have also been made in the neighbouring Bhumi and Kadamjoda villages of the area, where floors of temple bases with shattered pillar fragments indicate the presence of ancient temple complexes This region abounds in several archaeological sites of immense potentialities Numerous sculptures along the ruins of ancient temples, stone inscriptions and several other historical relics dot the countryside "Most of the antiques are intact and are usually chanced upon by local villagers while digging wells and plinths at an average depth of 10 to 20 feet below the ground," says Purnendu Mahato, a prominent villager

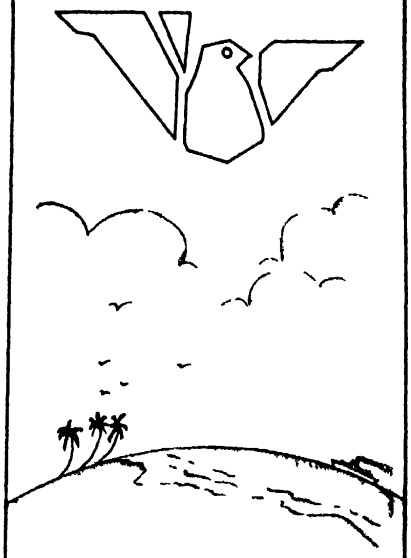
An intriguing geological aspect of this area lies in the fact that most of the ancient ruins are carved out in black sandstone, which is alien to the rocky surrounding This area, supposed to be of the oldest geological times, is chiefly composed of rocks belonging to the Archean and pre-Cambrian groups They are essentially igneous in nature and can be attributed to volcanic origin Chotanagpur is a part of an ancient block, called Gordwanaland that is presumed to be the first formed crust of the earth This contrast between the local geology and those of the unidentified remains, renders the prospect all the more interesting.

Madhushree Chatterjee



Madhushree Chatterjee

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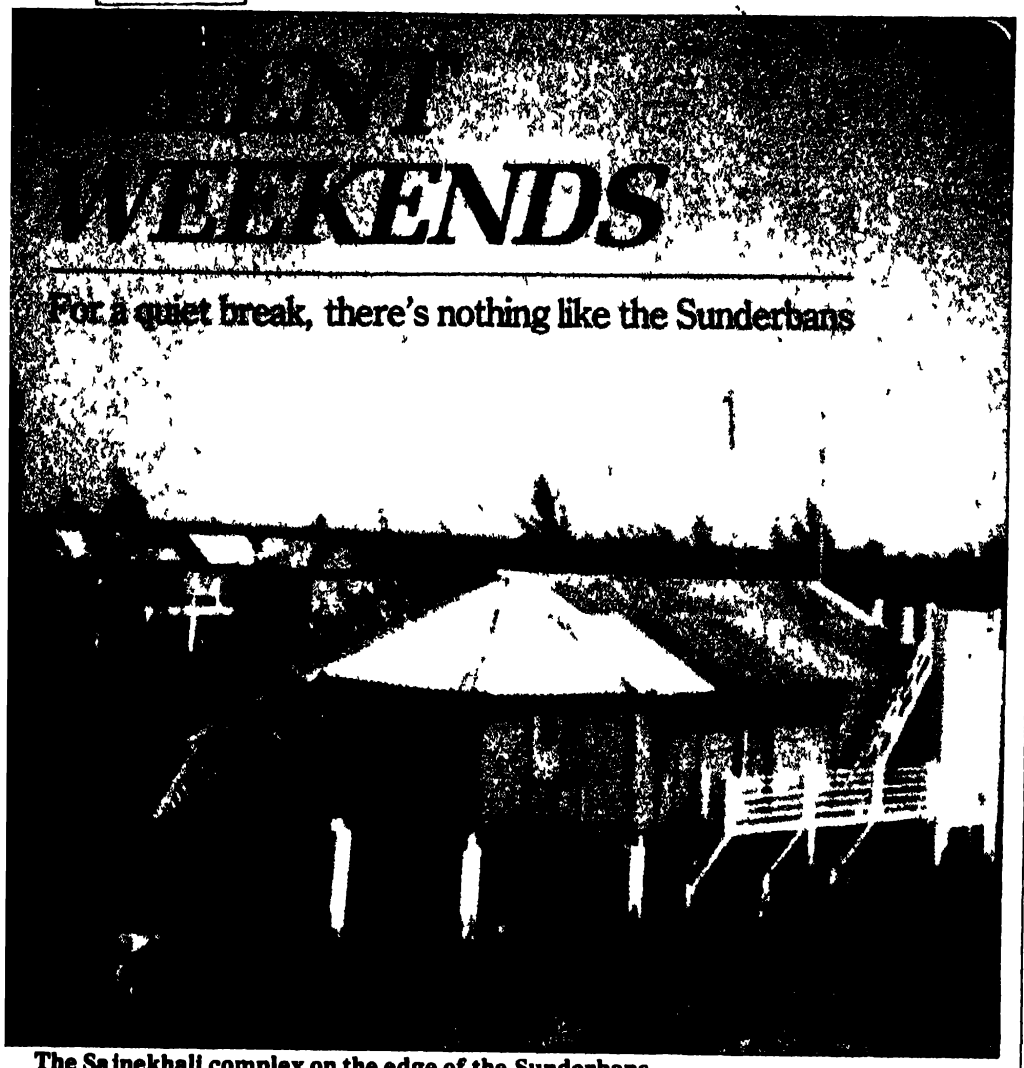
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The Sajnekhali complex on the edge of the Sunderbans

For a weekend away from the jungle of the city, try another jungle. the Sunderbans Don't go if you are looking only for a tiger You'll spot one if you are lucky Otherwise, a few deer and monkeys in the distance Try the Sunderbans for its stillness, disturbed occasionally by the flutter of a crane Hundreds of miles of mangrove forests and deep muddy rivers flowing silently into wilderness. Try the Sunderbans for a quiet, laid-back weekend

Drive up to Sonakhali, about 100 kms from Calcutta, or go to Canning from Sealdah, and hire a boat to Sajnekhali It's a three-hour, blissful sail along Bengal's countryside, past paddy fields and floating blue and white fishing nets. There are big boats—big enough to sleep six to seven people on board in case you want to hire it for the night too In fact, hire it for the whole weekend, anchor the boat midstream at night It's a different experience

Otherwise you can always spend the night at the Sajnekhali tourist bungalow. It's not fancy, but functional Across the river, in the midst of a small village, is the brand new Pakhirala tourist bungalow where the rooms are neat and the bathrooms clean

Pakhirala and Sajnekhali are the beginning of the Sunderbans forest They are out in the wilderness where the silence of the night, or even the day, is broken only by the waves of the river. These are not places for a trek into the jungle The Sajnekhali tourist complex has a thick wire mesh running all around just in case a tiger strays in You go atop the watch tower and, if luck is on your side, you will probably see a tiger on the edge of the sweetwater tank

But don't waste your time. From Sajnekhali you cruise the river deep inside the tiger territory If you are looking for peace and tranquility, if you enjoy the silence of the nature, take the journey down the river Mangrove jungle on both sides with snakelike roots coming out of the mudbanks, as if gasping for fresh air. Even if you cannot spot a tiger or see a crocodile bask in the sunshine, you will not be disappointed. ■

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A NET WITH HOLES

ITDC has not tapped its real market, says **Ashok Kamath**

As quasi-government organisations go, India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) is not particularly old. It became an autonomous public sector corporation in 1966 and for most part of its existence has been a relatively low-profile organisation. Like all government-controlled bodies, ITDC's image has depended primarily on the perceptions of the minister heading the tourism department. But most often tourism figures as an "additional charge" ministry, seldom one in its own right. Over the years it has been appended to other 'major' portfolios, ranging from textiles or water resources to civil aviation. In the current scheme of things commerce minister Arun Nehru has tourism as an "additional charge". He is assisted by Mr Satyapal Malik, the minister of state for parliamentary affairs who too has tourism as an "additional charge".

For a country as big as India (3,287,263 kms), with a population upwards of 800 million on the last count, tourism is something of a stepchild. Myriad are the country's problems and it may be argued that for a nation that claims an annual per capita income of Rs 5494.50, tourism should be a low priority sector. Be that as it may, the point that needs to be stressed is that tourism remains a vastly untapped source of economic growth. Post-Independent India has seen by and large hapazard development of this industry. Whatever growth it has registered over the years is primarily the doing of private industry.

The birth of ITDC was supposed to channelise government effort at the federal level towards providing tourism infrastructure. By ploughing its own furrow in the immensely fertile tourism sector, ITDC ought to have, over the last couple of decades actively competed with private industry in the marketplace in much the same way HMT has competed in the watch industry.

Unfortunately, ITDC has (quite consciously?) acquired the image of being elitist, catering to a large extent for the high-paying tourist and commercial client rather than the footloose and fancyfree Indian. ITDC promotional material invariably stresses the "good life" of its five-star nine-pin bowling alleys (Qutab Hotel, New Delhi) and snooker tables (Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore) have to offer. With the result, rather than pitting its undeniably greater resources and infrastructure against private industry in a spirit of competition, ITDC has mainly succeeded in polarising the market. By projecting itself as an organisation mainly for the well-heeled tourist ITDC gave up the contest before it started. So rather than competing vigorously, it has carved out its own clientele by ignoring for most of its early years the small-budget domestic tourist.

More recently, feeble attempts have been made to come up with the low-budget hotel. New Delhi's Ashok Yatri Niwas (AYN) is a good example. AYN was completed in early 1983, though it became commercially operational a few months earlier to cash in on the Asian Games that the capital was hosting in November-December 1982. In some ways AYN was unique because its decor and four-bedded and twin-bedded rooms had a decidedly ethnic, low-cost orientation. Being just a couple of kilometres away from New Delhi railway station, AYN was ideally suited to pander to middle middle-class purses.

AYN's occupancy-rate is an inordinately high 80 per cent and the reason for this is not hard to find. Where in New Delhi's hub—AYN has No. 19, Ashok Road for its address—can you get a single occupancy room for Rs 140 or a double occupancy room for Rs 190 or a four-bedded room for Rs 250 per day? Middle-level executives, travelling salesmen and middle-class Indian tourists can scarcely hope for a better deal in the national capital. Believe it or not, AYN's room rates (all non-air conditioned) is the second lowest (next only to Imphal Ashok) in the ITDC accommodation chain that covers more than 4,000 rooms scattered over 40 hotels across the country. Not surprisingly, getting accommodation in AYN is difficult. Thanks to its low room tariff, shoe-stringers among the hordes of foreign tourists who descend on New Delhi find the AYN ideal.

The success of the AYN experiment ought to have spawned a whole new network of low-cost accommodation side by side with the ritz and glitter of the five-starrers of ITDC. Had this come to pass, the private hotel industry would have been forced to fall in line and this vast, untapped market of middle-class Indian tourists would have found their options widened.

There is great potential to bring into focus the low-budget, homespun tourist in the north east. Towards this end ITDC has now been working out packages that are to be attractive to even those who are not inveterate travellers. Word of mouth being the best form of advertising, with vigorous promotion the north east of India can open up a whole new world to the urban tourist.

The recently-introduced 'Holiday on the Hills' package has been put together by the Ashok Group Hotels (eastern region) and it is valid between April and September. Inclusive of all taxes and service charges you can, for example, stay at Hotel Japfu Ashok in Kohima for Rs 250 per person per day on a double sharing basis. The package includes bed tea and breakfast, transfer to the city centre once daily, sightseeing to the museum and cemetery. Two children below 12 years can stay for free with two adults (but without extra beds).

Likewise, the Guwahati package comes for Rs 470 (not including taxes) per couple for each of four nights (two in Guwahati and the other two in Shillong) and apart from the usual bed tea-breakfast, there is a ten per cent discount on a la carte food. The sight-seeing package covers Kamakhya Temple by car. There is also a weekend package that costs Rs 400 (not including taxes) per couple for a minimum of two nights (starting from Friday noon to Monday noon). Among its special attractions is a cruise down the Brahmaputra.

It is too early to assess how realistic or attractive these packages are for the traveller with plenty of inclination but without a corresponding wallet. But a start has been made in the north east. ■

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an aura of romance

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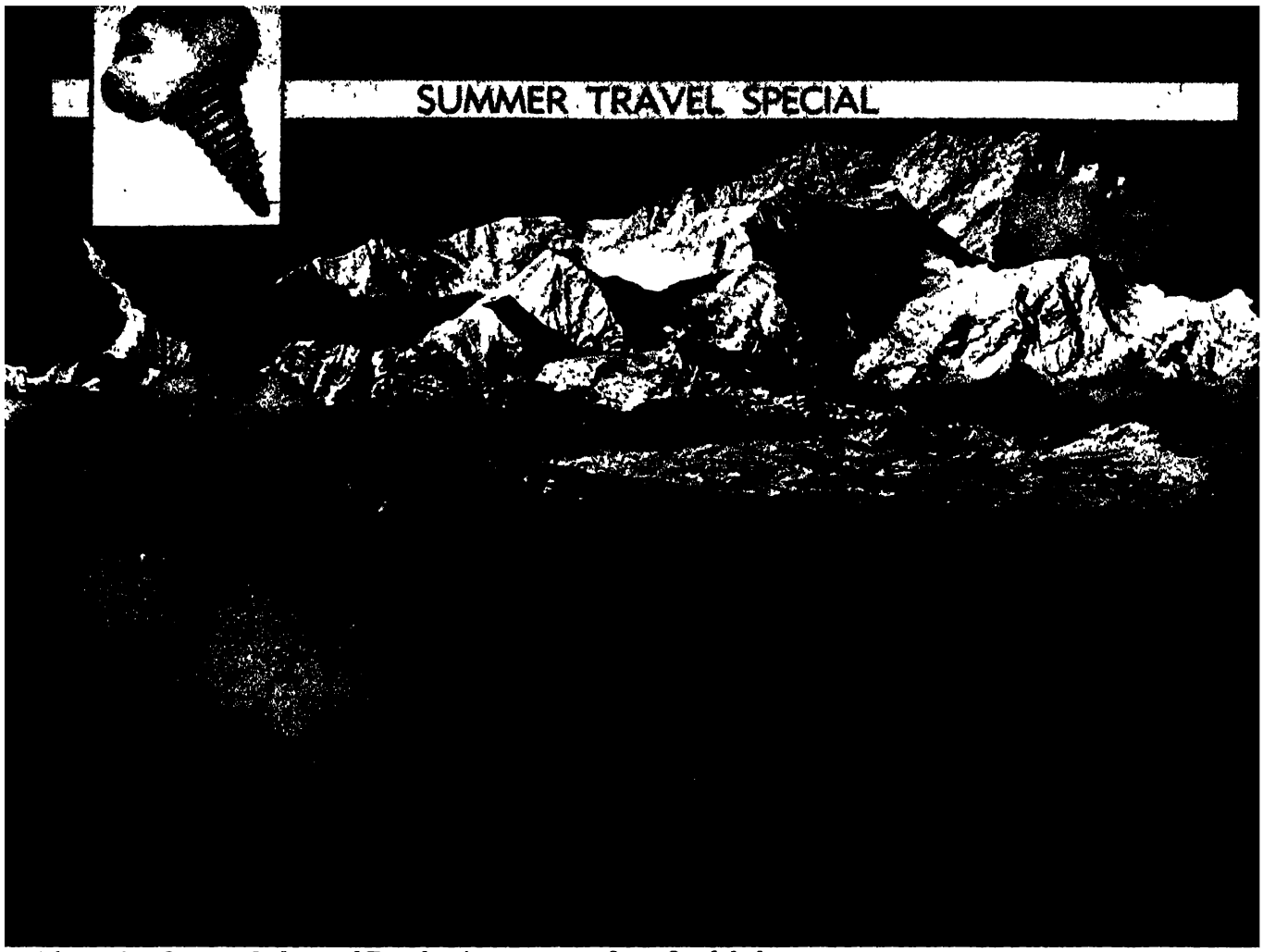
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Crystal



The peaks of Jannu, Kabru and Kanchenjunga as seen from Sandakphu Photographs. Sujoy Das

A two-day walk from the hill-station of Darjeeling, Sandakphu (alt. 11,929 ft), remains one of the easiest and most accessible treks in the eastern Himalayas. During October 1989, I made my sixth visit to Sandakphu with a friend from Calcutta. We left Darjeeling in the morning in a share taxi and made our way to the town of Manebhanjan (alt. 7,000 ft) where the Sandakphu trek begins. Landrover rides in the Darjeeling district are quite incredible: after all the seats have been packed to capacity, the remaining passengers stand at the back and traverse the distance exchanging banter with pedestrians en route!

Manebhanjan is at the bottom of the hill and the initial three-hour climb to the ridge at Meghma is daunting for trekkers fresh out of the plush restaurants and hotels of Darjeeling. We puffed up the hillside pausing for views of the valley. In a while the mist rolled in and we were enveloped. We climbed higher and suddenly the mist cleared—Meghma was bathed in warm sunshine. The children played next to a giant *chorten* (stupa) while we sat and sipped mugs of hot tea. The dak bungalow at Tonglu, traditionally the first night's halt, was in a decrepit condition. We took advantage of the absence of border restrictions and opted to stay in the Nepal village of Jaubari—two hours walk from Meghma—where local people let rooms at reasonable rates. The facilities are basic.

Jaubari is a quaint little village with a single road running in between the line of houses—cows and goats use it en route to the meadows outside the village as do the local travellers from Nepal to Darjeeling.

The trail from Jaubari descends to Gairibash offering sweeping vistas of the valleys of East Nepal. Terraced cultivation clings precariously to the hillsides while the houses hug the steep slopes at seemingly impossible angles. Gairibash is the breakfast halt: we stopped at the small tea shop and cooked a packet of noodles while the owner brewed some tea.

The road from Gairibash climbs dramatically to 10,000 ft. In the clearing of a Himalayan forest is Kalapokhri (Black Lake), dark and deep, surrounded by prayer flags gently whispering messages of peace into the dark woods around. Giant magnolias and flowering rhododendrons in red, pink, white, yellow, mauve and purple dominate the forest in the spring. Within their seclusion, the Himalayan Tree Pie, Scarlet Minivet, Paradise Flycatcher and many other birds nestle and sing accompanying the walker in a medley of colour and sound.

From Kalapokhri onwards we entered the world of the yak herdsmen. This intrepid tribe graze their yaks on the Himalayan meadow above Sandakphu and Phalut on the Singalila ridge bordering Nepal. During winter, they descend with their cattle to their villages near Sandakphu and the village of Kalapokhri.

We were trekking in October and passed numerous yak caravans returning from the high altitude pastures. The muted tinkling of yak bells could be heard throughout the trail as groups of yaks and their owners passed by.

The morning at Jaubari had shown promise of a good day but, just below the final climb to Sandakphu, thick clouds rolled in and in a few moments it began to rain. It was late afternoon when we reached Sandakphu and as we entered the dak bungalow the rain was beginning to ease off. Within half an hour there was a dramatic change in the weather and the Kanchenjunga group was visible through the rapidly dissipating cloud cover. The late afternoon shower had cleansed the air—raindrops sparkled on the trees and on the hillside. The sun was setting as Kanchenjunga, bathed in orange and pink, stood above her attendant peaks: Jannu, Kabru, Ratong, Pandim and Narsing.

To the west, the peaks of east Nepal—Everest, Lhotse and Makalu, were visible completing a stupendous 160° arc of snow clad peaks: one of the most glorious and awe-inspiring sights in the Himalayas.



The start of the Sandakphu trek—the town of Manebhanjan forms a backdrop

Sandakphu is one of the few places to offer views of four of the five highest mountains in the world: Everest, Kanchenjunga, Lhotse and Makalu. We had mounted our tripods outside the dak bungalow verandah and continued to photograph until darkness enveloped the highest peaks and the sudden cold forced us indoors.

We decided to return to Darjeeling by following the forest trail to Rimbik (alt. 7,000 ft). The path descends from Sandakphu and then enters coniferous forest. Due to the steep gradient, this trail is not preferred by the locals and we walked long distances without encountering a soul. The forest is incredibly pretty—during the post-monsoon it was draped with ferns and lichens of a hundred kinds, creepers clung to the highest bark, while waterfalls and streams crossed the trail at frequent intervals.

As we descended, it got warmer and finally near Rimbik we were sweating in our jeans and sports shirts! Such is the contrast in climate in the Himalayas After about six hours of walking, we finally reached Shiva Pradhan Hotel at Rimbik where the friendly owner immediately laid out a hot meal complete with rice, dal, chicken and vegetables.

Next day we boarded the bus from Rimbik to Darjeeling. The road climbs to Dhotre Bazaar and then descends to Manebhanjan—the start of our trek. The morning was clear and we had excellent views of the snows as the bus meandered through the hairpin bends en route to Manebhanjan.

We reached Darjeeling at sunset. The sounds of the bazaar and the conversation of tourists greeted us as we walked through the town As darkness descended, the snows of Kanchenjunga glimmered in the moonlight evoking memories of an unsullied and less material world yet to be exploited by man.

LAND OF THE LOTUS-BORN

The trek to Dzongri in West Sikkim invests one with purgatory feelings. **Ashis Sengupta** shows the way through the picturesque villages

Dzongri is a name that attracts hundreds of trekkers from different parts of the country. It is a hilltop (alt. 13,200 ft) in West Sikkim. It lies on the broad top of the lower end of a great spur which, running out south from the north-eastern peak of Kabru, separates the glens of the Praig Chu and the Rathang. It is just a four-day trip from Darjeeling, passing through typical Tibetan and Nepali villages, crossing rivers and torrents, and sometimes crawling up and down hills.

Our hike started from Darjeeling. First we walked down the tea gardens to Jorethang, a small hill-town in Sikkim some 27 kms from Darjeeling, and then



Trekkers pitch tents next to the old Dzongri dak bungalow

reached Pemayangtse by bus the same day. All along our way from Jorethang to Geyzing, a medium-sized township eight kms before Pemayangtse, we seldom lost the sight of the Great Rangeet and its gorge which would draw the special attention of a geographer.

At Pemayangtse you can find one of the famous monasteries of Sikkim, which is of immense religious and archeological significance. Guru Padma Sambhava (the 'Lotus Born'), also known as Guru Rompoche, brought Buddhism to Sikkim from Tibet in the eighth century and is believed to have chosen this place to build a *gomba* (monastery) to house the *ta-tshang* or pure monks. It still retains this reputation for the celibacy and high social class of its monks, and their head Lama has the special honour of consecrating the reigning sovereign with holy water. A high flight of steps leads up to the doors of the shrine, painted in multiple colours. Inside are the meditative statues of Buddha and his saints on the altars, surrounded by the figures of demons painted on the walls.

The real trek starts from Pelling, a village only 15 minutes' walk from Pemayangtse. The stretch from Pemayangtse to Yoksum, our second day's destination, involved two very steep descents in crossing the valleys of the Rimbi Chu and the Rathang Chu. Mostly it was a low altitude trek and the heat was almost intolerable. Twice we bathed in the foamy water of the rivers which we crossed by the narrow bridges hanging over them. Ultimately, when we reached Yoksum, the sun was dropping behind the hills, tinging the billowing clouds in the west.

Famous mountaineers think that the Yoksum plateau bears obvious signs of being once formed of the bed of a glacier. The landscape here could be an ideal subject for poetry or painting: the lofty trees, thickets of brambles and dwarf camellias, cornfields, pools fringed with bamboos and barberries, and the thatched roofs. Yoksum is also a place of historical interest.

According to a local legend, three Tibetan Lamas, in the middle of the 17th century, had set out from different quarters to convert the people of Sikkim who had no king at that time. Sikkim was then inhabited by the Lepchas who are believed to have once come from the direction of Assam and Burma. The Lamas, in search of a ruler to govern the country, met here, and finally a king was found in a Bhutia chief and a dynasty set up.

The story relates the origin of the Sikkim Empire, hinting at the migration of the Bhutias to the state and the consequent spread of Lamaism all over the place. Here it is worth mentioning that the Bhutias are of Tibetan origin, their language is derived from the Tibetan tongue and their religion, which is also a form of Buddhism, is specially called Lamaism.

Yoksum is only 5,840 ft in altitude. Our next halt would be at Tsokha, approximately 10,000 ft above the sea level. This part of the hike was less tough compared with the preceding one, although it was also a quick succession of ups and downs. The way was quite exciting through out. Sometimes we got lost amidst the lovely dark woods; at times we could mark the footprints of some wild beast, often we had to take pains to trace a way beyond the mountain streams. We also passed through several Bhutia settlements which typify the ideal pastoral atmosphere—cattlesheds, mastiffs watching over the cattle, small farmhouses, colourful cornfields. We reached Bakhim (9,000 ft) in the afternoon, another village nearly two kms before Tsokha.

tion, was still six miles away.

After climbing up roughly for two hours we had a superb view of the great cliffs of Pandim (22,210 ft) and a glimpse of the face of Kanchenjunga rising above the Talung Glacier. The trek at this stage knew what variety is: now a waterfall, then the glaciers which seemed not so distant; now the hedge-rows, then a big dark cave; now a lonely stream, then a sounding cataract.

What haunted me most were the rows of rhododendrons in bloom on either side of the village path, running wild for about three kilometres, right up to Dzongri. They were found in various species creating a riot of colours—red, white, yellow, pink and so on. Finally when we reached Dzongri, the weather started getting gloomy. Looking upward we saw the Dzongri top, standing on which one can get a panoramic view of the neighbouring peaks and mountain passes. We did climb the top but could not see anything; the clouds had conspired to put a ghostly veil between the world of the gods and that of man. We came down frustrated and sad. But other rewards compensated our loss. As the fog gradually thinned, the nearby snow capped peaks seemed to be coming upon us and the faint rays of the sun were splintered into millions of twinkling stars in the fast flowing mountain stream.



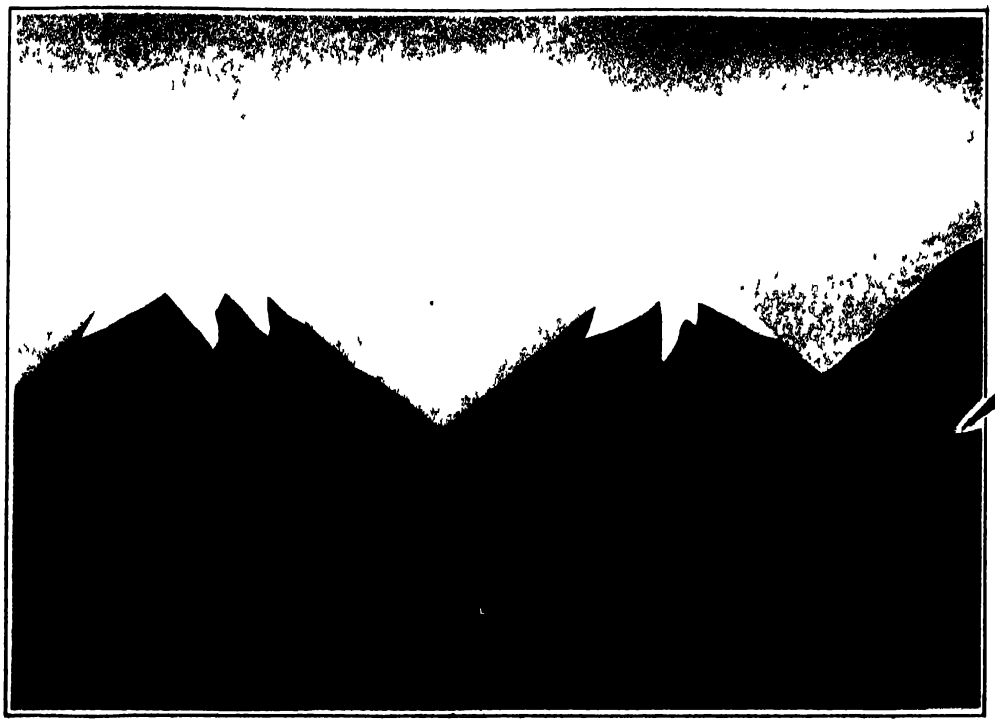
Jaubari, the first night's halt

'Bakhim' means a bamboo-made house. And, in fact, most of the houses in this locality are made of bamboo which grows in plenty. We saw herds of yaks grazing here and there. The wild yak does not exist in Sikkim as it does in Tibet and Bhutan. In Sikkim it is a domesticated animal, very much appreciated as a beast of burden in the high altitudes. Bakhim produces a large quantity of *tongba*, a kind of country liquor served in a pot with a straw, both made of bamboo.

We lunched in a Bhutia house at Bakhim and left for Tsokha. We reached there in the midst of fog. Next morning I was struck by what I saw. As the sun leaped up above the hills, numerous glaciers came into view, dazzling my eyes. The majestic sight together with the sound of the wind blowing fiercely filled the heart with awe. Dzongri, our destination, was still six miles away.

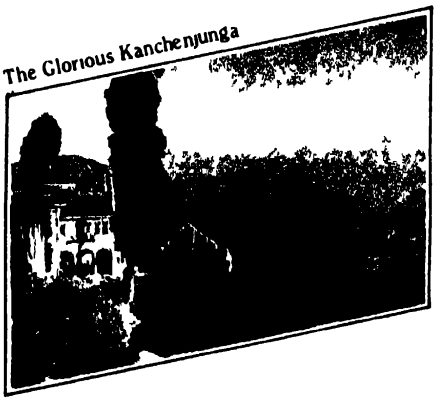
At Dzongri we could find very few houses; the hut which deserves mention is the one specially meant for mountaineers. The place is of no less religious significance. Guru Padma Sambhava is said to have entered Sikkim through Dzongri. Prayer flags were pitched here and there creating an ideal atmosphere for meditation and prayer. I, however, found my beatific vision in the bliss of solitude. ■

Breath - taking splendour





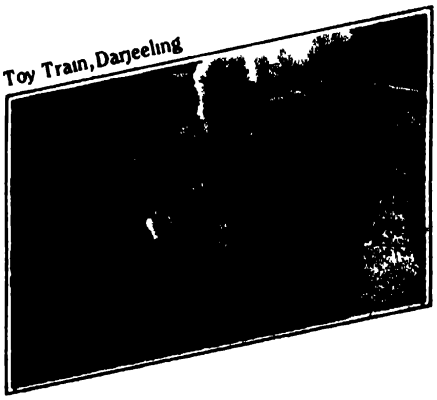
Yes. Up here in the mountains. Just a few miles away from the throbbing business centre in Siliguri. Amidst winding roads and dark pines. Variegated flora and fauna. Peace awaits you in the quiet hill stations.



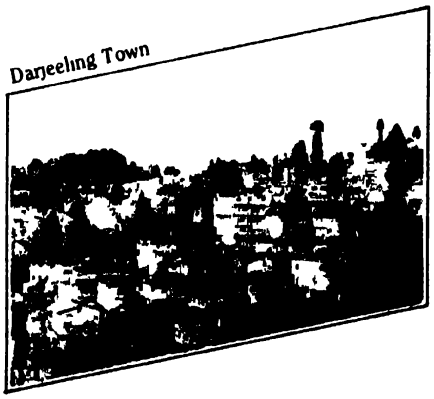
The Glorious Kanchenjunga

Studded across the Himalayan Mountain Range, are the towns of Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Kurseong, Ghoom. Places of immense natural beauty. Places that you have often dreamt about.

Tourist Lodges offer you your choice of food and accommodation. So relax. Drink the beauty of rolling tea gardens and hills. Feel the serenity of the Ghoom Monastery. And be one with nature in Kalimpong, where the hills stoop to conquer your heart. Forget the rest of the world.

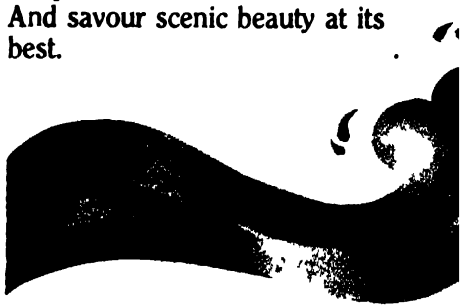


Toy Train, Darjeeling



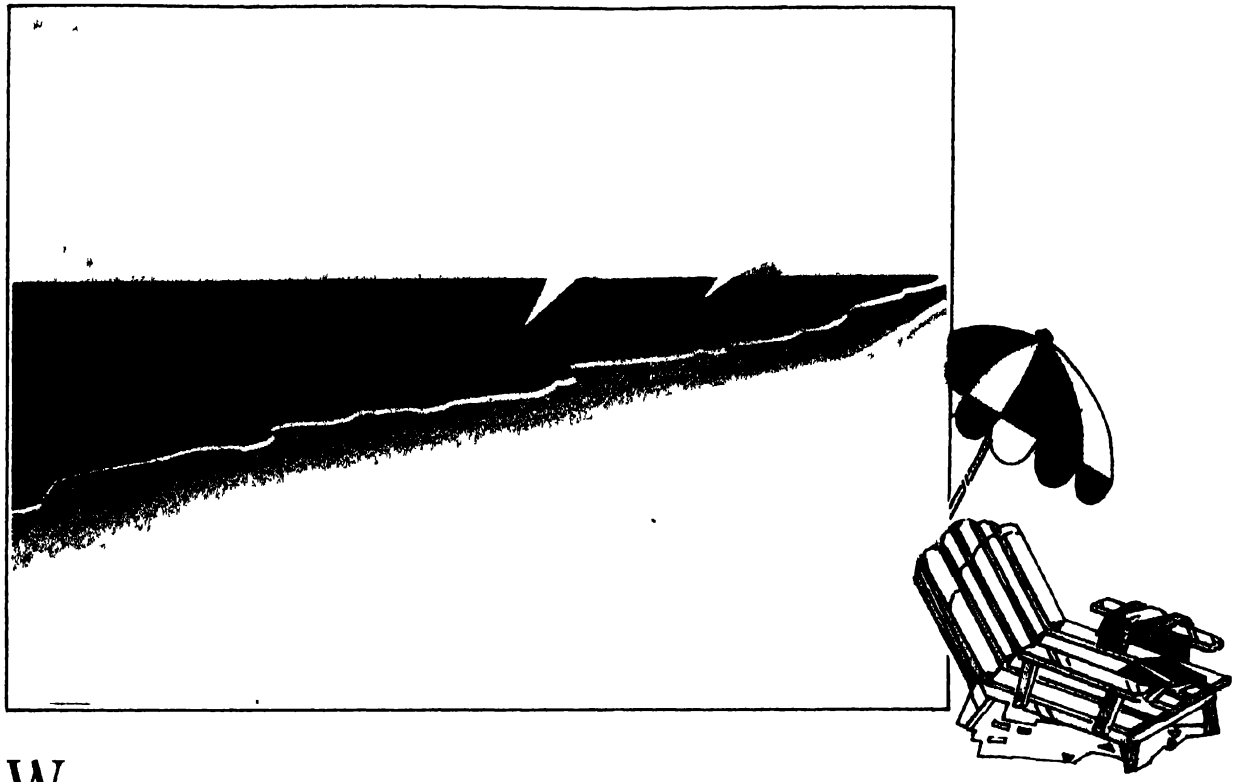
Darjeeling Town

The surprises in West Bengal never cease. So if you thought it was only mountains, forests and temples, come to see its beaches. And savour scenic beauty at its best.

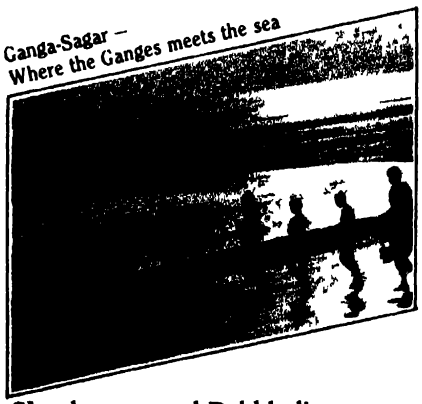


West Bengal a unique experience —

Where the sea kisses the rising sun



West Bengal is a dream vacation come true. With its sun-drenched beaches lapped by the rising waves of the endless sea. Shaded by swaying Casuarina groves, the golden sands of Digha,

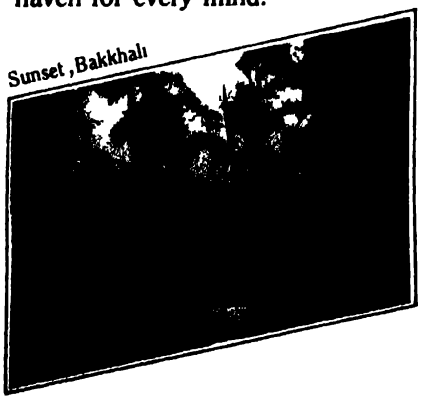


Ganga-Sagar — Where the Ganges meets the sea

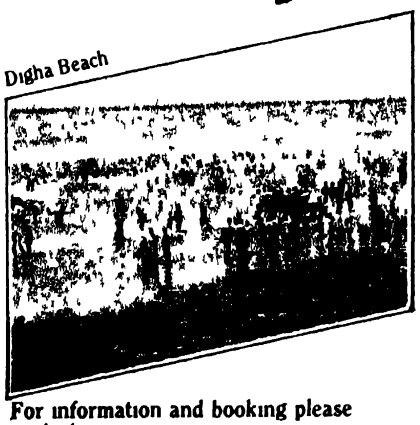
Shankarpur and Bakkhali are among the finest in the country. Inviting you to explore its treasures, one foot at a time.

Digha and Bakkhali are easily accessible by road, with tourist lodges and private hotels dotting the skyline. Once you are there you can laze on the golden sands and watch the glorious sunset. Take long walks. Bathe in the cool waters of the sea. Or simply do nothing at all. Bakkhali has a different charm as part of the Sunderbans with mangrove forests, red crabs and if you are lucky, deer too.

The variety of West Bengal is stunning. From the lofty mountains to the bay, the story unfolds at every step. There is something for every taste. A haven for every mind.



Sunset, Bakkhali



Digha Beach

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GOD'S GREAT IDEA

Kumari, the Living Goddess

Kumari, the Living Goddess, is not particularly godlike. She is a little girl, perhaps 11 years old, who lives a life of make-believe splendour in a once beautiful now mildewed temple in the heart of old, imperial Kathmandu. Her feet must never touch the ground and her every whim must be satisfied for she is none other than the incarnation of Kali. But for all that, Kumari is quite a brave little girl for she has been proclaimed goddess after the most terrible of tests. At Dussehra, a hundred buffaloes were ritualistically slaughtered, and all the little toddlers contesting the post of Kumari were locked overnight in a dark room containing the bleeding, severed buffalo heads along with scary masks and eerie pools of blood and entrails. Bloodcurdling noises added to the effect, and the little girl who did not cry was deemed to have passed the test. Other more gory and, for the sake of a better term, mind-blowing trials followed before the girl was declared to be Kumari, the virgin manifestation of Kali. And she will remain the Living Goddess till such time that she bleeds—be it because of an ordinary cut or because puberty catches up. The legend goes that some of these girls have such power that they are able to withhold the onset of puberty till they are well into their twenties. But after the glory comes fate's fury. The superstition is that whoever marries a former Kumari meets an untimely death. And so, the Living Goddess, when she outgrows her spine-chilling godhood, becomes a dying prostitute.

We visit the Temple of the Living Goddess as part of a wide-eyed tourist group, and before Kumari can bless us, the guide and I are blessed by pigeons. They roost all over the place, and there are plenty of little crevices for them. The temple was certainly beautiful once, with intricate filigree work and carvings, some of which have been half-heartedly restored. But it is dark, dirty, dingy and mouldy. The courtyard, which must have been glorious a long time ago, is full of muck amidst which Kumari's family sits preparing some ritualistic meal out of dried meat. Kumari resides in an upstairs quarter and word is sent that yet another goggle-eyed gaggle of tourists has arrived. She peeps out of the window for just a flash of a second and that is the end of the *darshan*. All one got was a fleeting impression of a heavily made-up little girl wearing something pink.

From the fascinating and exotic Kumari it is over to the bustling and shining Supermarket. It is a trip from the Goddess to Paradise, for Indians love things *phoren* and this market is just full of them—clothes, cosmetics, shoes, glassware, cutlery and crockery, toys, electronic items, you name it they have it, though of course,

One of Kathmandu's popular markets





The Buddhist stupa in Kathmandu

Creating beautiful Nepal was certainly a brainwave. And the kingdom is simply waiting to welcome Indian tourists this season, says **Sumir Lal**

a lot if it is the produce of a flourishing cottage industry in our very own Monghyr which has mastered the art of replicating things *phoren*. If you are finicky about a little thing like that, you can try the more reliable and therefore more expensive Bluebird departmental store near Kathmandu's best hotel, the Soaltee Oberoi.

And if you are near the Soaltee—an excellent place if you can afford it—there is that other Great Indian Attraction—the casino, where you can play all those fancy games with chips and cards that James Bond does so well. Speed is the thing—you learn quick and you lose quick and you finally realise why Yudhisthir did what he did.

The world's only Hindu Kingdom (the King has a Big Brother-like omnipresence though he is more pitied than respected) is just waiting for Indians. Kumari, the Supermarket and the casino are just three of the manifestations. What happened was that last year, thanks to such abstruse things like lapsed trade and transit treaties and a bit of bad blood between two gentlemen going by the names of Gandhi, Rajiv and Shah Dev, King Birendra Bir Bikram, Indians stopped visiting Nepal. And that country virtually ran out of business. Because Indians, God bless their extravagant souls, flock to Nepal during the lean summer season (Europeans and Americans prefer the winter), in effect, giving the Himalayan kingdom no off-season at all; and then it is the Indians who are the big spenders, living ostentatiously in the better hotels, and investing lavishly in the dubious returns of the Supermarket and casino. The expenses of the Occidentals, on the other hand, are mainly accidental for they are usually of the low-budget/group-tour/adventure-sport variety. (Proof: Indian tourists in Nepal spend an average of Indian Rs 632 a day compared to the $27 of others).

Indians account for a quarter of Nepal's tourist traffic and contribute the bulk of the revenue. The Indian rupee is a highly valued currency. So when Indian arrivals dropped by over half last year, a lot of Nepali businesses connected with the tourist industry—hotels, travel agencies and shops—collapsed. The only ones who made a killing of course were those ubiquitous Indian businessmen who cornered all the unsold items at the Supermarket at throwaway prices, and swept the jackpots at the casino.

The upshot of all of which is that this year the red carpet is going to be rolled out for Indians. And one might as well take advantage of it. There is no law and order problem like in Kashmir (more than the Pakistani establishment, by the way, it is Nepal's tourist industry which is gloating over the trouble there); and the people are friendly even if their King isn't. If as an Indian you visit Nepal this year, you can be sure of hoteliers fawning all over you and shopkeepers falling at your feet, which is not bad at all even if they raise their prices way above your head.



Even institutionally Nepal's tourist industry is gearing up to regain the Indian market this summer. Hotels and travel agents' associations are launching concerted publicity drives with specially devised packages to attract Indians, and the kingdom's tourism ministry has taken note (even this much, for any bureaucracy, is a tremendous achievement) of the need to bring in these strange people from across the southern border who are willing to spend so much on so little.

But there is more to Nepal than *phoren* goods. Nepal's tour operators to this day cannot understand why more Indians do not go in for treks and adventure the way Europeans do. The kingdom abounds in wildlife parks, breathtaking hiking and fishing trails, beautiful high altitude lakes and facilities for fun like river rafting and elephant polo. Soon there will also be well organised rhododendron tours and other innovative treks. So if you can't afford to join the Rs 632 a day club, there is plenty you can do even if you belong to the under $27 class.

In short, when God made Nepal, it was one of his better ideas. And as far as Nepal is concerned, His creating spendthrift Indians was the biggest brainwave of all. ■



JUNGLE CALL

Barsingha Does: A fabulous si
at the National Parks

Shilbhadra Datta describes the enchanting beauty of the Kanha and Bandhavgarh National Parks in Madhya Pradesh



A lurking tiger in Kanha

The Maruti Gypsy rolled silently into the sanctum of the famed Kanha National Park, a tiger reserve. Two peacocks piroutted confusedly on the dusty road before scuttling to safety. About 20 cheetals stood up with pricked ears, disturbed in grazing by the noise of the engine and the clicking of camera shutters. The sun was about to set. The long-standing desire of visiting Kanha and Bandhavgarh exclusively to capture the wildlife on film was slowly bearing fruit.

The elusive tiger, which at mid-day lies in some cool, covert spot, preferably near a water hole, begins its silent prowl in search of a kill. The Madhya Pradesh Tourism canteen manager at Kisli, S. Majumdar, warned us of an 18-month-old male tiger lurking nearby. That night, looking around from the verandah of our bungalow, we saw alarmed cheetals sounding warning calls, as well as tense langoors. Next morning, our driver informed us of the tiger's carrying away a



The Indian Gaur in Bandhavgarh

cheetal from that area.

Situated in the eastern sector of the central Indian highlands, Kanha National Park (the largest in India) spreads over an area of 940 sq. kms in the Maikal chain of hills. The reserve forest comprises the National Park and a buffer area around the core bringing the total area upto 1,945 sq. kms. The park's altitude varies between 450m. and 950m, over a ridge running east-west. The flat top of these ridges are known locally as "dadars". The two major rivers feeding the National Park are Banjar and Halon.

Bandhavgarh, on the other hand, is a more compact National Park, full of game. The density of the tiger population at Bandhavgarh is the highest known in India. The count is 57, according to forester Joshi and A.G. Kuttappan, the celebrated mahout-cum-photographer. Situated in Tala in the Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh, this park measures just over 448 sq. kms. It was the private hunting ground of the former Maharajas of Rewa. The Bandhavgarh fort, thought to be 2,000 years old, stands at the highest point of the rocky hills around and scattered through out the park are numerous caves containing shrines and ancient Sanskrit inscriptions.





Kanha National Park

PACKAGE OF DELIGHTS

Travelling in the forest belt of Madhya Pradesh is a heady experience but can be tiresome for those venturing on their own without a vehicle. The Bombay Mail takes tourists from Howrah to Satna or Shahdol, but since distances are very long and buses few and far between, it is infinitely wiser to opt for the MP Tourism Development Corporation package that includes visits to Kanha or Bandhavgarh, or both.

A package trip to both the National Parks as well as to the Marble Rocks near Jabalpur will leave Calcutta on May 10 and 24. Termed the "Call of the Wild" the Rs 1,645 (per head) tour for seven days includes train fare, accommodation (in delightful Baghira log huts in Kipling's Kanha, the White Tiger forest lodge at Bandhavgarh and the corporation's hotel in Jabalpur), food, transport in luxury coaches as well as sightseeing.

Another package that leaves in May heads for "Kipling Country," and touches Panchmarhi, Kanha and Marble Rocks. It leaves Calcutta on May 4 and 18 and is priced at Rs 1,325 for a duration of six days. Bookings can be made with the manager, MP State Tourism Development Corporation, Chitrakoot, Room 7, 6th Floor, 230A A.J.C. Bose Road, Calcutta 700 020.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee

No creature of the forests has captured the imagination of the Indian people the way the tiger has done—except perhaps the elephant And, here I was, first at Kanha and then at Bandhavgarh, appreciating and shooting on film the splendour of this big cat. Stalking, as I went on tiring elephant rides to get daringly close to the tiger, I realised that the long list of famed *shikaris* of yesteryear, namely the maharajas and the unscrupulous forest contractors and traders, were actually weak people taking sadistic pride in their valour and strength by ruthlessly shooting wildlife to extinction

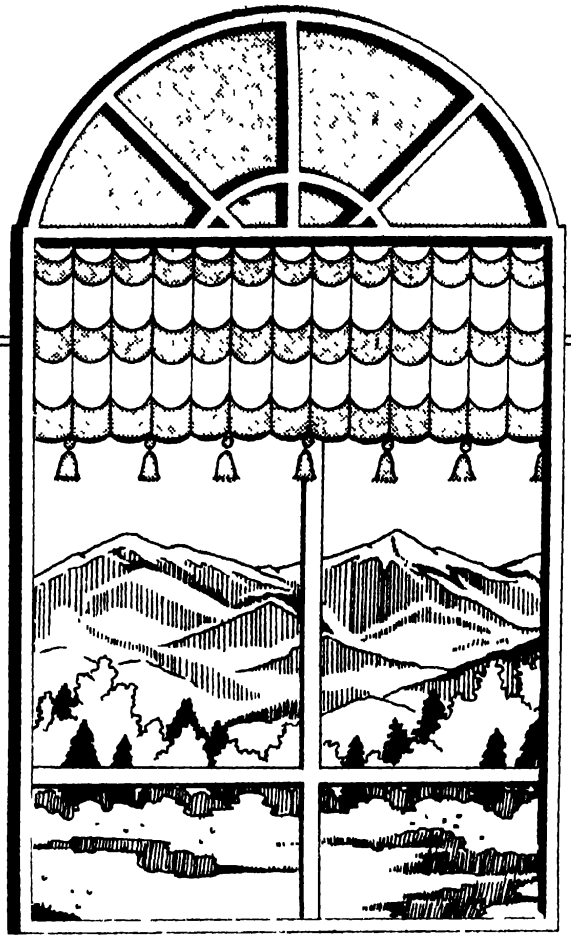
At Kanha, mahout Lakhan Singh, a local Gond, was my guide for elephant rides atop Pawankali, a 25-year-old female "Kunki" from Assam During one of our evening treks, we saw a male tiger cub (about 18 months old) learning to kill while his mother watched him from behind the camouflage of drying shrubs

But, the experience at Bandhavgarh was more spine-chilling One evening, while taking a jeep ride in the park, I saw for the first time the dangerous black sloth bear with a white V-stripe on his chest Before the euphoria could subside, we spied a tiger in the twilight Actually, my father, who was sitting next to the driver, was singing " *aur sher aa jaye*," in his atrocious Hindi, when our guide, Krishan pointed to a big male tiger walking about 100 feet ahead of us

On hearing the sound of the engine, it paused to turn and look at us After a while it crossed over to squat behind a roadside bush We drove as softly as possible and drew up alongside, the proximity allowing us to observe the grace and controlled strength of the muscles rippling under its coat

The Indian gaur is mistakenly called bison, just as the American bison is wrongly called buffalo. The gaur passes most of the day resting in the shade of big trees and comes out in meadows only in the late evening. It took us four consecutive days to see a herd.

A visit to these Parks automatically carries forward the desire to return again and again. Every moment spent in the jungles remains frozen as eternal snapshots in the mind. My countdown for returning to these National Parks has already begun. ■



Kausani

Scene to be believed

The stage : Kausani, 53 kms off Almora at an altitude of 1,890 metres. **The scene** : 300 kms of uninterrupted view of Himalayan snow-white splendour. A performance that rolls across the hills, compulsively asking for an encore! **The actors** : You and your family.

Book your seats before the curtain comes down on summer!

For more information on exclusive holiday sights like, Baijnath 19 kms from Kausani, Bageshwar 20 kms from Baijnath, Jageshwar 34 kms from Almora. Contact U.P. Tourism office:

U.P. Tourism
2nd Floor
12 A Netaji Subhash Rd.,
Calcutta. Tel : 227855

UTTAR PRADESH TOURISM

Kausani

One of the many hidden wonders of U.P.

UL-KA-D-UPT-109

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 28-442)—12,, 3 6 9.

A film by Harmesh Malhotra, starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Raj Babbar, Poonam Dhillon and Neelam The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Azaad Desh Ke Gulam;** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266)—4 shows

Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, Pran and Prem Chopra are the major attractions of this film, directed by S A Chandrashekhar The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Choron Ki Rani Hasino Ka Raja** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani, 270147), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Moonlight (T.C Dutta Street, 254956), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Raod, 484808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522)—4 shows

The film stars Sonika Gill, Sriprada, Sumeet Saigal, Goga Kapoor and Anupam Kher

• **Ghar Ho To Aisa:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Krishna (T C. Dutta Street, 250437), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133), Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 351382) Ragini (Behaghata Main Road, 363264), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue, 464440)

Directed by Kalptaru and with music by Bappi Lahari, the film stars Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Raj Kiran, Bindu, Om Prakash and Kader Khan

• **Haatimtai:** Joyti (Lenin Sarani, 241132), Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road 478666)

Jeetendra and Sangeeta Bijlani are the lead pair in this film directed by Babu Bhai Mistry The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Kishen Kanhaiya:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917)—12 3 6, 9

Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit Shilpa Shirodkar, Kader Khan and Amrish Puri are the chief attractions of this Rakesh Roshan film whose music is by Rajesh Roshan

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)—10 45 2 15, 5 30, 9, Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270)—11 30

The biggest hit of recent times this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman

• **Shandar:** Opera (Lenin Sarani 281849), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 552932), Kalika (Sadananda Road 478141)

A film by T C Dewan, the cast includes Mithun Chakraborty Meenakshi Seshadri, Mandakini Juhi Chawla, Kader Khan and Danny The music is by Bappi Lahiri

Foreign Films

• **Batman:** New Empire (Humayun Place, 291299)—12, 3, 6, 8 30

An adventure packed with action, mystery and romance, starring Jack Nicholson and Michael Keaton

• **First Love (A)** Lighthouse (Humayun Place, 291051)—12, 3, 6, 8 30

• **For a Night of Love (A)** Jamuna (Marquis Street, 243715)—12 3, 6, 8 30



A scene from *Batman*

Satabdi Roy in *Aapan Aamaar Aapan*



Victor Ba



• **Gwendoline (A)**: Globe (Lindsay Street; 296665)—4 shows.

Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Apan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani: 552753), Bijoli (S. P. Mukherjee Road: 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

A film by Tarun Majumdar, starring Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Indrani Dutta, Sanghamitra Banerjee, Anup Kumar and others.

• **Ekhane Aamaar Swarga:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413) Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road; 485593)—1,4, 7.

Tapas Paul and Deepika are the lead pair in this Jahar Biswas film Also in the cast are Soumitra Chatterjee, Sumitra Mukherjee and Ruma Guhathakurta.

• **Raktareen (A)**: Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080)—2.30, 5.15, 8; Purna (S P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—2 30, 5 30, 8.15, Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road· 271282)—2, 5, 7.45

Special Events

29 April onwards

Reflection of Images—an exhibition of early glass paintings from the Tanjore and the Avadh school, till May 10.

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Garuahat Road; 755314).

29 April: 6 pm

Show '90—a variety programme with artistes of the TV serial, Mahabharat.

At Netaji Indoor Stadium.

Meghna Srivastav in *Raktareen*



30 April: 6 pm

Raktakarabi presents a solo recital of Tagore songs by Ashoketaru Bandyopadhyay and Tagore's dance-drama, *Shyama*.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

1 and 5 May: 6.30 pm

Proscenium will stage Shanti Mahrotra's *Thehra Hua Pani*, directed by Sheo Jhunjhunwala who also stars along with Govind Jhunjhunwala, Meera Jain, Tapasi Datt, Vivek Jajodia, Durba Dutta and Ashok Churiwal.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

5 May: 7 pm

Kalakushali will stage *Naya Pathshala*, based on Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*. Drama and direction: Sibaji Gupta.

At Mukta Angan Rangalaya (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 465277).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5) AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7). AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6). TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710, Arr (daily). IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily). IC-273 at 1920, Dep (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7). IC-176 at 0845, Arr. (daily) IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-265 at 1640, Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). IC-271 at 1400, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6). PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gay
Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutt
Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 060
Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-15	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep—Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri—Mon Tues, Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep—Mon, Tues, Thurs Fri & Sun Arri—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp. Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues, Fri & Sat Arri—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep—Mon & Thurs Arri—Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5859	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5860
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep—Wednesday Arri—Friday	4-15	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri—Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep—Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep—Tues & Wed Arri——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Bi-Weekly Dep & Arri—Wed & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	21-00	Madras Mail	6-30	6004
8002	20-15	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-10	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-25	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-15	2859
8034	21-25	Ahmedabad Express	4-15	8033
8030	12-15	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	15-00	Coromandel (Madras) Express	11-15	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep—Tues Arri—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-20	Ispat Express	21-55	8012
8005	21-45	Sambalpur Express	6-45	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	6-00	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-30	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-30	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep—Except Saturday Arri—Except Sunday	11-30	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arri—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

More to It

After going through the article, 'Look Ma, No Specs!' (April 8), I could not help but respond to it.

I think Mr Tapan Das' article is misleading and borders on sensationalism. It is reported that according to Prof. S. Fyodorov, in another ten years there will be no need for people to wear glasses. I think even the most ardent supporter (should I say apologetic) of this surgery which is called the radial keratotomy, cannot afford to make this kind of statement. Radial keratotomy, started by Dr Sato of Japan in the late thirties, was later developed by many surgeons including Dr S. Fyodorov. There is no doubt that radial keratotomy reduces myopia and improves incorrected vision, but its predictability, safety and stability are yet to be proven.

Every myopic person is not a candidate for this surgery. At the same time, a patient belonging only to a selected age-group is best treated by this operation. Radial keratotomy is performed only on patients of non-progressive myopia which means patients above 22 years of age, and if the myopia exceeds 8 Diopters then the predicability of the result is often uncertain, not to mention other numerous complications which tend to occur. Radial keratotomy at best can be termed as a cosmetic surgery which has yet to establish its place as an efficient and safe operation.

It is erroneous to say the glasses can be made a thing of the past. Similarly, in the IOL surgery for cataract, it is often said and published in newspapers and magazines that glasses are not required after such an operation. Corrective glasses either for near or for distance (depending how the power of IOL is selected) is a must.

We eye surgeons are often confronted with people who acquire this partial knowledge. Newspapers have a responsibility to give facts to its readers and not just half-truths. It would be a better idea if an expert on the subject wrote such articles in future.

Dr V. Pahwa,
Eye Micro-Surgery Centre, Calcutta

■ Thanks for the informative article by Tapan Das. In fact, I am an eye patient with high myopia and have undergone treatment at the Regional Institute of Opthalmology, Calcutta, for about five years.

The article stated that myopic corrections were possible by the 'Russian method' and I would like to seek advice from Prof. S. Foydorov.

A.N. Rudra,
Durgapur

■ The report was very useful. Some of the research developments have been encouraging, specially of artificial cornea keratoprosthesis. Can Tapan Das give us a clue as to where the fruits of this research can be gained by Indian patients?

P.K. Maitra,
Kalyani (W.B.)



Ashok Majumder

Lower the 'Flame'

I am a school teacher and housewife and was immensely pleased to learn that I am not the only one who is pained to see our children turning into 'pressure cookers' ('The Rat Race Begins', March 4).

The powers that be should put themselves in the shoes of these overburdened children and then draw up syllabi which would make studies a joyful experience. They should be able to enjoy studies as much as playing games, practising music, dabbling in paint or chatting with friends. Let us lower the 'flame' and reduce the 'pressure' to prevent our children from 'bursting'.

S.J. Blazey,
Calcutta

■ The majority of today's parents are of the view that there is absolutely no alternative to education conducted through English medium schools, specially those with the tag, 'elitist', attached to them. It is also considered a matter of social prestige and this snobbish attitude overlooks character building as an important aspect of education. We forget that an unhappy and abnormal childhood can make their futures nightmarish.

Ruchira Ghosh,
Calcutta

■ It has become a fashion today to burden our children with books so that they can score 90 per cent and above. The result is that the children have no playing hours and are reading from dawn to dusk.

Sumana Roy,
Siliguri



QUIZ ◻ Neil O'Brien

A report from D. Gupta.

What is common to: Tiger Pataudi, Chuni Goswami, Chima Okeri, Premjit Lall, and Arun Lal ? Stuck for the answer?

"These and other sports personalities were seen in a new role (as quizmasters) at the Sportsworld Round Table Quiz for the Dunlop Spectrawide trophy.

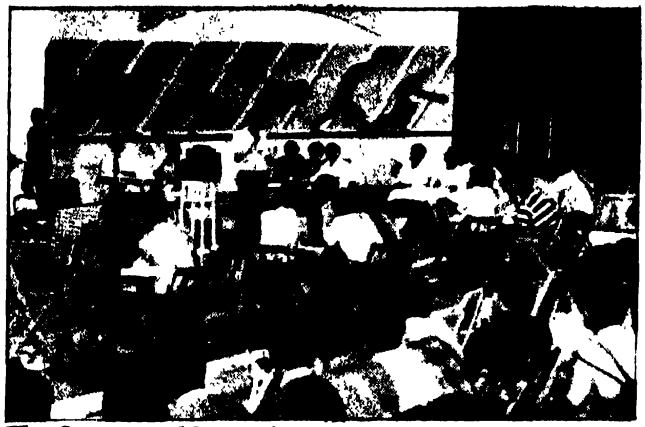
"The three-day event was an absolute super-hit with Calcutta's quiz-crazy and sports-crazy public. About 150 teams participated over three days on the lovely lawns of the Dalhousie Institute.

"Seven teams from Calcutta, two from Patna and one from Bhubaneswar featured in the final. On that day (and the prelims), eminent sports personalities were honoured by *Sportsworld*. The highlight of the final was when the winning Bengal Ranji Trophy team was felicitated. Arun Lal bowled a googly, asking a question on 5-a-side hockey. Then there were emotional moments: Premjit Lall shuffling centre-stage to receive his award from Tiger Pataudi; the mellow Arati Saha, bringing back memories of her historic Channel crossing; a bridge player Om Prakash Chouhdury, whose sight is impaired, being saluted.

"Besides emotion and sport, there was much fun and humour. Chima Okerie, sans boots and jersey, and instead in a *dhoti-panjabi*.

CBS

11th Question **: In television cameramen lingo, what are BCU s, MCU s and pocket shots? (Ehtesham Ajjum, "Shaadman Palace", 5th Floor, Flat No. D, 19/A, Ripon Street, Calcutta 700016)**
Ans **: BCU s are "big close-ups"—those shots which show an actor, usually under the stress of great emotion, in a picture so greatly magnified that only his face shows. An MCU is a "medium close-up" showing the actor plus some background, and the pocket shot falls somewhere between the BCU and the MCU. It usually shows a male actor from the breast or handkerchief pocket upward.**



Sanjit Pal

The *Sportsworld* Round Table Quiz

The crowd loved it and so did Chima. "The question is, what does China mean?" The answer, "God knows!"

"It often happens that such *tamasha* brings on a frown to greying diehard quizzards. This was show time all right, but anchorman Barry O'Brien along with Neil O'Brien and the *Sportsworld* editorial team produced extremely well-researched questions, slides and video clips. If there was one criticism it was that the final could have been a trifle shorter. That apart, Sportsworld Round Table (Central Roundtable 38) and Dunlop Spectrawide (to use a sporty metaphor) 'did a Nadia Comaneci.'

"Everything about the quiz was both sports and slick. A stupendous set replete with giant screen and electronic timers, quiz masters, finalist and organizers all in smart T-shirts, mind-boggling prizes—a truly top class presentation.

"Let's pick up the actor in the final. On their performance in the prelims DMET were hot favourites. DI 'A', winners in 1988 and runners-up last year, were also there. Jadavpur University and Alekhine Chess Club looked strong on paper. Then there were the three outstation teams, plus DI 'B' YMCA and St Xavier's.

"Jadavpur University and Alekhine Chess Club drew away from the rest early in the second half and it didn't need a quizzing pundit to predict that these two teams would be there at the finish. DI 'A, never really got going, the others were struggling. DI 'B' surprised themselves and the large crowd by hurtling into third place. Still one round to go, JU were sitting pretty, two bonuses ahead of Alekhine. The order remained unchanged and JU were sporting, convincing and deserving winners of the Sportsworld Round Table Quiz for the Dunlop Spectrawide Trophy.

"True, sponsorship has benefitted quizzing in a big way—the North Star Quiz for young adults, the Maggi Quiz for children. And now Dunlop for sports lovers. At the rate things are going, you might well say: "There's no biz like quiz biz!"

QUESTIONS

1) 'Spear of the Nation' is the name of the military wing of ...? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)
2) With whom is the term 'Shuttle Diplomacy' associated in American politics? (Kausik Kr. Nag, Hooghly)
3) Who authored the book *Diary of a Genius*? (Sanjay Dayal, Ranchi 2)
4) Which bacillus causes [illegible]? (P.C. Barua, [illegible] 4)
5) What is Pakistan's highest score against India in Hockey? (Rashid Akhter, Calcutta 13)
6) For what was the Ocoquiro Bar in Goa in the news some years ago? (Nirad Kumar, Sindri)
7) Which country's national soccer side team is popularly known as the 'Red Devils'? (Asit Kr. Panigrahi, Jharsuguda 2)
8) Who is the only US President to have been born in a hospital? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3)
9) About whom did Mohammed Ali say "I've seen him shadow boxing, and the shadow won"? (Subrata Haldar, Hooghly 3)
10) Lyric writer Shailendra produced the film *Teesari Kasam* starring Raj Kapur and Waheeda Rahman based on a Hindi classic by Phanishwar Nath 'Renu'. Name the novel. (Mohan Agarwal, Bargarh)

ANSWERS

10) Maare gaye Gulfam.
9) George Foreman.
8) Jimmy Carter.
7) Belgium.
6) It was in this bar that Charles Shobraj was arrested after his escape in 1986.
5) In the third Test at Karachi in 1978, Pakistan won 8-0.
4) Mycobacterium leprae.
3) Sanjay Dutt.
2) Henry Kissinger.
1) The African National Congress.



FIRINGHI KALI TEMPLE



The Firinghi Kali Temple is situated at 244, Bowbazar Street (now Bepin Behari Ganguly Street) in central Calcutta. Inside, the goddess Kali stands on a white figure representing a deadonale. Contiguous to this small building is a small Shiva temple, believed to be older than that of Kali.

The image of Kali was installed by one Srimanta Dom, of very low caste, who himself performed the duties of the priest to this goddess for not less than 70 years till his death. The 'Dom' used to treat the people of this quarter suffering from smallpox, and so an idol of goddess Shitala is kept adjacent to that of Kali. The 'Dom' soon became popular among the Eurasian residents of this area who would send offerings to Kali in gratitude for being cured from smallpox. Hence the goddess has earned the name Firinghi Kali.

There is another belief that the Brahmin wife of Hansman Antony had established the Kali Temple. Antony later became famous as a lord and was popularly known as Antony Firinghi.

The situation of the Firinghi Kali Temple on Bow Bazar Street, is also believed to have given rise to the name Bow Bazar as Kali was the reigning goddess of the place. But the question remains conjectural—Bow or Bohu Bazar.

FACTS & FANCIES

The Many Faces of Skiing

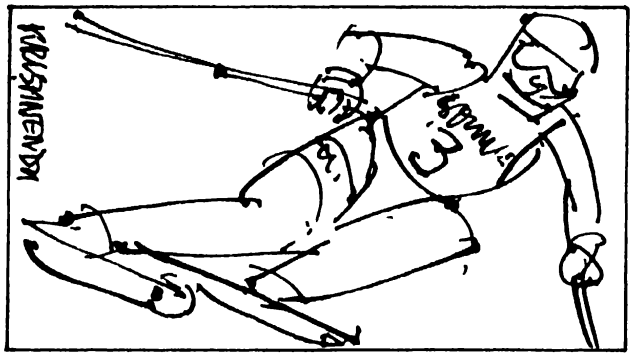
Skiing and *apres*-skiing have always had a tremendous fun-group image in the West. Merely donning a ski suit seems to give one a temporary membership to the fun-loving, jet-set society. This ski-mania is gradually spreading to India, and holiday makers look for attractive ski sports in the Alps and, now, closer to home—in the Himalayas. Newer options are opening every day, be it in the mountains of Colorado, the wilds of Georgia or just outside your own backyard (in the West), catering to various levels of skills and thrills.

To go skiing, it is no longer necessary to have snow! In some major cities in the West (Glasgow, for one) there are man-made ski slopes (indoors and outdoors), covered with a "textured carpet" of white, giving the slopes the necessary bounce for skiing. Or if one is in the mountains and there are more people than snowflakes in the resort, the snow-making machines come to the rescue. The snow-machines belch out vast quantities of snow, over the pistes, which is ski-worthy. The squeaky white powder quickly turns into ice, however, making the inevitable tumble in the snow rather uncomfortable.

What is better, of course, is the natural snow of the Alps. Skiing in the Alps is an old favourite. The holidaying families, the honeymooning couple and the eligible singles of the skiing-fraternity, throng to the snowy peaks for a breath of fresh, crisp mountain air. The nights fall early in the valleys, and people warm their toes by real log fires, consume vast quantities of *vin chaud* and make merry, in the true *apres* ski fashion. The Alpine resorts are as well known for skiing during the day, as they are for their night life.

In the US, they reverse schedules, and do it at night. Incredulous as it may sound, on the slopes of Colorado, one can ski at night. Gondola lifts carry skiers to the top of the mountain, from where one can see America's biggest nightskiing area (Keystone) transformed into a veritable fairyland by a galaxy of twinkling yellow flood lights, resembling a huge swarm of glow-worms, lighting up a dozen or so pistes for the adventurous.

Skiing is becoming increasingly popular all over, and more and more fliers from different countries publish breath-taking pictures in an effort to lure the ski-addicts to the cool and the cunning of their mountain peaks. India has joined the gang, and offers to ski-afficionados slopes that are speedier, higher and mightier than many other resorts.



Now, the Russians have extended their perestroika to the pistes, and offer to the world its newest and best heli-ski resort, in the magnificent, untamed mountains of Caucasus, in the heart of Georgia. What is heli-skiing? In the days of yore, skiers had to climb to the top of a mountain on foot and then ski down the slopes. Then, in the early part of the century, mountain railways or cable cars carried skiers uphill. Now there are a variety of devices from rope tows to chain-lifts and gondola lifts, which are far quicker. The latest mode of uphill transport is a helicopter which takes you to heights of 12,500 vertical metres of absolutely raw, heavily snow-clad majstic mountains. Ski-runs down these mountainsides are so rough and rife with risks, that they would exhaust the stoutest heart!

In fact, the risk is so great that the Russians have quickly followed the North American example and have tried to ensure that nobody will sue them if things go wrong at the heli-ski-resort. Before one takes off in the helicopter, one is required to sign a written statement giving up all rights to sue the authorities for any accidents.

For a true ski-freak, this scenario is the ultimate—the greater the risk, the greater the thrill. As one ski-addict has expressed "Enjoyment from heli-skiing is derived in part from skiing in powder snow on steep, ungroomed slopes, and that the inherent risks...contribute to such enjoyment and excitement!" Each to his own. Most of us, I am sure, are happier on *terra* that is more *firma*.

Ski Fun

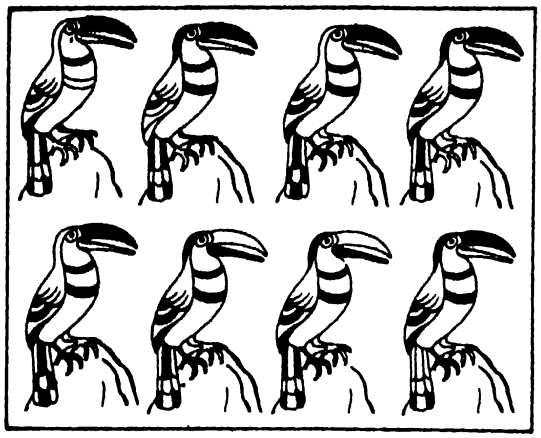
The mere sound of "Ski" will suffice here. Replace each asterisk with the sound of "Ski" and fill in one letter per blank to form a word according to the clue on the right. "Ski" may be spelt in any acceptable way: "SKY" (as in Risky), "SKEE" (as in Skeet) and so on. For example, the answer to 1 below is RISKY.

1.	-- **********	Dangerous
2.	--* **********	Relating to woods
3.	--- **********	Goes straight to your head
4.	--* **********	Breed of dog
5.	* ----------	Lose coil of thread
6.	*-- ----------	A plan
7.	*-- ----------	Skittish
8.	---*---- ----------	Playfulness
9.	--*-- ----------	Darker in colour
10.	-*--- ----------	A kind of heart problem
11.	*- ----------	Trapshooting.



Solution: 1. Risky 2. Bosky 3. Whiskey 4. Husky 5. Skein 6. Scheme 7. Skeigh 8. Friskiness 9. Husker 10. Ischemia 11. Skeet

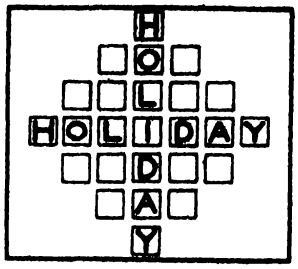
Shamlu Dudeja



RARE PAIR! Two of the eight tropical birds above appear enough alike to be twins. Which two is for you to decide.

• HOW MANY? Half the group went straight ahead, a quarter went left, a seventh went right, and three remained. How many in the group?

Twenty-eight in the group



SOME HOLIDAY TRIMMINGS See if you can surround the word HOLIDAY, above, with four smaller words to complete a word square—an arrangement of words that reads the same across and down.

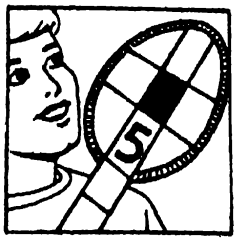
One possible answer may be obtained by inserting words according to the following definitions (from the top word down).

Extinct bird.
Thing of the past.
One for the road.

Remember, appropriate words are to read the same across and down.

Time limit 1 min.

One way: Roa, relic, older, car

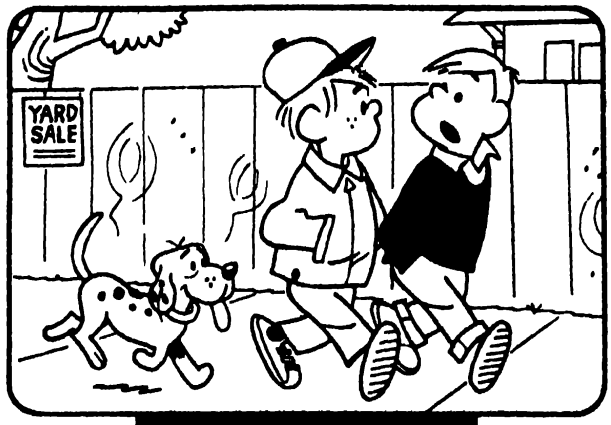


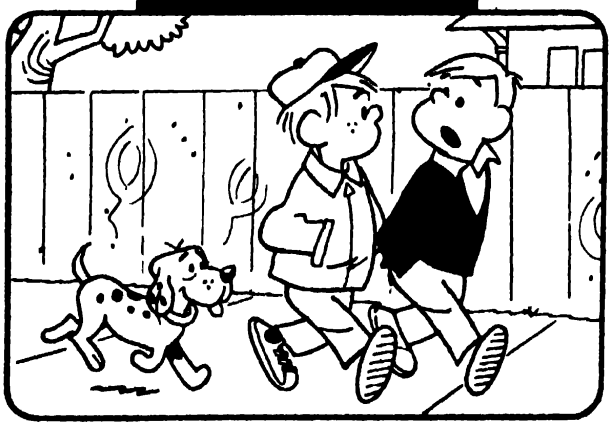
• **BUM RACKET!** Place the digits 1 through 9 in the nine blank spaces of the simulated tennis racket below so that the numbers in each row of three spaces will total the same—15.

One number—5—which is already in place, is to be duplicated. That's to say, 10 digits in all are to appear in answer.

Top—1, 9, 8; then 6, 7, 2; then 6, 5, 4; then 3 and 7 will do it

HOCUS-FOCUS





CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Difference 1 Sign is missing 2 Tail is shorter 3 Tongue is shorter 4 Cap is different 5 Neckline is different 6 Cuffs are missing

FUNSPOT



FOOT LOOSE! Can it be? Yes, it is. Santa's cutting a fancy figure on ice. Color code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. blue.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

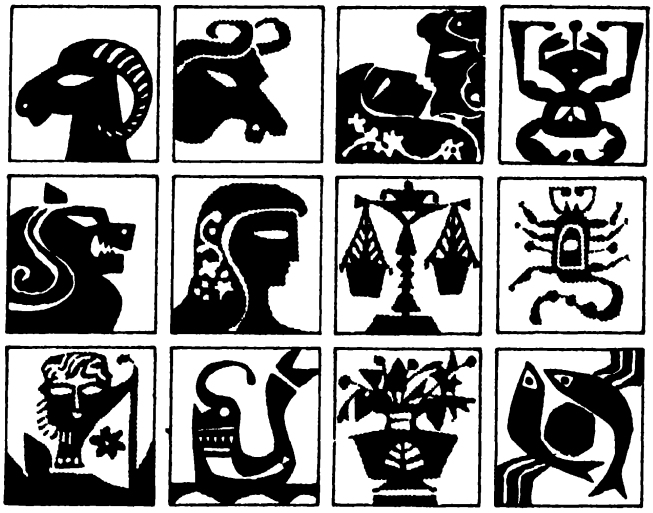
THEATRIC

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible: become, flair, lech



ARIES

March 21—April 20

Creativity, journey, publicity, money and power are the main trends of the week Romance will be exciting, your heart will hum and thrum Health remains in good shape Travel promises an excellent going A house move, joy through kids, hobbies and pastime are the other salient features of the week

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Matters move your way in romance, speculation, children, entertainment and the arts Romance flourishes Finance multiplies, thanks to new openings and past contacts You may have to undertake a journey for leisure, pleasure and gains Health shows a marked improvement Both the home and children are pleasantly highlighted

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Do not neglect the personal and emotional sides of your life at present Religious impulses and psychic doors will open out It is just the right time for romantic ventures Seize the chime to augment income-building resources Health will not be much of a problem so as to impede your progress Visits and meetings are foretold

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Contacts, contracts, assignments, communication, journeys, meetings, conferences and major financial gains are the highlights of the week You will have your share of romance As far as finance goes, you will have splendid opportunities and plenty of good news Travel proves lucky You will be bubbling with energy Home and children give tremendous satisfaction so long you do not expect the impossible

LEO

July 21—August 21

The week signifies hard work, buying or selling, journeys, negotiations, settlements, properties, legacies, funds, joint finances, insurance and mortgage Work first and play afterwards should be your motto Visits and communications are emphasised Always remember that regular habits ensure good health

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The accent this week is on property, be it house, office, real estate, industrial site, warehouse or vehicles Monetary transactions are certain Romance takes a back-seat for you have too much work in your hands Finance is the important pointer now A major move or shift or transfer is in the offing Both home and children deserve and demand your best shot

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The week s main trends are journeys, collaborations and visits to clinics and hospitals It is also the time for introspection, revaluation, stock-taking and assessment Secret ties, rendezvous and liaison are probable The name of the game is expansion, investment, transaction and trading Travel is an antidote to restlessness Health remains suspect Renovation, decoration, children and hobbies give a necessary safety valve to your conflicts

BIRTHDAYS

April 29

Success in journey, collaboration and enterprise is assured Children home and creative pursuits bring joy and a great burst of self-confidence

April 30

It is time to achieve and thus get ample satisfaction Your enemies will bite the dust, your friends will rejoice and you will be on cloud nine Pleasure and profits are also in store for you

May 1

Your health remains suspect and speculation will not be rewarding You are advised to stay away from family squabbles and financial muddles Take appropriate advice before deciding to buy or sell

May 2

Do not take anything on its face value Safeguard your health in matters of the heart, be cautious and discreet

May 3

There is a danger of accident and deceit Those in the media, transport, communication, wholesale business, chemicals and printing will do well Insure your house, office, factory and goods as a safety measure Expenses mount and hospitalisation is possible

May 4

Those in service and business do well Artists, filmmakers, musicians, painters, editors, photographers and actors steal the thunder A birthyear of spectacular success

May 5

You will succeed after an effort, so do not give up Your debts will be cleared Funds for an enterprise or a new business will be available, After August, a brighter 1990 for you

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

A wish fulfilment, a job well done, romance, socialising, business deals and transactions are the week's highlights Romance will be terrific and exciting Excellent prospects of clinching a major deal and out-of-court settlements are likely Travel gives both pleasure and profit No serious healthr problems as such Make your home comfortable as well as beautiful

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

You will have both romance and finance in just the right measure A family get-together is predicted You will have enough romance to keep you happy Traders, manufacturers, distributors and agents will be in their element Take care of your health, specially towards the mid-week

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Job opportunities and new openings in progressions are probable Pets give pleasure Relations with subordinates and colleagues of extreme importance are likely Be amiable and savvy Health may pose a few problems Love and work demand you to travel Expect visitors to drop in Last month s direction to addition, alternation, renovation, buying and selling still points the same way

AQUARIUS

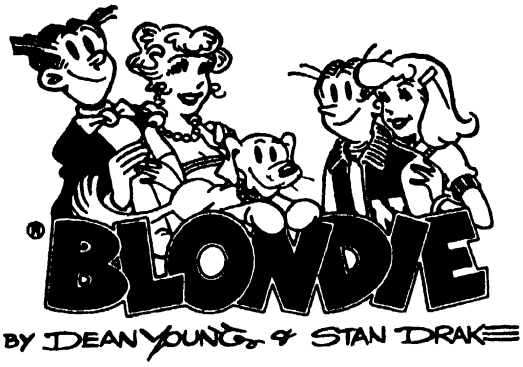
Jan 20—Feb 18

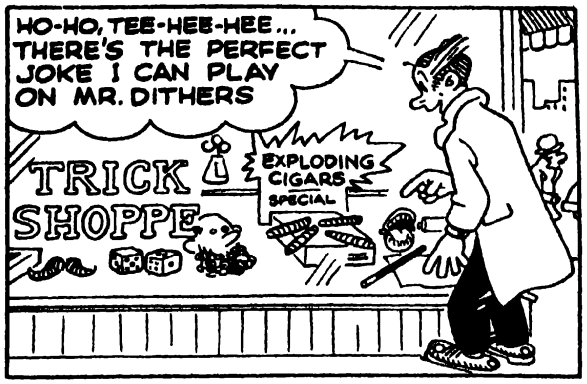
Official engagements, marriage, business connections and ties despite opposition, and a journey with a possible stopover are probable Links, trading, commission and agency constitute a happy financial week Extra health precautions can save the doctor s bill Travel is probable Home and children are where you really excel

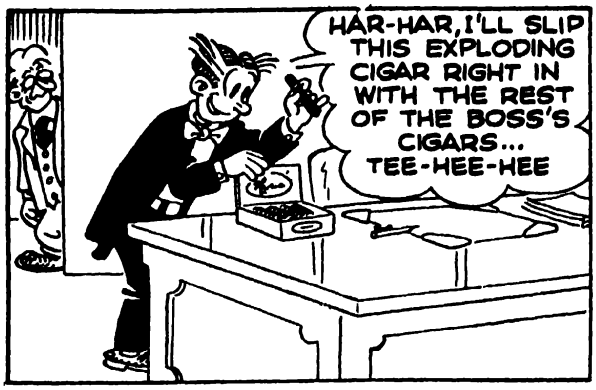
PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Deals, investments, a home away from home, change of office, taking over an industry or factory, loans, funds and intimate ties are the week's salient features. Romance will be passionate Travel is a certainty Health poses a few irritants Changes and joy in home and children are envisaged.

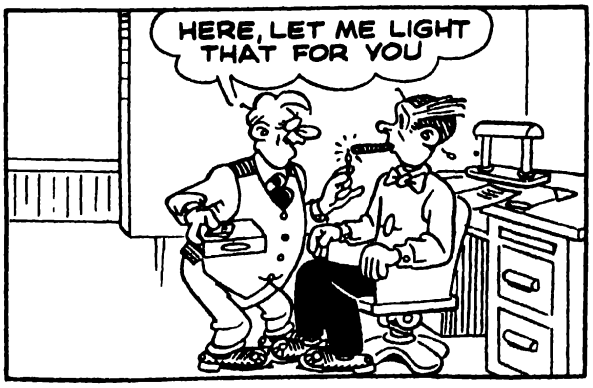


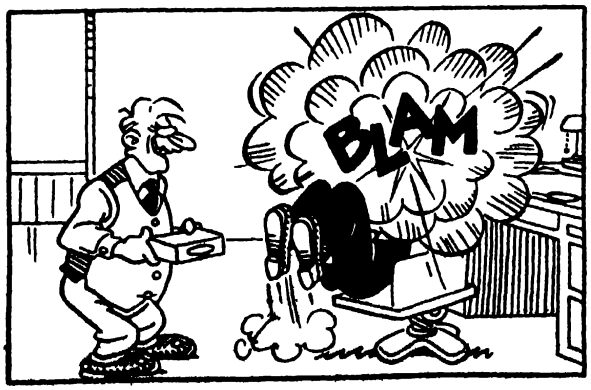






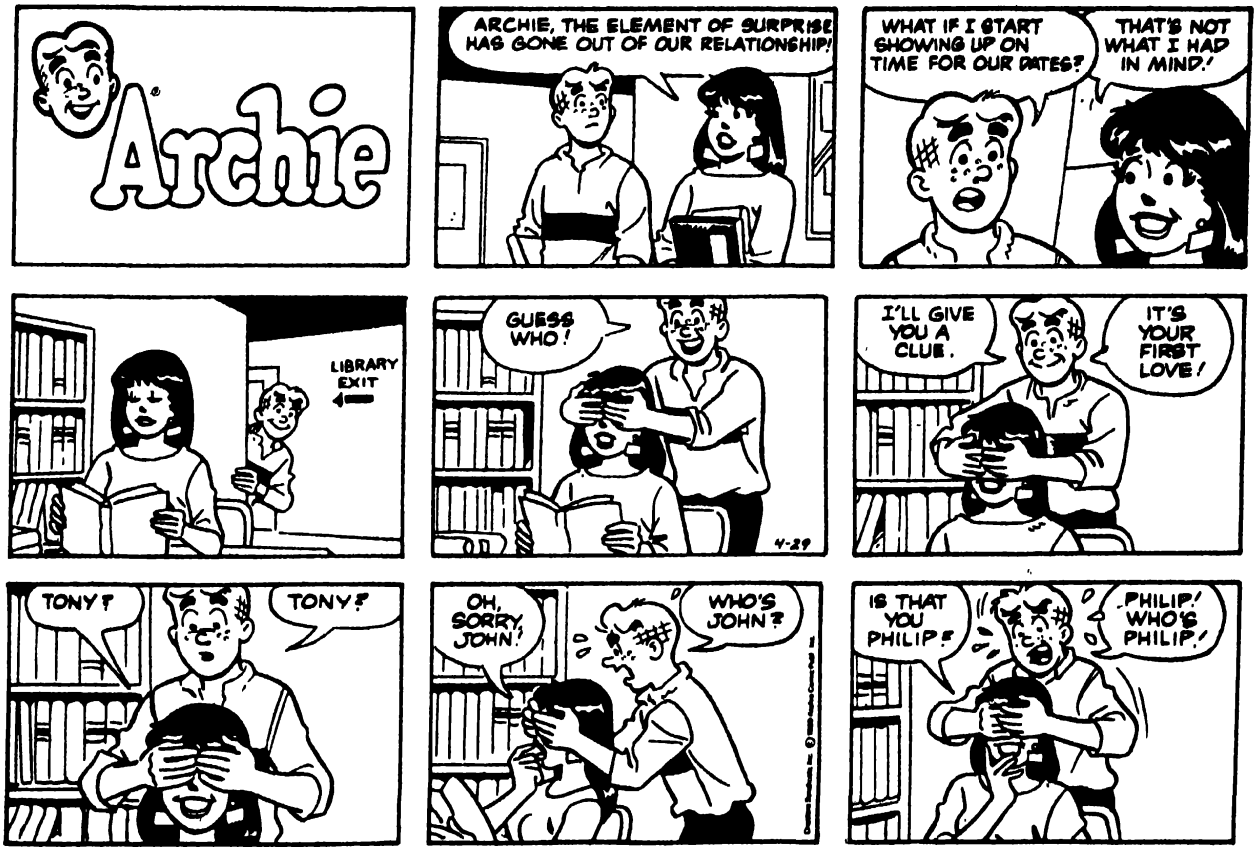


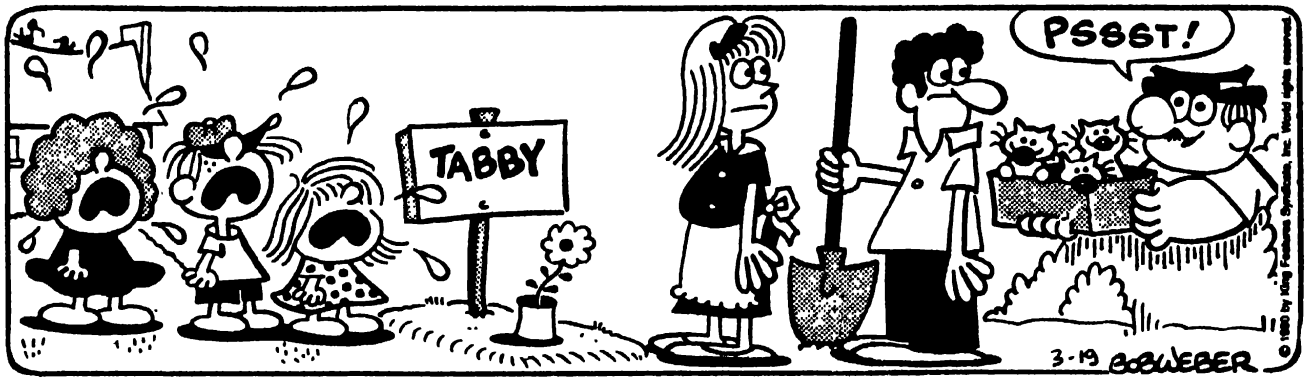


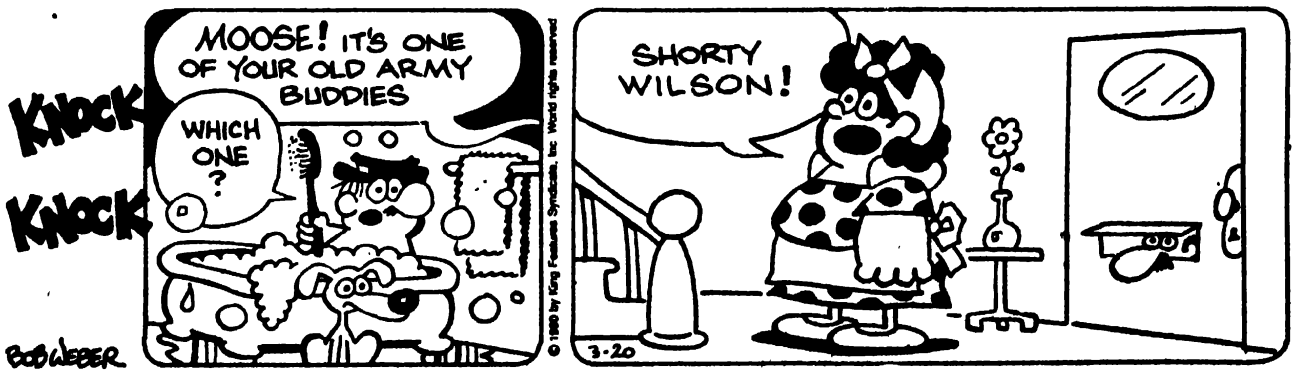


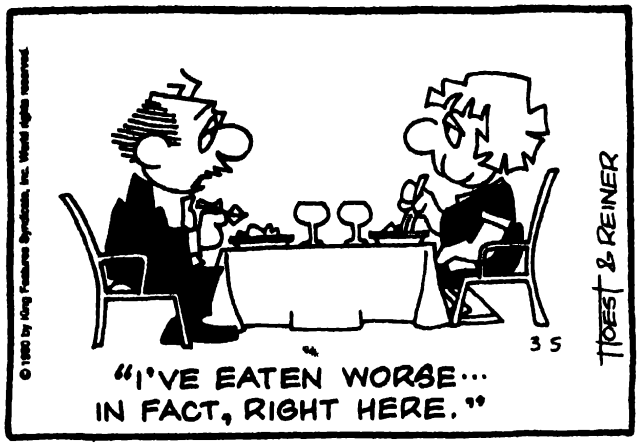
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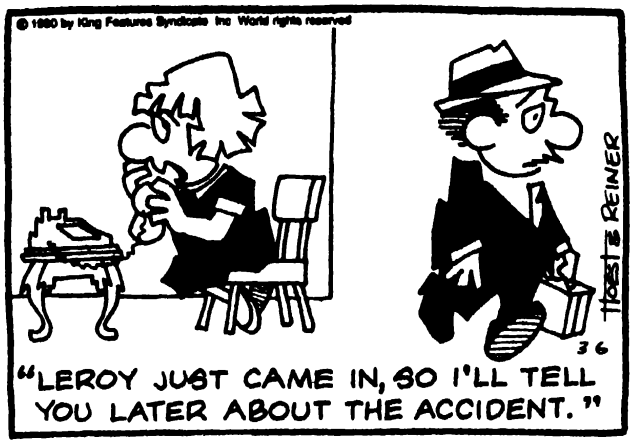


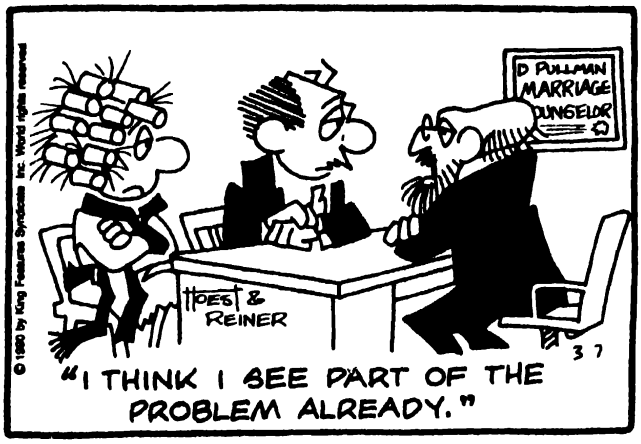

Archie
ARCHIE, THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE HAS GONE OUT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP!
WHAT IF I START SHOWING UP ON TIME FOR OUR DATES?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I HAD IN MIND!
LIBRARY EXIT
GUESS WHO!
4-29
I'LL GIVE YOU A CLUE.
IT'S YOUR FIRST LOVE!
TONY?
TONY?
OH, SORRY, JOHN!
WHO'S JOHN?
IS THAT YOU PHILIP?
PHILIP! WHO'S PHILIP!

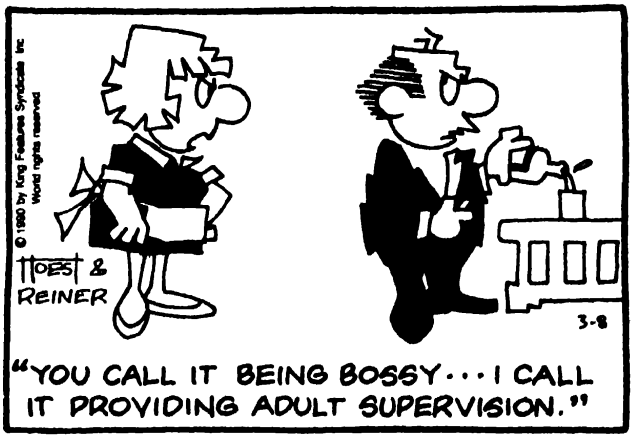

TABBY
PSSST!
3-19 BOB WEBER
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KNOCK KNOCK
MOOSE! IT'S ONE OF YOUR OLD ARMY BUDDIES
WHICH ONE?
BOB WEBER
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SHORTY WILSON!
3-20

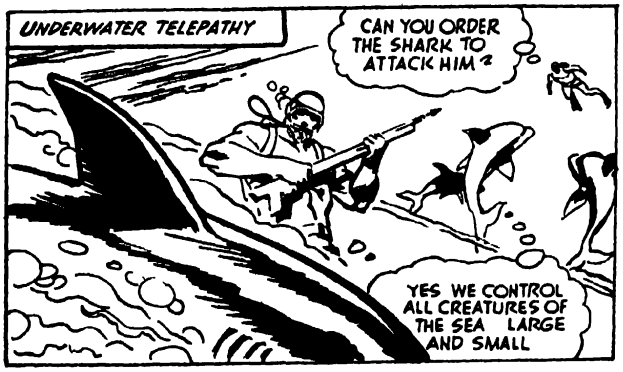


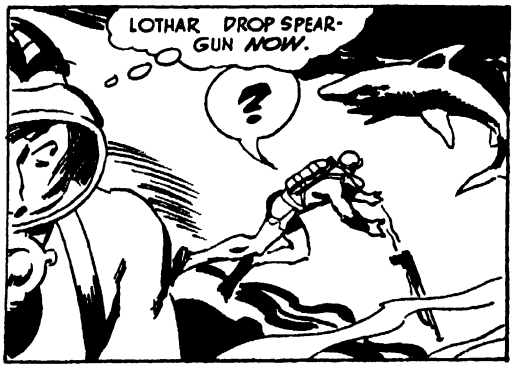






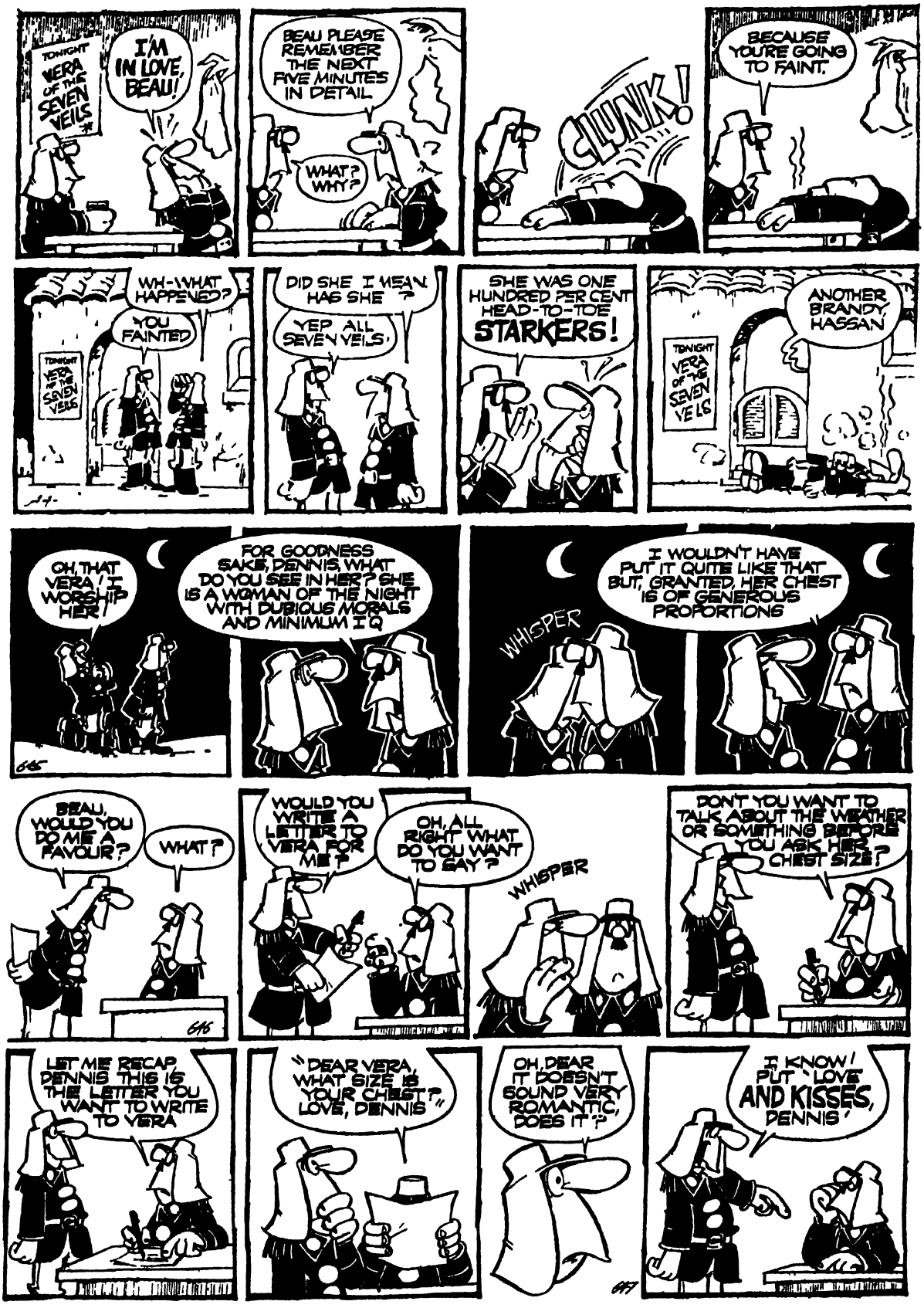
MANDRAKE By Lee Falk





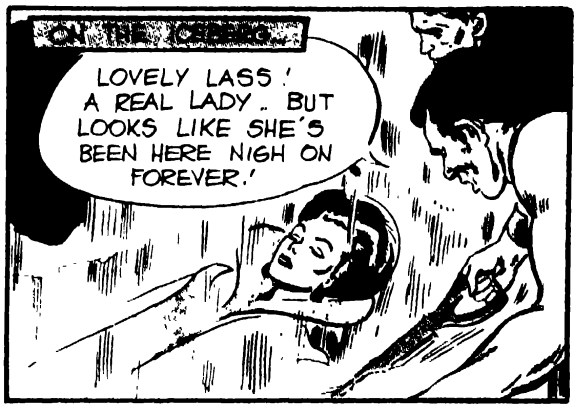





TONIGHT VERA OF THE SEVEN VEILS
I'M IN LOVE, BEAU!
BEAU PLEASE REMEMBER THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES IN DETAIL
WHAT? WHY?
CLUNK!
BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO FAINT.
WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU FAINTED
DID SHE I MEAN, HAS SHE ?
YEP ALL SEVEN VEILS
SHE WAS ONE HUNDRED PER CENT HEAD-TO-TOE STARKERS!
ANOTHER BRANDY, HASSAN
OH, THAT VERA / I WORSHIP HER!
FOR GOODNESS SAKE, DENNIS, WHAT DO YOU SEE IN HER? SHE IS A WOMAN OF THE NIGHT WITH DUBIOUS MORALS AND MINIMUM I Q
WHISPER
I WOULDN'T HAVE PUT IT QUITE LIKE THAT BUT, GRANTED, HER CHEST IS OF GENEROUS PROPORTIONS
BEAU, WOULD YOU DO ME A FAVOUR?
WHAT?
WOULD YOU WRITE A LETTER TO VERA FOR ME?
OH, ALL RIGHT WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SAY?
WHISPER
DON'T YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER OR SOMETHING BEFORE YOU ASK HER CHEST SIZE?
LET ME RECAP, DENNIS THIS IS THE LETTER YOU WANT TO WRITE TO VERA
"DEAR VERA, WHAT SIZE IS YOUR CHEST?" LOVE, DENNIS
OH, DEAR IT DOESN'T SOUND VERY ROMANTIC, DOES IT?
I KNOW! PUT 'LOVE AND KISSES, DENNIS'

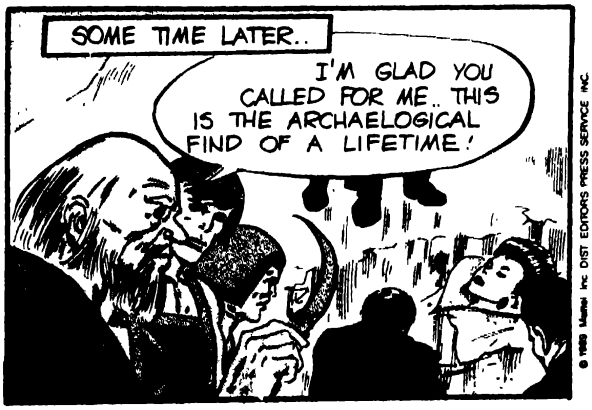












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SNAKES ALIVE!



Displaying the fangs and poison glands of a Russell's Viper

Holding banded Kraits by their tails while a Cobra is at the ready



Snake-eggs and a dead embryo

Hiren Roy of Payradanga in Nadia district lives with nearly 300 snakes in his house, having caught them bare-handed and kept them with fangs intact. To some it may seem a deadly pastime; to others these creatures are at least easy to hiss-and-make-up-with

Photographs: Sujit K. Das





Some of Hiren Roy's friends

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'Brief Attitudes'

I was delighted to read about Asha ('Our Pamella,' April 1). I think she will soon be the busiest star in Bombay. Her brief attitude (*sic*) is really appreciable.
Ashoke Sengupta,
Calcutta

■ Stories based on politics really bore me. Cover stories like 'The Sound of Sirens' and 'Our Pamella' are more like it.
Debasish Nandi,
Taherpur (W.B.)

■ The cover story was a daring step and will help improve the dismal condition of our orthodox society.
Bidyut Barman,
Melaghar (Tripura)

■ We expect value-based articles from you only. Please do not frustrate us.
Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

■ It is disheartening to see that the Colour Magazine is publishing more and more sexciting pictures. Asha doing the role of Pamella Bordes is the headache of pornographic magazines, not yours.
Tarun Kanti Hazra,
Calcutta

■ Thanks for yet another sexciting issue. The Colour Magazine is getting brighter and more colourful. Don't pay attention to those dull and dry people who criticise such natural revelations.
Md. Sayeed,
Calcutta

■ I am sure by the time this letter reaches your office, you will have been flooded by letters criticising the issue for "sexciting stills".

Don't worry; these are the same people who buy tickets for soft porn films on the sly. Some people will never get away from the habit of constant pricking.
Soumen Chowdhury,
Barrackpore (W.B.)

■ It seems you are determined to make it a Nudist's Magazine. The sight of half-naked feminine figures is simply abhoring. I had a trying time when the magazine landed on my tea table in the presence of my grand-daughters.
M.L. Chokhany,
Calcutta

■ Is this a Sex Magazine or the Colour Magazine?
Ankan Das,
Calcutta

■ You have betrayed your pornographic weakness once again. It does not become you to indulge in such rank trash.
Sarit Datta,
Calcutta



■ It is as ridiculous to make a film on Pamella as it was to produce a cover story on that
Girish Chandra Dash,
Jeypore, (Orissa)

■ We appreciate the fact that you have not bowed before those guys who are against the publication of saucy photographs. There is no sin in capturing beautiful figures and producing them lively (*sic*)
Sunanda, Sajal and **Subrata,**
Calcutta

■ The April 1 issue was simply superb. I thought it was a joke like your earlier one about Dr Chatterjee finding oil from Sunderbans weeds. But the story of Asha was a real surprise.
P.N. Chatterjee,
New Delhi

■ I saw the issue and immediately destroyed it. When adult films are shown in the halls, it is indicated very clearly. Not so in the Colour Magazine which the whole family reads.
Chanakya Sharma,
Bhubaneswar

■ I think it is time that you also printed the line, 'For Adults Only,' boldly on the cover of the Colour Magazine. That would be convenient for the readers.
Pramod Routray,
Balasore (Orissa)

■ Before you publish anything, please try and remember that it is a family magazine.
Rajendra K. Mundhra,
Howrah

■ Why don't you introduce another magazine for such photographs and leave the Colour Magazine alone?
Sonjukta Mukherjee,
Calcutta

■ Many students like me go through the Colour Magazine and educate ourselves. If you publish such pictures, it becomes impossible to read the magazine comfortably
Deepjyoti Sarma,
Diphu (Assam)

■ The topless photographs of Asha were in bad taste
Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

■ Give us some more mind-blowing pictures like Asha's How about Juhi Chawla's?
Samit Kolay,
Calcutta

■ Maybe you have discovered the easiest way to achieve high circulation figures, but the confidence of the educated class has been shaken by the vulgarity of the issue.
Ashwini Tewary,
Calcutta

The Telegraph
6 MAY 1990

4 The Bengal Service Society, like the Missionaries of Charity, is doing the city proud. A report.

13 How American fighter pilots train on the lethal F-16

Aloke Mitra



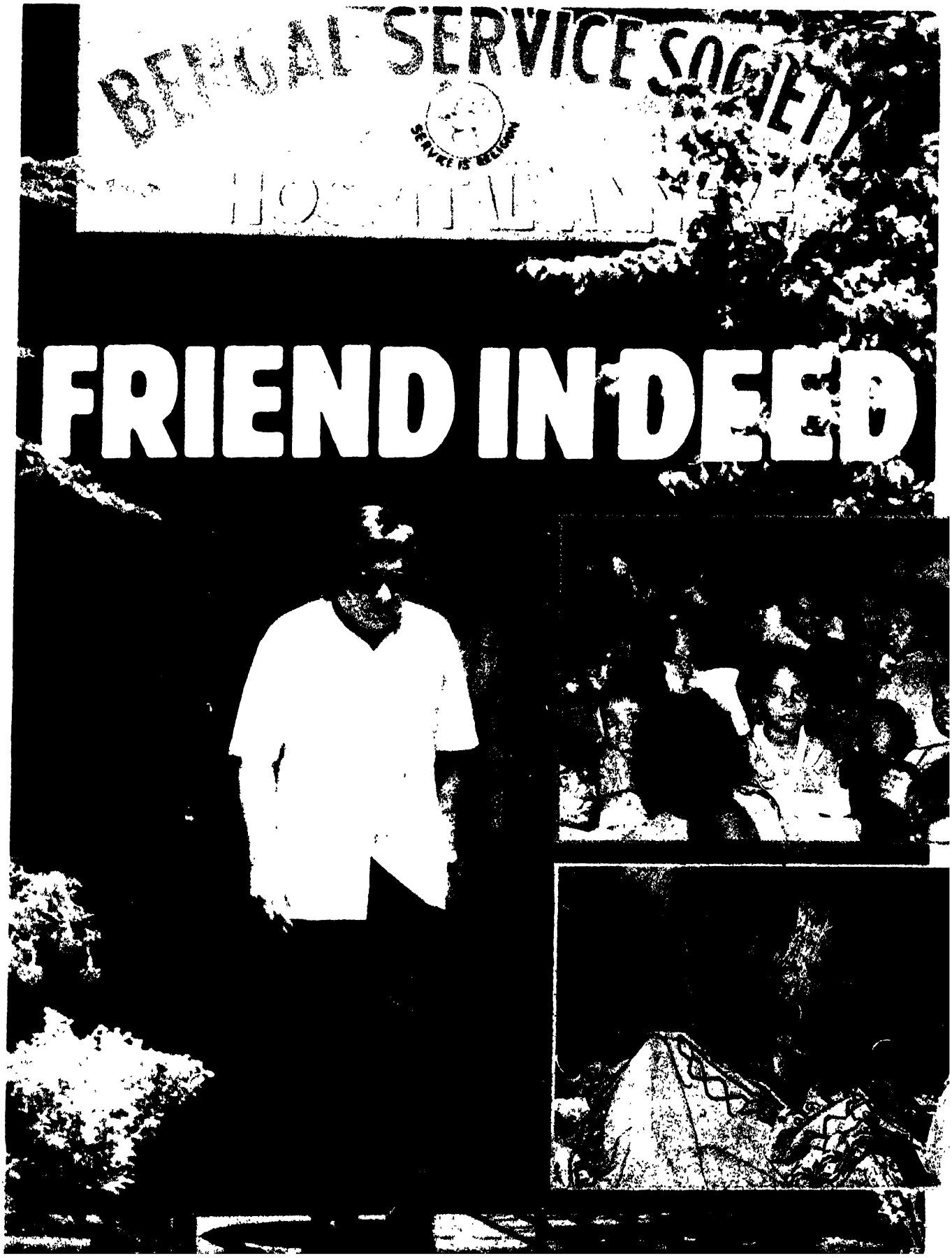
16 Ravi Shankar's 70th birthday was occasion for a thumping celebration A photofeature on the event

18 If the world does not make peace with nature and soon —the consequences will be disastrous

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Cover Aloke Mitra



FRIEND IN DEED

Calcutta, where 'the poorest of the poor' have been served by Mother Teresa and her sisters, has another do-gooder in Milton McCann. Starting the Bengal Service Society 22 years ago, he has changed the face of destitution. SAUMITRA BANERJEE profiles the man and his work

Photographs: Aloke Mitra

• Not long ago, seven-year-old Muzaffar found himself abandoned at Howrah station. He had been sold by his father, a drunkard who spent the better part of the day abusing and beating his two wives, to a marginally more prosperous man in Raidighi for Rs 100. For this amount, Muzaffar would spend the day tending the cattle: he would have to wash them, feed them and clear their droppings. In return, he was fed by his 'owner'. But after a while, even this was more than his new master could afford. So he was simply taken to a deserted road and left to fend for himself. Helpless and hungry, he just sat and cried. Luckily for him, a passerby spotted him, and seeing that he had nowhere to go, decided to take him by train to Calcutta. Unluckily for him, on reaching Howrah station, he was left alone on the crowded platform of the railway station to try and find his way around the city. Perhaps he tried, but instead he soon found himself in the lock-up of the railway police. From there to a government home for juveniles in Liluah. Finally in December 1988, an organisation called the Bengal Service Society managed to secure his release through the juvenile court and helped him begin a new life at Sishu Udyan, a home for children rescued from jail run by the Terres des Hommes.

• Dilip Gharami's father died when he was only a child, leaving him and his mother to eke out a living. Dilip's mother had no option but to beg to feed her son and herself. Dilip accompanied his mother when she went around begging in Satghara village in 24-Parganas where they lived. It was once again the Bengal Service Society which stepped in to help. The society presented Dilip, now 16, with a rickshaw van so that the family did not have to depend on begging to survive. Dilip now earns about Rs 20 a day, riding his rickshaw.

• Salim is a resident of one of the many bastis *that dot Tiljala. His father is unemployed and there is a family to feed. The going was tough—till he discovered the Bengal Service Society. Salim joined the rehabilitation project of the organisation, was trained in weaving for five years and now operates one of the many handlooms that the society has, earning Rs 15 for every saree that he weaves. Salim today hopes to go to Bombay—to meet Dev Anand who had once held a function in the city to help raise funds for the society.*

Twenty-two years ago, a young man had a dream: he wanted the destitute children of Calcutta to find a home and he wanted to help them grow up as independent, self-reliant people. Today, the dream is maturing into reality.

For in 1968, out of the determination of this young man, Milton McCann, was born a "love story", the Bengal Service Society (BSS), an organisation whose primary aim was to make poor people and children "self-reliant human beings".

McCann has often said, "If the children of the poor could get a basic education and enough to eat, they could work their way out of poverty." And he has been striving for precisely that. Beginning with a single classroom in an east Calcutta slum, McCann today administers, through the BSS, of which he is the president, and the Terres des Hommes (India) Society, of which he is the secretary general, a staff of about 800 people working together on programmes which teach and feed 12,000 children, maintain three creches, nine dispensaries and a hospital. He also runs a project to free children from prison and rehabilitate them, as well as one aimed at bettering the life of the children of prostitutes. Looking back, McCann says, "I just began with the idea of bringing up a few destitute children and orphans. I had never thought it would mushroom into something like this."

But in 1968, when McCann and his friend Sisir Dasgupta—both working at that time in the engineering firm of Jessops—decided to start the BSS, the going was tough. To begin with, an appropriate place had to be found to set up the school.

Building a brighter young India



Facing page: **Milton McCann at the hospital annexe of BSS and (insets from top) some of the children in the canteen; and women doing embroidery**

"It had to be located in a backward, poor area of the city because it is in these parts that the people require the most amount of help, where education does not exist and hunger is more the rule than the exception," says McCann The area that was finally decided upon—after an inspection of various sites—was Sapgachi in the Tiljala area of the city

"There is a world of difference between the Sapgachi of today and that of 1968," McCann says proudly as he shows us around the many buildings that house the BSS today Sapgachi then was in a "terrible condition" with shacks built on marshy land There was no electricity or proper roads and unhygenic and dirty open drains crisscrossed the place And the area was infested with anti-socials and criminals "In fact says McCann, "we built the first roads in Sapgachi "

Besides, there was the local hostility to contend with "The people were initially very suspicious," says McCann "They thought we were missionaries and foreign agents out to convert the children of the locality It took quite some time and effort to convince them otherwise " And McCann is emphatic that the BSS is an absolutely secular organisation "The biggest temple is where man works for the good of mankind," he says In fact, the motto of the BSS is service is religion

When McCann first discussed his plans of setting up a school, the residents of Sapgachi simply did not take him seriously Why, they wondered, would anyone want to help better their lot without any ulterior motive? But McCann had not come all the way to Sapgachi to give up so easily and go away He persisted Didn't they want their children to be educated, he asked them Didn't they want a better future for their sons and daughters?



McCann has often said, 'If the children of the poor could get a basic education and enough to eat, they could work their way out of poverty'

Finally, he managed to win over a few people Mohammad Jan, Hussain Ali and Sarfuddin Ahmed were the first people to come forward to help, with Jan giving McCann a room where the school was first set up And classes began with McCann shuttling between Jessops and Sapgachi to teach the children On the first day August 18, 1968, there were exactly six children who attended classes. Gradually more people became enthusiastic about the school and the number grew to 40-odd students

"But don't think that my troubles were over," McCann says "One day, one of the local anti-socials threw a brick at me as I was passing through Sapgachi Luckily for me, I noticed it coming and managed not to get hurt. But I had spotted him and later, when I saw again, I called him and spoke to him I think he finally appreciated the work that we were doing "

For McCann, however, "problems are part of life" With interest in the school rising, the small room where the BSS was born could no longer hold the students





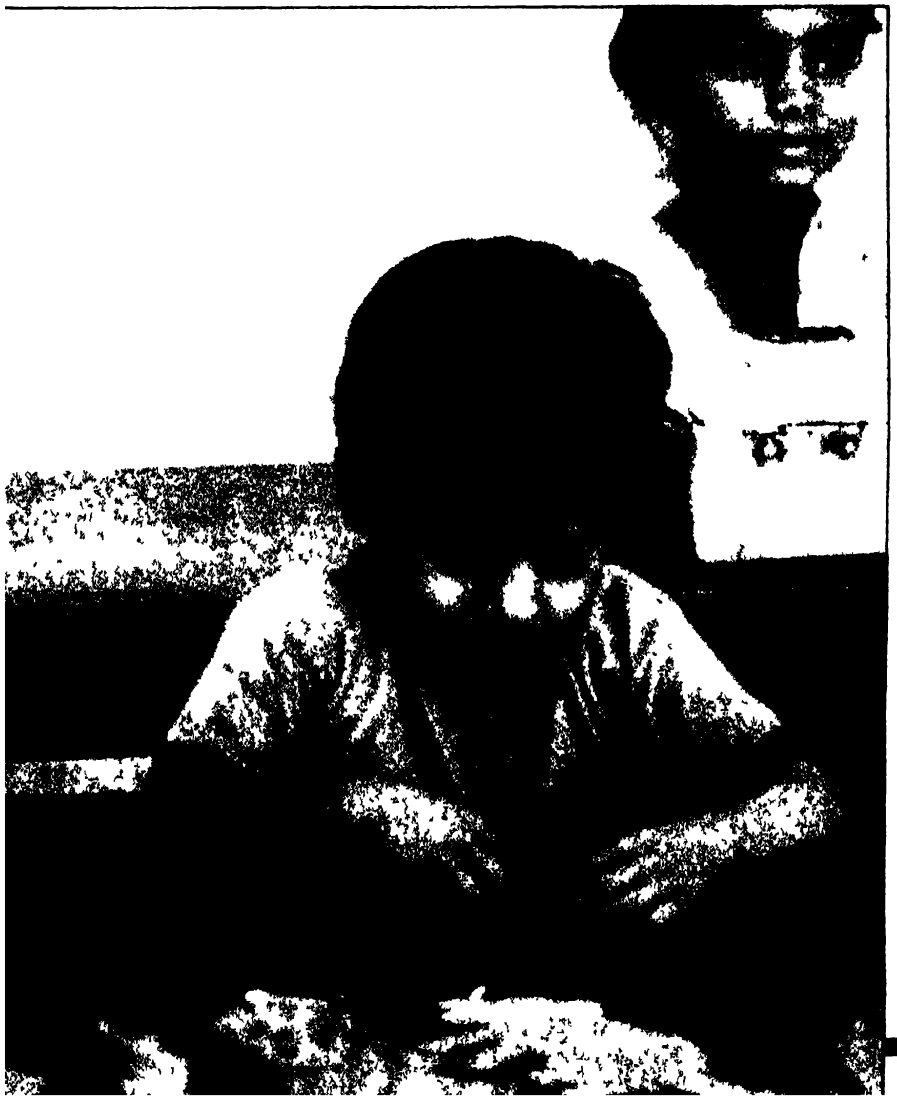
From six to 40 to 1,000 students today

whose number was increasing with each passing day. A larger space had to be found. But this required money—and that is one thing that was in short supply. "Our major problem even today is finances," McCann maintains, "and then it was even more so. That is why the media is important, people must know of our work."

Gradually, people got to know of the BSS and donations started coming in. But obviously the amount was not enough—even though the land was "very cheap". "These were all swamps," explains McCann, "so naturally the prices were not high. In fact, the building that came up was on reclaimed land: the CMDA helped in this regard." Money for the school came from various sources—the Canadian High Commission, the Tatas and the Birlas, the Swiss and the French among others. Dev Anand, too, chipped in: he held a charity show which raised Rs 50,000 for the construction of the school. In 1972, a bright, new three-storied school building



'The biggest temple is where man works for the good of mankind,' says McCann. In fact, the motto of the BSS is: service is religion





After education, work at the lathes

replaced the single classroom where McCann had started teaching four years earlier. Now, there are about 1,000 students studying at the BSS school in Sapgachi and all of them are fed twice a day. "You cannot be hungry and study at the same time, as hungry children cannot absorb even the simplest form of education," says McCann. Even children from the nearby free government school and the cooperative school are fed here everyday.

Three years later the BSS hospital came up: beginning with 10 beds, the hospital today has 50 beds along with radiology, pathology, sterilisation, opthalmology and cardiology departments, as well as a surgery. There is a team of doctors who attend to patients, mostly from the slums of the area. Now, some 50,000 patients visit the out-patients' ward every year.

Some of the staff of the hospital consist of those who have been brought up and trained by the BSS itself. For instance, Nidhu Rani Mondal. As a child, she attended the BSS school and her subsequent training as a nurse was also sponsored by the BSS. Today, she works as a nurse at the BSS hospital, earning Rs 750 per month. As Nidhu Rani Mondal said, "I owe everything that I have to the BSS. I am feeding my family on the salary that I receive from here. Besides, nursing as a profession had always interested me."

(Interestingly, Milton McCann had himself wanted to be a doctor, but financial constraints forced him to opt for another profession. Living a comfortable life in Rangoon, luck suddenly ran out on McCann when, in 1945, his father died in a car accident. Faced with acute financial problems, McCann's mother travelled to Calcutta where she had relatives.)

But that is not all that the BSS is doing today to better the lot of the people of Sapgachi. Take the mother and child

programme, for instance. While the children learn to read and write, the mothers do not sit idle. In an adjoining hall they are busy learning the fine art of needlework and are initiated into the domestic sciences. The mothers, too, are provided meals along with their children. In fact, there is a full-fledged tailoring department where people trained by the BSS make clothes. Said Geeta Chaudhury, "From nursery I have been with the BSS. I studied here, I learnt tailoring here and now I have been absorbed in the BSS." And none of them are working for free. While those receiving training get a modest sum as pocket money, those who have been trained get paid upto Rs 50 a day.

Imadi Begum of the tailoring department said, "The BSS has provided me with a livelihood; now I am a fully trained tailor." Most of the clothes that are made in the tailoring department are uniforms for those attached to the BSS. "It is a self-supporting scheme," explained a BSS staffer.

Besides, there are also the handlooms. Here, as in the other projects, people are not only taught the art of weaving, but once fully trained, they make sarees at the loom and are paid Rs 15 for each saree they weave. The faster you weave, the more money you make. The sarees, in turn, are sold to the affiliates of the BSS, at roughly Rs 50 each.



'The aim of the BSS is to create independence, not dependence. We are interested in developing the skills of various people in order to build self-sufficiency'

But wait. This is not all. A few yards from the loom is the machine shop. Here about 20 young men, most of them educated at the BSS school and trained at various places by the BSS, spend their day working at the lathe machines. Salaries vary according to experience. And the amount of work depends on orders they receive from various companies. Said Mohammad Yusuf who has been working here since 1977 after passing out of the BSS school, "For us local boys, this is among the best things that has happened." Unfortunately, there are not too many orders coming to the BSS machine shop these days.

But Milton McCann believes that rehabilitation, and not relief, is what is important. In fact, he is emphatic about it. As he says, "The aim of the Bengal Service Society is to create independence, not dependence. We are interested in developing the skills of various people in order to build self-sufficiency. Twenty thousand young people have passed out of our organisation to become self-supporting members of society. All our programmes are based on the concept of rehabilitation and no spoonfeeding is encouraged."

While the BSS is looking after the interests of the slumdwellers of Sapgachi and of six other slums in Calcutta, the Terres des Hommes, whose India chapter McCann heads, has set up a project in Kalahandi to look after the children in one of the country's most backward areas. There, too, McCann had his share of problems. Some "vested interests" spread the rumour that he would have the blood of the babies sucked out simply because he was having them weighed. Besides, McCann runs the Sishu Udyan which is financed by the the Terres Des Hommes, and the Usthi Foundation for the welfare of children.

McCann, of course, is modest about his achievements. "People have called me a do-gooder and a good samaritan. But in actual fact, I am head cook-cum-bottlewasher, since I spend most of my time bothering about these things."

Then, on a more serious note he says, "There are not always achievements, there are disappointments as well. But that is reality. The task ahead of us is enormous and what we need sorely are finances. If one family decides to support one child then lakhs would be benefitted. But to our patrons we offer the assurance that what they give us is not blind charity, but a trust upon which a little of the future of young India is built. And that has been our reward."■



The 50-bed hospital

'You cannot be hungry and study at the same time, as hungry children cannot absorb even the simplest form of education'



Antidote to Crime

Could cricket be the answer to New York's crime problems, the salvation for wayward teenagers on the brink of being sucked into a life of drugs and violence? Certainly, the city's leading Catholic youth organisation would like to believe such a dream. It thinks this sport, developed in medieval England, could foster "disciplines that are both wholesome and family-oriented".

Indeed, it has become so impressed by the idea that cricket—a game where the umpire's decision is never disputed—might provide answers to society's problems that it has backed a major plan to encourage children all over New York to set up cricket teams. Indian-American parents are being asked to back the plan by encouraging their children to join in forming cricket teams.

The plan is being spearheaded by Barbados-born Mr Bert Smith, who has been promoting cricket events in the US since the 1970s. He

It is not just cricket; it could also help solve society's problems

has now launched a new initiative, with the backing of the Catholic Youth Organisation of the Archdiocese of New York (CYO), which has 100,000 members, to set up cricket teams for children. If the proposal gets off that ground, the CYO has indicated that it may be able to find benefactors to fund the project: providing the money needed to pay for equipment to set up cricket teams all over New York.

During April, Mr Smith and members of his staff who promote cricket, will address parents at centres all over New York, letting them know about the plan to set up cricket teams. The idea is to start with children, of an average age of eight. A set of volunteers would teach the children the game of cricket. Teams would then be formed which would start a league involved in competitions all over New York. The scheme could also spread to New Jersey.

Said Mr Smith, "I would like to see a lot of Pakistani and Indian kids get involved. Although the nationality of the children is not important, these children come from families with a traditional love for cricket." He also said that he was the first person to promote cricket in the US, following a game he set up at New Jersey's Meadowlands Centre in 1977. Subsequently, he formed the American All Stars, made up of athletes from various cricket-playing nations who now live in the US. Since then, he has invited cricket teams from all over the world to play in the US. "When India won the World Cup in 1983 they came over as a team to play at the Mount Vernon stadium," he said.

Mr Smith, who agrees with the CYO that cricket could be the answer to society's problems, said, "What's happening to the youth of this country is disgraceful. Children need something to do. If they are interested in cricket they will have no time for crime. Cricket and the discipline it involves is the greatest motivator for a child."

'Children need something to do. If they are interested in cricket they will have no time for crime. Cricket and the discipline it involves is the greatest motivator for a child'

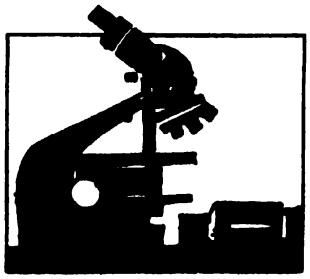


Archie Mitra

According to him, American sports, such as hockey and football, were bloodthirsty and involved constant disputes with the referee. Similar controversies over umpire's decisions also happened in baseball. "But in cricket when the umpire tells you to walk, you walk," he said. Of the 50 children Mr Smith first introduced to cricket in 1977, all are now adults and "not one of these kids has fallen foul of the law".

CYO spokesperson Isabel Dennis said, "Cricket players have to be organised and they must have academic skills: most role models in cricket are of people who believe in the values of family. It is a wholesome sport, a family-oriented culture. I remember going to the park as a family to watch my father play cricket. There was never any violence. Cricket has a positive moral essence. Learning how to be a good winner and loser is an important part of being a Christian."

(India Abroad News Service)



HORIZON

Collisions in Space

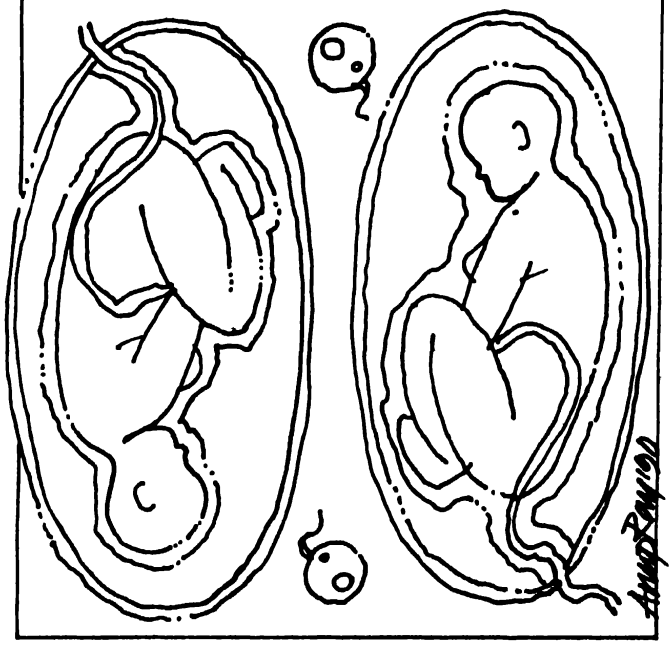
Space debris piling up in the sky may one day lead to a catastrophic train of collisions, says a study conducted by the government of the Federal Republic of Germany. Within 50 years, it points out, enough satellites and junk could be orbiting the earth and the result of their collisions would be a belt of small debris which would make space flights impossible for several centuries.

As of now, some 7,000 objects like upper stages of rockets or satellites are orbiting the earth. Moreover, there may be 70,000 smaller objects in orbit around our planet. The debris collide and generate many more smaller fragments. No wonder NASA is planning to provide expensive shields for its future space stations.

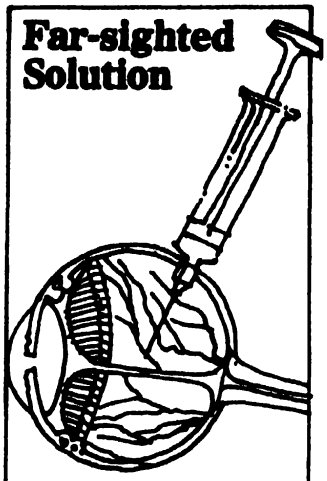
Sex by Choice

A son or a daughter has always been the pregnant woman's dilemma. Now some doctors in London have come forward with a not-so-complex-but-expensive method to relieve their anxiety. They are giving a fertility drug to women to make their ovaries produce extra egg cells. When ready for fertilisation, they are extracted and fertilised with male sperm.

The fertilised eggs grow and divide upto the eight-cell stage in a petri dish. These growing cells (each cluster from a single cell or ovum) are kept separately. With the help of advanced genetic techniques, doctors then analyse these would-be embryos to see if they contain the Y-chromosomes—the component in the cell that is destined to make it a male child in due course. If such a cell growth is detected, the doctors implant that would-be embryo into the womb of the mother who longs for a boy. Those wanting a female baby get a would-be embryo that does not contain the Y-chromosome.



Far-sighted Solution



Doctors in the USSR have recently started a new method to treat myopia. They are injecting short-sighted people with a synthetic chemical called penogel into the back of the eyeball.

In a short- sighted person the eyeball becomes elongated. Doctors prevent this process by strengthening the outer membrane of the eyeball called the sclera. So long it used to be done surgically, but surgery was being avoided.

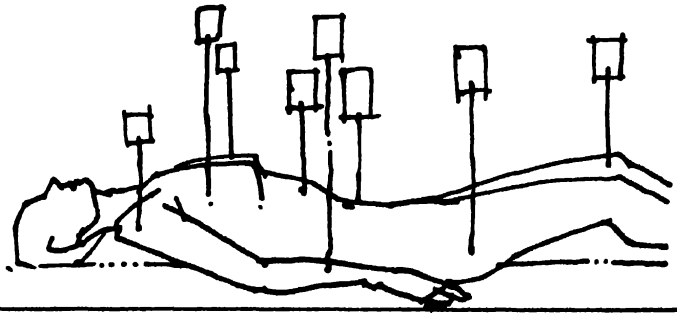
Now, they have got penogel which is a foamy liquid. After its injection into the sclera it hardens to form a gel. Eventually new tissue grows to replace the gel. In a few cases some drugs are added to penogel to stimulate the sclera and speed up the process.

Deciphering the Genetic Code

A new computer developed by a UK company is contributing to what has been described as one of the greatest scientific adventures in history—to map and identify all the genes in a human body. The aim is to decipher the complete set of biological instructions used by nature to make a human being. The resulting *Book of Man* may provide the basis for preventing or treating most diseases in the next century, according to a British publication.

The immense task of deciphering the complete set of biological instructions is being aided by a new computer. Normally it would take centuries to identify and examine the billions of segments that exist in the genetic code. However, the new computer can now deliver 40 billion logical operations a second.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, which initiated the development work, has become a world leader in sequence analysis. Once the entire genetic code is deciphered, scientists will be able to trace the trick (or havoc, as the case may be) played by individual genes in different ailments or body functions. Treatment for hitherto incurable diseases will not be far off then.



Compiled by Pathik Guha



VICTORIA HOUSE

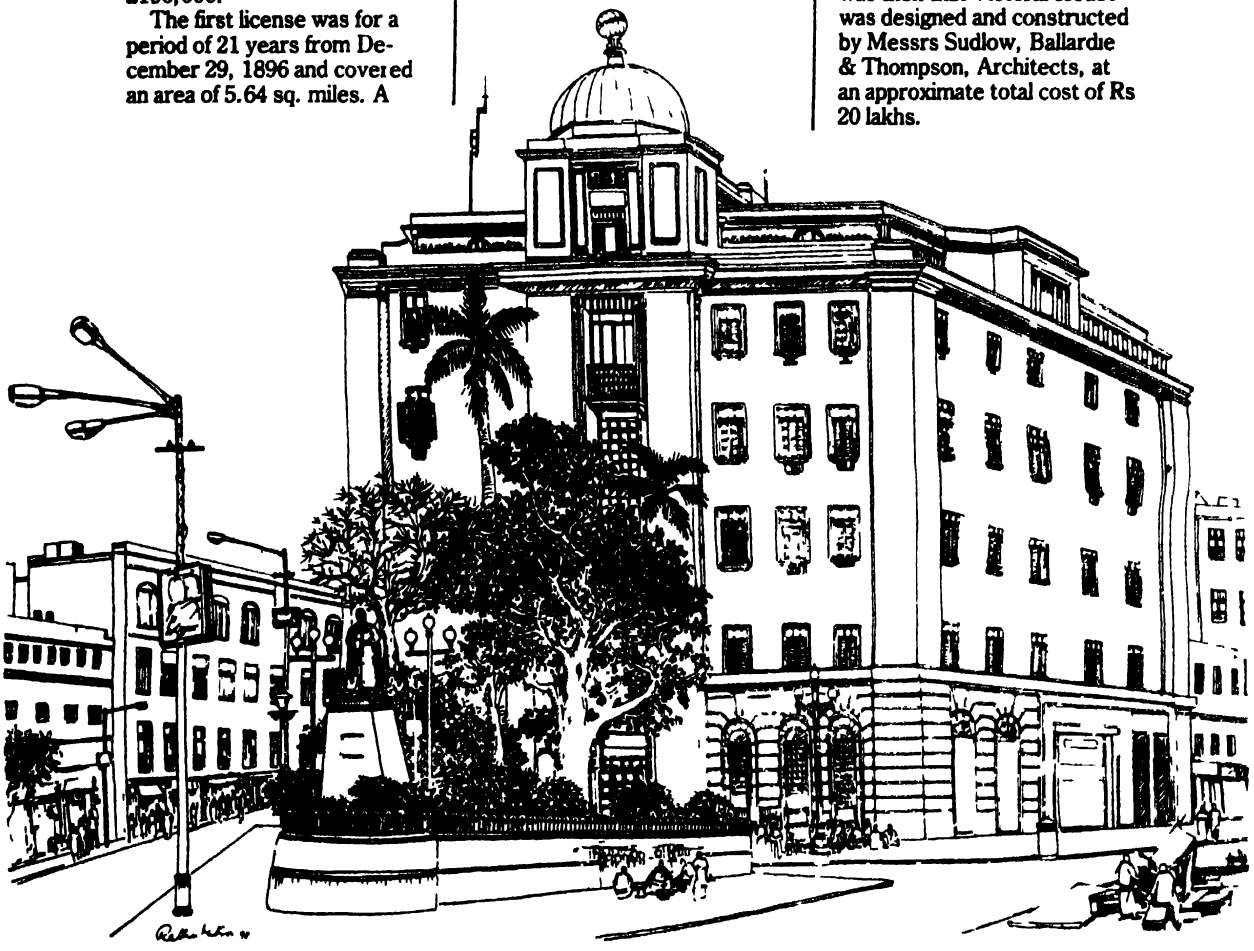
The handsome and imposing building (sketched below) on Chowringhee Square in central Calcutta houses the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation Ltd (CESC). The building is surmounted by a dome on which rests a globe that becomes an illuminated beacon in the evening.

In 1895 the government of Bengal passed the Calcutta Electric Lighting Act, and on January 7, 1897 the Indian Electric Company Ltd was formed, which was registered in London with a nominal capital of £1,000. In February 1897 the company's name was changed to the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation Ltd and its capital increased to £100,000.

The first license was for a period of 21 years from December 29, 1896 and covered an area of 5.64 sq. miles. A contract was made with Messrs Crompton & Company Ltd to erect and equip a single generating station with an 1,000 kw-plant that was capable of supplying current to about 60,000 carbon filament lamps of eight candle power and to provide and lay all the mains required in the compulsory area as set out in the license for a sum of £65,000. This included the actual expenses incurred in obtaining the license, estimated at £3,000. There was no promotion money.

Following the then prevalent practice in England, the company adopted the three-wire system of distribution and generated direct current to consumers at 450 and 225 volts. The generating station was built on Emambagh Lane and was equipped with Crompton dynamos, Willans engines and Babcock and Wilcox boilers. The supply from this station commenced on April 17, 1899. For the first few years Messrs Kilburn & Co. were the managing agents, but in 1908 the company opened its own offices in Calcutta; first at Dalhousie Square and later on Old Post Office Street.

Until 1931 the company functioned from Old Post Office Street when new and larger accommodation became necessary as a result of rapid expansion of its business. It was then that Victoria House was designed and constructed by Messrs Sudlow, Ballardie & Thompson, Architects, at an approximate total cost of Rs 20 lakhs.





The black box continues to interest readers. Amit Kumar Basu, Kharagpur, gives further details:

"*Air and Space Magazine* quoting the "US National Transportation Safety Board", says the "Black Box" is not always bright orange, but yellow also. It can withstand 11,648°C (not 1,000°C) temp. DFDR weighs 40 lbs and CVR weighs 220 lbs.

"I want to add—in a DFDR, each second, five needles strike the foil, creating scratches, indicating (i) changes in altitudes, (ii) air speed, (iii) vertical acceleration and (iv) heading. The fifth parameter synchronizes timing of the data and voice recorders so that the conversations coincide with events when both are played back.

"Each recording device is enclosed inside a protective casing that rivals an armoured truck for security. First it is packed inside tough plastic bladders, which will protect the recorder from impact and shield it for at least 30 minutes from a fire as hot as 11,648°C. A one-centimetre thick stainless steel crash jacket is bolted around the unit with another layer of stainless steel forming the outer skin. Attached to the outside is an underwater locating beacon that is activated by contact with water and will sound for 30 days with a decent battery.

"The developments for the next generation of recorders may include telemetry—recording flight data from the ground. And video recorders may one day be installed in cockpits to help identify suspects in hijacking cases. Some speculate that ejectable-on-impact flight recorders would end retrieval problems, such as the failure to recover Korean flight 007's recorders after the airplane was shot down by the Soviets in 1983."

Kausik Kumar Nag, Chinsurah, reports on the Hooghly Intra District Open Quiz '90.

"Twenty eight schools, colleges, and clubs took part at the Hooghly Institute of Tecnology (HIT). the organisers relied on the one-time great local quizzard Subhra Ganguly as quiz master who did the job as efficiently as ever. It was a clean sweep for 'Hangama-90' while M.K. Choudhury and his team edged out Hooghly Collegiate School (ex-students) after a well-fought battle for the second spot. A full house enjoyed this quiz."

CBS

11th Question: **If you want to book Room 123 at the Hotel Galard, Budapest, you can't. Why? (Kaushik Kumar Nag, Vill. Maynadanga, P.O. Chinsurah Railway Station, Dist. Hooghly, Pin: 712102)**
Ans: **Rabindranath Tagore stayed in this very room for a few days in 1926, and to commemorate this, the room has been kept intact.**



Mary Pickford

Who was called America's sweetheart?" asks Ruby Thomas, Calcutta 16

Canadian Mary Pickford (original name Gladys Smith), at the age of 16, abandoned her 11-year-old stage career to appear in movies produced by D.W. Griffith. Her delicate gestures and vulnerable beauty soon made her the first Hollywood film star. Although typecast as an innocent young girl ignorant of life's seamier realities and ever in danger of losing her purity, offscreen Pickford knew her way around the fine print of a studio contract. Fully aware that her heart-rending ingenue roles had boosted the profits of industry moguls, she renegotiated her own salary from $40 a week to an unprecendented $10,000 a week in less than two years. "America's Sweetheart" organised the Mary Pickford Corporation in 1916 to turn out her own films, including *Daddy Long Legs*. Two years later, she joined three other movie pioneers whose salaries had outgrown their studios—Charlie Chaplin, D.W. Griffith, and Douglas Fairbanks—to form United Artists. Pickford starred in her last film, *Secrets*, with Leslie Howard in 1933. when she retired from the screen to concentrate on producing. She won an Academy Award in 1929 for her role in *Coquette*.

Postscript: The last date for entries to the Dalhousie Institute Quiz is May 9. Plase send your entries. The draw will be on the Dalhousie Institute notice board on May 14 (evening).

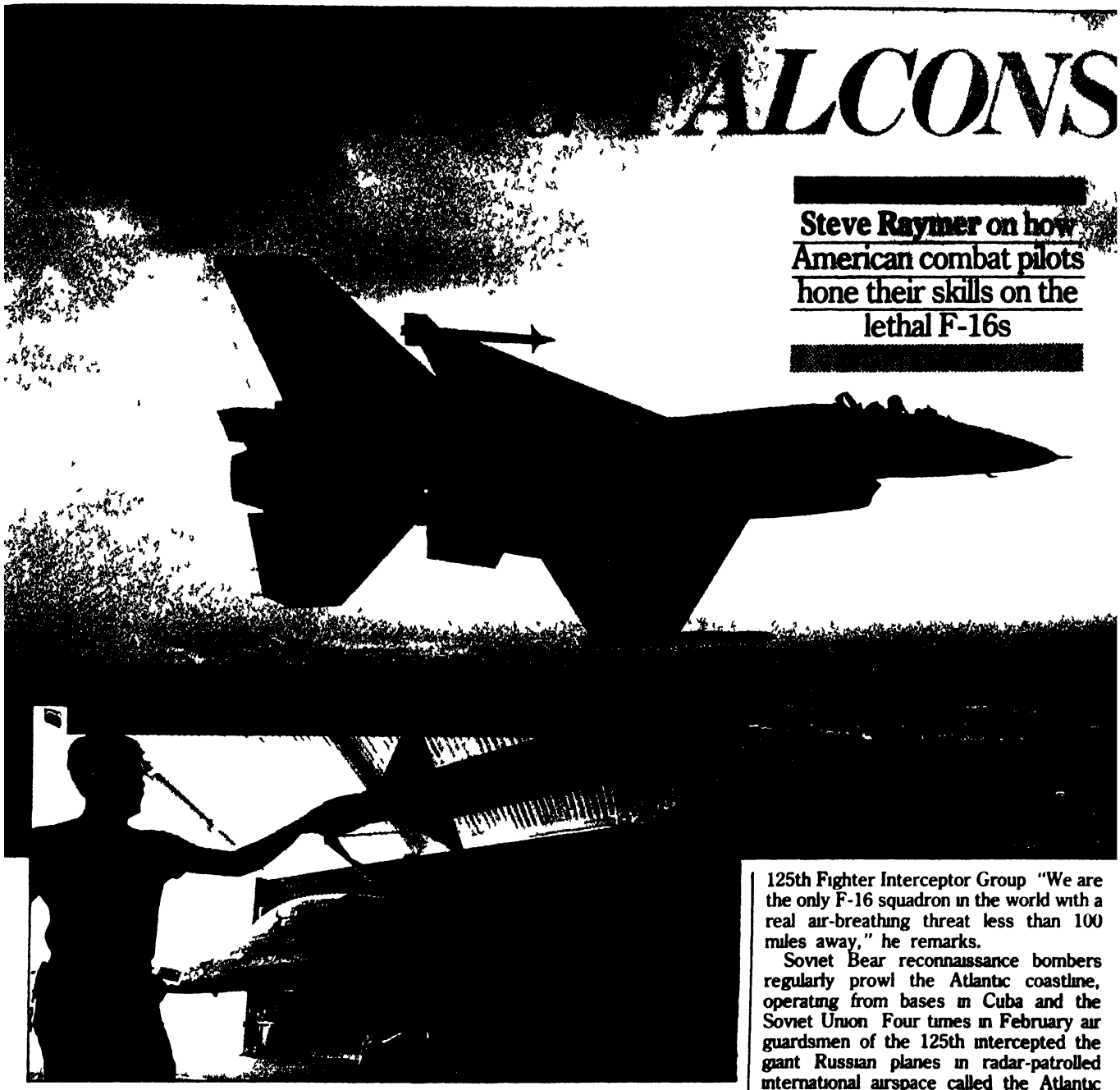
QUESTIONS

1. Who has authored the book *Towards Social Revolution*? (Sanjay Dayal, Ranchi 2)
2. Name the country on whose flag its geographical outline appears. (Pinki Dey Sarkar, Burdwan 48)
3. What are gilt-edged securities? (Aruna Chandak, Calcutta 28)
4. What is singing telegram? (Rajesh Saraf, Calcutta 8)
5. We in India had an I.S.I. (now Subash Chandra Bose) of Indian Statistical Institute. What is the Pakistani I.S.I.? (Sopamudra Ghosh, Berhampur 1)
6. What is the ivory wedding anniversary? (Manoj Kr Singh, Ranchi 4)
7. In cricket what is the distance between creases and between two stumps? (Sarita Pradhan, Sambalpur 10)
8. Where did Hitler make his famous "Give me blood, I will give you freedom" speech? (Sujit Barpanda, Bolangir)
9. Who was the first left hander to win the cricket's singles at Wimbledon? (Kamal Chaudhary, Siliguri)
10. Which song was the first to top the British Chartsale Charts? (Roshan Kr Agarwal, Sambalpur 28)

ANSWERS

ALCONS

Steve Rayner on how American combat pilots hone their skills on the lethal F-16s



Fighter pilots of the Florida Air National Guard say air combat training in the F-16 Falcon is like "a knife fight in a telephone booth." This is no exaggeration, I learn, strapped into the backseat of what feels like a computer-controlled blowtorch high over the Atlantic

The dogfight is on, and Capt Stan Bright snaps our warbird into a gut-wrenching, climbing turn. Instantly my cameras and body weigh more than 1,100 lbs—six times the normal pull of gravity The horizon rolls like a top as another F-16 painted gray-on-gray slices past at nearly 500 mph

A woman's voice—a robot called "Bitchin' Betty" by Falcon pilots—purrs inside my helmet earphones that Bright's missiles have locked on a target The fight is over in 30 seconds

Even as guardsmen hone their skills in the Air Force's latest fighter in daily training off Jacksonville, their mission is to intercept regular flights of Soviet navy long-range Bear bombers and a torrent of low-flying drug smugglers

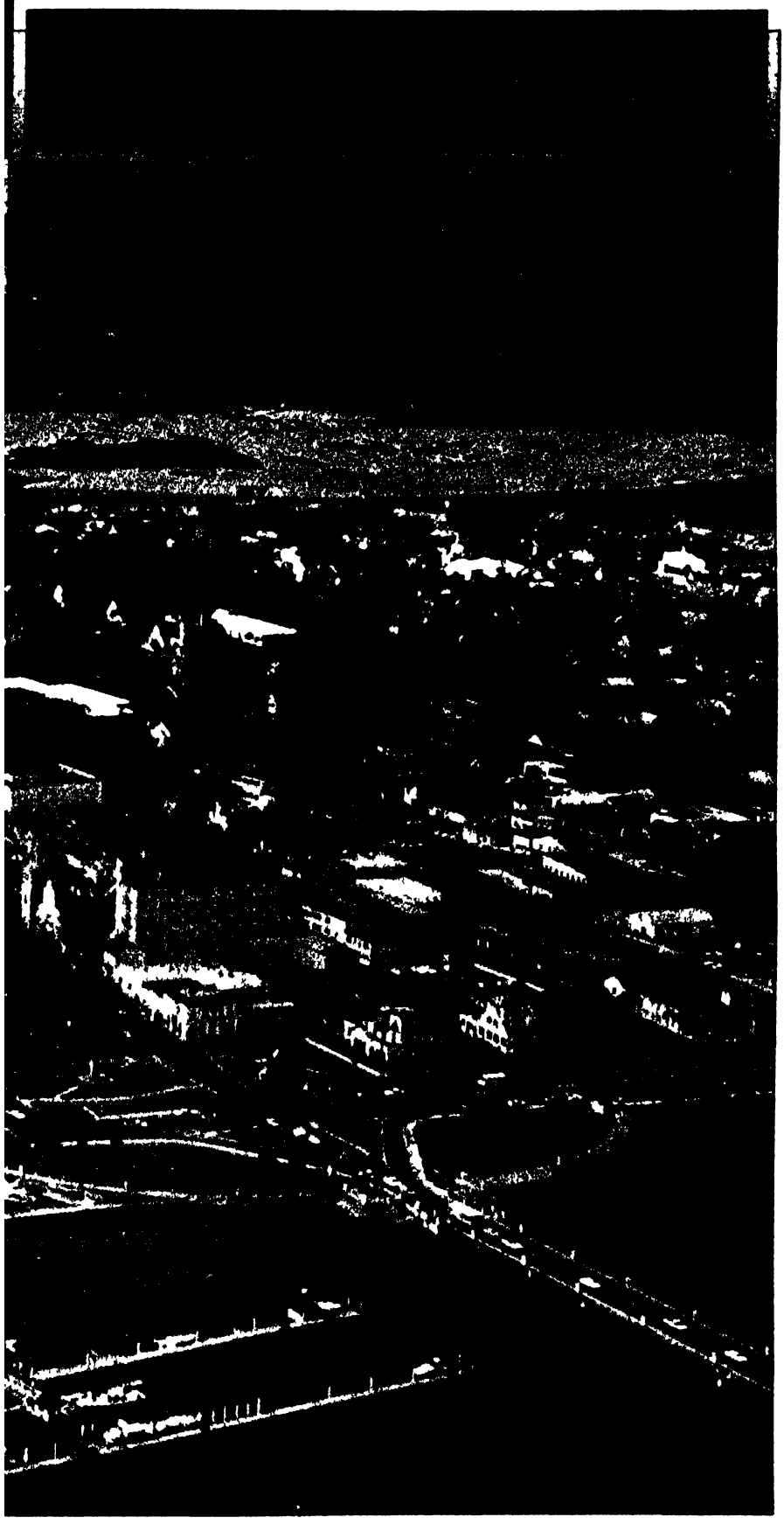
"South Florida is a hot region," says Maj. Craig McKinley, our dogfight opponent and the air-operations officer of the 125th Fighter Interceptor Group "We are the only F-16 squadron in the world with a real air-breathing threat less than 100 miles away," he remarks.

Soviet Bear reconnaissance bombers regularly prowl the Atlantic coastline, operating from bases in Cuba and the Soviet Union Four times in February air guardsmen of the 125th intercepted the giant Russian planes in radar-patrolled international airspace called the Atlantic Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ)

Mckinley's pilots, working with other Air National Guard and regular Air Force interceptors, kept a five-hour vigil as the Soviets passed beyond US Navy bases at Charleston, South Carolina, and King's Bay, Georgia, to a spot about 90 miles east of Norfolk, Virginia.

"We made sure the Bears did not penetrate the ADIZ with impunity," explains McKinley, 37, his checkered aviator's scarf neatly tucked into his flight suit. "But in a deep peace environment like today, everybody was happy They took a lot of pictures and we took a lot of





pictures "

Closer to home Soviet made MiG 29 fighters—still in crates—are being delivered to the Cuban air force outside Havana, according to US intelligence sources And from the jungles of Peru and Colombia come swarms of small planes trying to land undetected with billions of dollars' worth of cocaine

Charged with the air defence of Florida and adjacent US air space, pilots of the 125th fly round-the clock seven days a week At least six of the Air Guard's Falcons sit "cocked" on five minute alert with air to-air Sidewinder missiles and 20mm guns here and at Homestead Air Force Base near Miami

Last year Florida guardsmen scrambled 61 times to intercept unidentified aircraft—more than all other US air defence scrambles combined McKinley says about half the interceptor group's 41 pilots are part timers, many with careers as commercial airline captains

In a drug case we can get there real fast says Lt Col John Aldous 45, of Jacksonville one of the 125th s full time alert pilots We ll maintain a radar lock or surveillance until US Customs or the Drug Enforcement (Administration) boys relieve us Using a $20 million front line fighter to intercept and identify slow moving drug runners is all in a day s work for the 125th—and at about half the cost to taxpayers of a full time Air Force unit, say Pentagon spokesmen

About 90 per cent of the air defence of the United States is now handled by Air National Guard squadrons Officially under the command of state governors in peace time, the flying militiamen are funded by the Pentagon and report to the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) at Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado, when scrambled

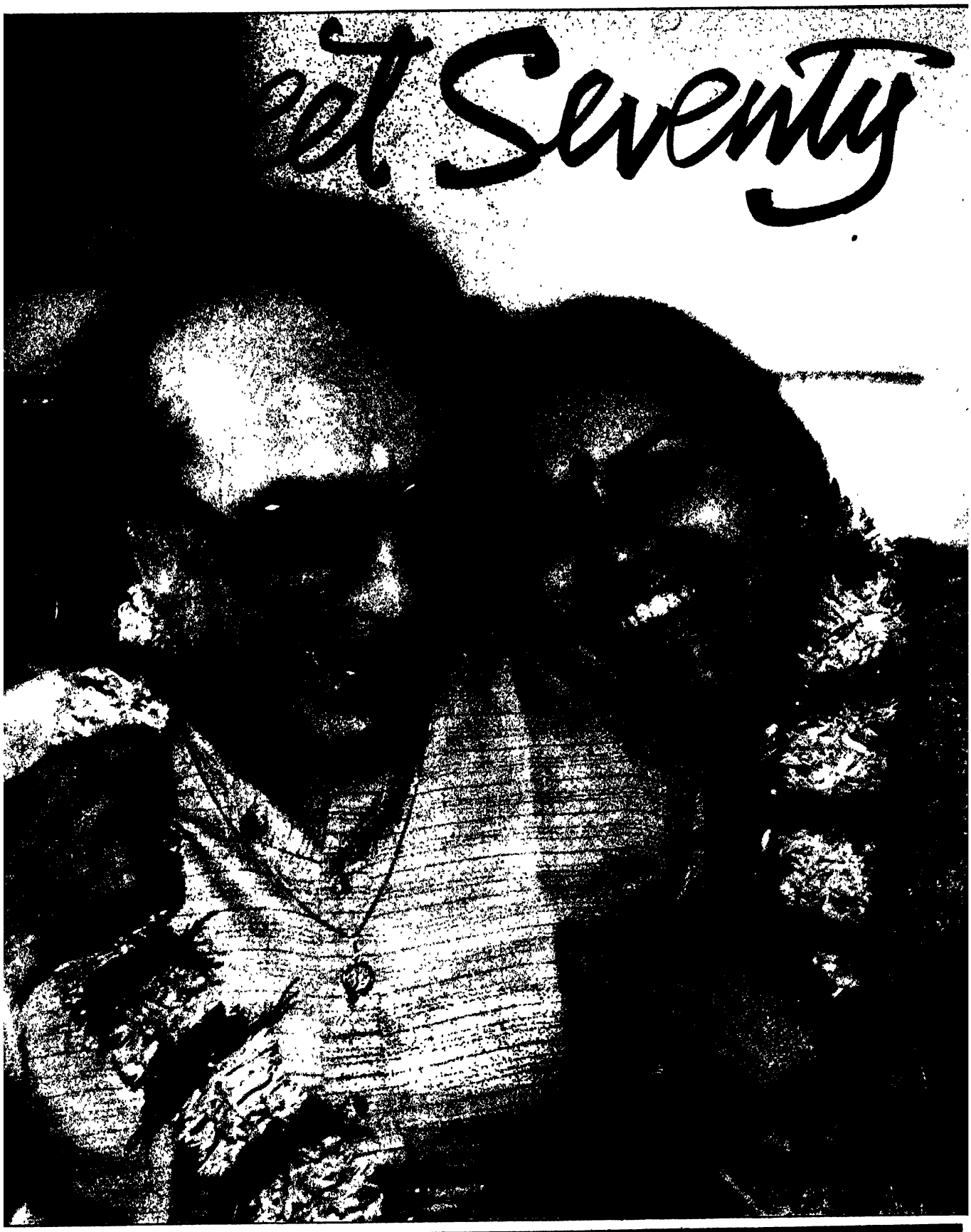
Some missions, while considered routine by pilots, carry a lot of political baggage Uncertain of Cuban intentions the Florida Air Guard was ordered to mount a combat air patrol' over the Gulf of Mexico to protect the US plane carrying Panamanian Gen Manuel Noriega to jail in Miami

Florida guardsmen are scrambled to check out off-course civilian airliners and friendly military warplanes as well as for search and rescue missions Routinely, Soviet Bears flying from mainland Russia will be handed from one Air National Guard unit to the next, beginning off the coast of Maine and continuing until touch down in Cuba

"Out there in the Atlantic air defence zone,' says Maj Larry Dowling, 'the Russians have got their side of the line and we've got ours Sometimes it's just a standoff 350 miles offshore "

(National Geographic News Service)

et Seventy





On April 7, sitar supremo Ravi Shankar turned 70. Great occasion, great feeling, and his wife loved it, too! ALOKE MITRA froze some of the precious moments

(Left) Pandit Ravi Shankar and wife Sukanya enjoy a private moment and (inset) a little prayer by the birthday boy. (Right, from top downwards) The West Bengal information and cultural affairs minister, Buddhadev Bhattacharya, presenting him some gifts at a simple function organised by HMV at Nandan; a kiss from Kanan Devi; Ruma Guhathakurta greeting the couple with *tilak*; and with Amala Shankar, one of the many celebrities who visited the exhibition of photographs

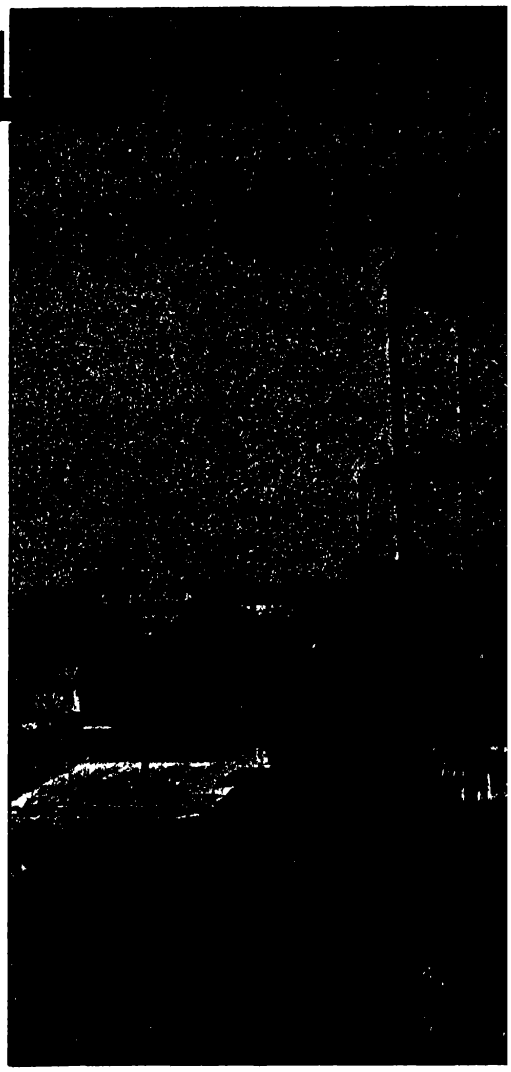








THE WORL



Long neglected environmental dangers, such as those recently disclosed in Eastern Europe, threaten to wreak havoc on a number of other regions unless world leaders move not only toward peace with each other, but also peace with nature

In the aftermath of the Cold War, peace and stability will rely more on ecopolitics than traditional geopolitics Restoring our balance with nature is now as important to global security as maintaining a balance of economic and military power

Without concerted action, new national security tensions will arise For example, many of the world's most densely populated countries share endangered river basins The potential for conflict over water resources is fueled by desertification, deforestation and topsoil erosion, which at present ratios will eliminate one third of the world's productive land over the next ten years

The richer countries will not be insulated from these conflicts In fact, many have already become embroiled in various ecological disputes that cut across traditional East West divisions, for example, acid rain controversies among the nations of Europe and between the United States and Canada

Paramount among the dangers are the ravages of global warming, which could create millions of eco refugees Last year, scientists taking the world s temperature established that its average of 57 61 degrees Fahrenheit was the highest in the 130 years over which reliable records have been kept

The looming threat is not the fault of any one nation or even group of nations It simply reflects the fact that the environment is global, and that nothing short of a holistic global solution can do the job And that solution, in turn depends on a basic shift in society s concept of economic development

The majority of developing nations have not yet signed the 1987 Montreal Protocol on phasing out use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) that are depleting the earth's ozone layer This protocol went into effect last year The hitch is that developing countries cannot afford to participate If efforts by developed countries to reduce CFC damage are not to be nullified, financial and technical transfers must be made to developing countries

It will cost between $2 billion to $7 billion over the next 10 years to pass on to the developing world the means to adopt the more expensive substitutes for CFCs used in manufacturing such products as refrigerators and air conditioners

The crucial debate about how to pay for remedial action continues to preoccupy the signatory governments of the Montreal Protocol The objective of the protocol has, for the most part, been settled Now, the task is to identify the means to achieve a global response Accomplishing this goal will require bringing to the fore an expansion of the 'polluter pays' principle, essentially encompassing the idea of user fees rather than taxation

Prospects for working out practical solutions in time to avert disaster are dimmed by the slow pace of global negotiations on the environment The ozone treaty took 10 years to work out Confronting the ozone challenge is a rehearsal for the far more difficult problem of global warming We must move a great deal faster than we did on ozone to tackle the consequences of climatic change or we may very well commit ourselves to an irreversible course of destruction

The United Nations Environment Programme has set a goal of coordinating by no later than 1992 agreements necessary to tackle global warming The cost of phasing out CFCs is very small compared to what we will have to pay for reducing gases that produce the greenhouse effect, particularly carbon dioxide, which alone contributes more than 30 per cent to the global warming process

The developing countries are responsible for less than 10 per cent of total industrial carbon dioxide emissions that add to global warming Nonetheless, they still have the potential to negate efforts by the industrialized countries to slow the earth's warming trend.

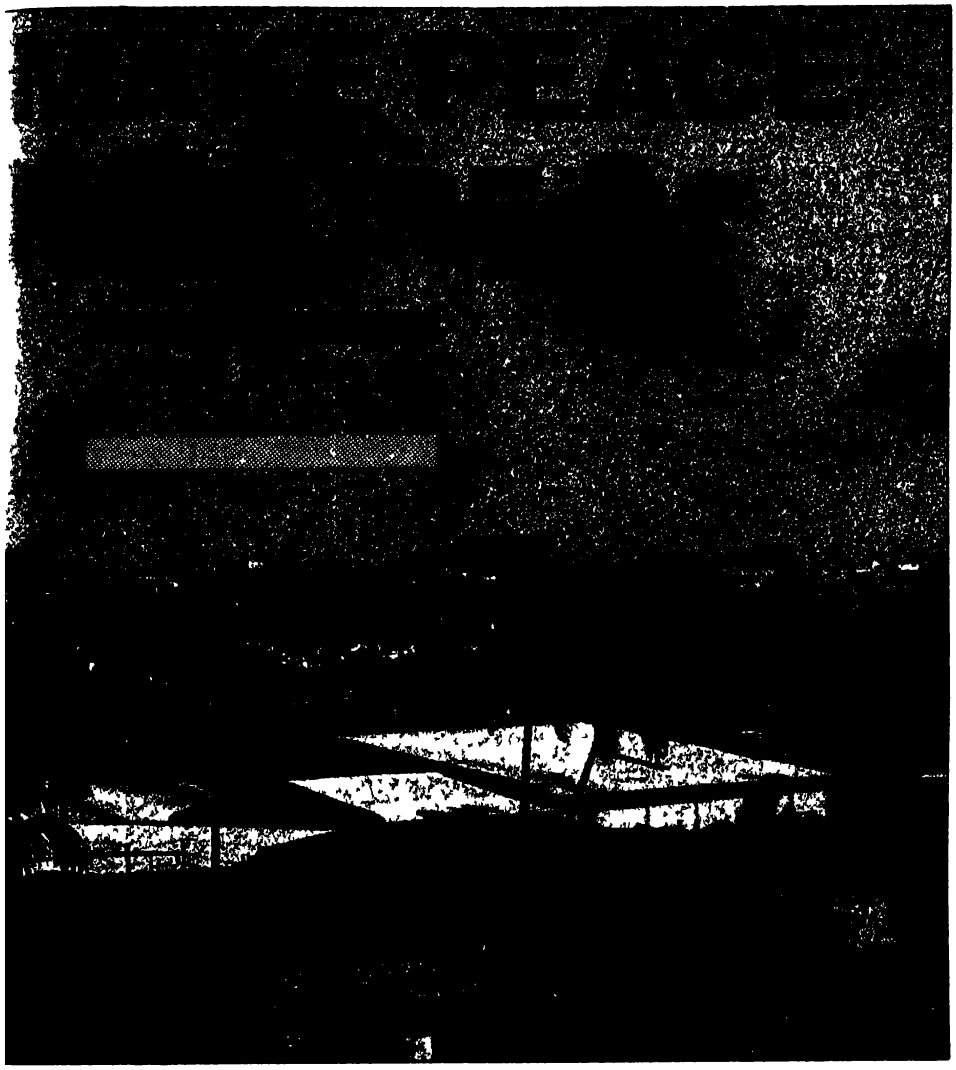
For example, the three countries that are home to 40 per cent of the world s population—China, India and Brazil—have massive coal reserves and standing tropical forests Unless we can find ways to make damaging methods of exploiting these carbon stores nonessential to the peoples who depend on them for their livelihood, progress in curbing greenhouse gases will be nullified China, India and Brazil are among those who feel they cannot, at this stage afford to sign the ozone accord

In developing countries, natural resources contribute 30 percent of the gross national product They provide 60 percent of employment and 50 percent of exports Such countries have little or no choice but to continue expending resources in their attempt to meet service payments on their collective $1 3 trillion foreign debt

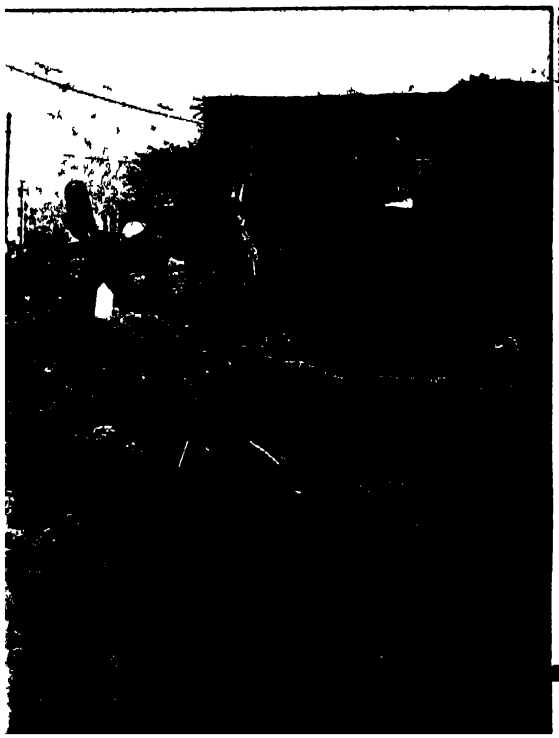
Circumstances as desperate as these breed desperate expedients Some developing countries have in-



Mustafa Tolba is the director of the United Nations Environment Programme headquartered in Nairobi He was formerly president of the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology



Ashok Majumder



Ashok Majumder

creased imports of the industrial world's toxic wastes This multi billion dollar clandestine trade moves hazardous wastes from affluent countries, where costs of treatment and safe disposal may be more than $1,000 a ton, to countries that lack even elementary means of treatment

The industrial countries, however, are not much better off They will be forced, sooner rather than later, to deal with their addiction to unchecked economic growth and high living standards Plain arithmetic demonstrates that this growth is unsustainable by the world's natural resources matrix Gross World Product has multiplied from $600 billion at the beginning of the century to more than $13 trillion by 1989 Accompanying this crescendo of growth is the ominous fact that use of fossil fuels—the chief culprits of global warming—has increased 30-fold over the last 50 years We once worried about a future in which fossil fuels had run out Now we have reason for concern over whether the world can survive their continued use and abuse

This looming threat is not the fault of any one nation or even group of nations. It simply reflects the fact that the environment is global, and that nothing short of a holistic global solution can do the job

Despite the irrefutable signs of danger, some Western experts argue that our global environmental problems are so complex that the only feasible policy is to mark time while further studies are completed

Proponents of delay point to the fact that science is still working on many unanswered questions concerning the ozone layer and the workings of the carbon cycle in nature But let us remember that in 1987, when UNEP called for a complete phase-out of CFCs by the end of this century, many countries regarded this urgency as unwarranted Today, these same countries are pressing for more radical remedies, since it was found that damage to the ozone layer was more extensive than originally suspected

Can we afford to take the same risks in dealing with the catastrophic possibilities of global warming?

Tentative signs of hope do exist The Clean Air Bill is a priority of the 101st US Congress, the Soviet leadership has pronounced that the environment is the essence of *perestroika*, urged on by its prime minister, Australia has decided to plant a billion trees, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has even said that industrial civilisation may be unwittingly experimenting with the life of the planet

"People are demanding that their leaders act," said Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, whose country is now confronted by the consequences of having put industrialisation on a collision course with the environment

The obstacle to immediate, effective action remains a lack of political will But the future does not forgive lack of resolve As Gorbachev warns "History punishes those who come late"

(Los Angeles Times)



Rekha in *Azaad Desh Ke Gulam*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

•**Amiri Garibi** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442) 12 3 6 9

A film by Harmesh Malhotra starring Jeetendra Rekha Rishi Kapoor Raj Babbar Poonam Dhillon and Neelam The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

•**Azaad Desh Ke Gulam** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) 4 shows

Rekha Rishi Kapoor Jackie Shroff Pran and Prem Chopra are the major attractions of this film directed by S A Chandrashekhar The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Choron Ki Rani Hasino Ka Raja** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani, 270147) Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822) Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Raod 484808) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 311522)—4 shows

The film stars Sonika Gill Sriprada Sumeet Saigal Goga Kapoor and Anupam Kher

•**Ghar Ho To Aisa** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 281138) Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 219828) Krishna (T C Dutta Street 250137) Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 251133) Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 351382) Rajni (Beliaghata Main Road 363264) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464140)

Directed by Kalpataru and with music by Bappi Lahiri the film stars Anil Kapoor Meenakshi Seshadri Raj Kiran Bindu Om Prakash and Kader Khan

•**Haatimtai** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani 241132) Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) Naz (Lower Chitpur Road 277273) Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road 350680) Ujjala (Russa Road 478666)

Jeetendra and Sangeeta Bijlani are the lead pair in this film directed by Babubhai Mistry The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

•**Kishen Kanhaiya** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917) 12 3 6 9

Anil Kapoor Madhuri Dixit Shilpa Shirodkar Kader Khan and Amrish Puri are the chief attractions of this Rakesh Roshan film whose music is by Rajesh Roshan

•**Maine Pyar Kiya** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383) 10 45 2 15 5 30 9 Indira (Indra Roy Road 471757)—4 hows Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street 552270)—11 30

Well on its way to becoming an all time hit this teenyloppers love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman

•**Shandar** Opera (Lenin Sarani 281849) Lotus (S N Banerjee Road 242664) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road 891090) Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 552932) Kalika (Sadananda Road 478141)

A film by T C Dewan the cast includes Mithun Chakraborty Meenakshi Seshadri Mandakini, Juhi Chawla Kader Khan and Danny The music is by Bappi Lahiri

Bengali Films

•**Aapan Aamaar Aapan** Minar (Bidhan Sarani 552753) Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road 473462) Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road 352740)—2 45 5 30 8 15

A film by Tarun Majumdar starring Tapas Paul Prasenjit Satabdi Roy Soumitra Chatterjee Deepankar De Shakuntala Barua Biplab Chatterjee Indrani Dutta Sanghamitra Banerjee Anup Kumar and others The music is by R D Burman

•**Apabaad** Radha (Bidhan Sarani 553045)—3 shows

A family entertainer starring Uttam Mahanti and Aparajita

•**Andha Bichar** Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street 552270)—2 45 5 30 8 30 Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417)—3 5 30 8 15 Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 365108) 2 30 5 30 8 30

A film by Shakti Samanta starring Mithun Chakraborty Mandakini, Tanuja Deepa Sahi Biplab Chatterjee and Sadashiv Amrapur

kar. The music is by R.D. Burman.

•Ekhane Aamaar Swarga: Rupbani (Bidhan Srani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 485593)—1, 4, 7.

Tapas Paul and Deepika are the lead pair in this Jahar Biswas film. Also in the cast are Soumitra Chatterjee, Sumitra Mukherjee and Ruma Guhathakurta. The music is by R.D. Burman.

Special Events

6-10 May

Reflection of Images—an exhibition of early glass paintings from the Tanjore and the Avadh schools.

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Gariahat Road; 755314).

6 May: 3 pm & 6.30 pm

Padatik Repertory presents Moliere's comedy, *Bibion Ka Madarsa*, directed by Shyamanand Jalan. The cast includes Shakil Khan, Pradip Roy, Shampa Ghosh, Neetu Khillani, B.M. Hada and Arun Sharma.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

8 May: 6.30 pm

Padatik Dance Centre presents 'Padatik Nrityotsav'—a programme of creative dance in the Kathak style with new choreography.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

9 May: 6.30 pm

'Padatik Nrityotsav'—a programme of traditional dance (Kathak and Odissi) with a new Odissi choreography.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

11 May: 6.30 pm

Saut Agro Agencies presents a Kathak dance recital by Keya Chanda, and ghazals by Sabir Khan and Jayshree Gupta.



Keya Chanda

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Queens Park).

12 May: 6.30 pm

Proscenium will stage Shanti Mahrotra's *Thehra Hua Pani*, directed by Sheo Jhunjhunwala who is also in the cast along with Govind Jhunjhunwala, Meera Jain, Tapasi Dutt, Vivek Jajodia, Durba Dutta and Ashok Churiwal.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).



Anuradha Paudwal

12 May: 2.30 pm & 6.30 pm

Surabhika presents two programmes of light music, featuring Anuradha Paudwal and Anwar.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 443666/432197).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1). AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6). IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI 306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily) IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily). IC-265 at 1640; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gay
Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutt
Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 060
Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

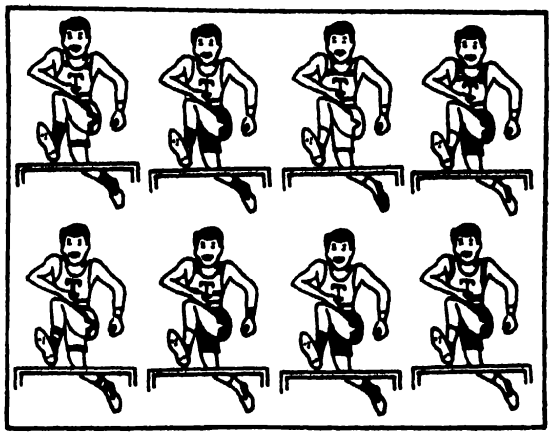
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-15	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep—Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun Arri—Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep—Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun Arri—Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp. Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues, Fri & Sat Arri—Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep—Mon & Thurs Arri—Thurs & Sun	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	21-10	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-05	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep—Wednesday Arri—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arri—Mon, Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-45	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep—Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep—Tues & Wed Arri——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Bi-weekly Express Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Sarai Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Tri-weekly Dep & Arri—Wed., Fri. & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	Madras Mail	9-45	6004
8002	20-00	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	Ahmedabad Express	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	Coromandel (Madras) Express	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep—Tues Arri—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	9-10	Ispat Express	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	Sambalpur Express	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep—Except Saturday Arri—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arri—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

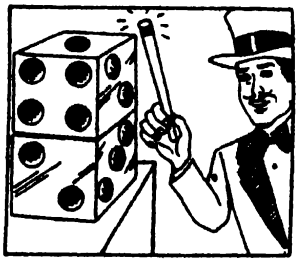
ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



FIND TWINS! Study details of the hurdlers above carefully to decide which two are enough alike to be twins. Which two?

• SIP, SLIDE! Find a beverage in each sentence: 1. Joe left early. 2 Emil knocked twice. 3. Chico coaxed us in. 4 Sarah saved so Daisy could go.

1 Tea 2 Milk 3 Cocoa 4 Soda



STACKED DICE MAGIC TRICK
You can have some fun baffling friends with a simple feat of magic.

Pick up a pair of dice. Place one die atop the other. Lift the top die and the other die is lifted with it.

How it's done: Before handling the dice, the performer wets the tip of a forefinger with his tongue. The bit of moisture is applied to the bottom of the top die. Pressing the two together causes them to stick fast, and when they eventually separate, there is no adhesive in sight.

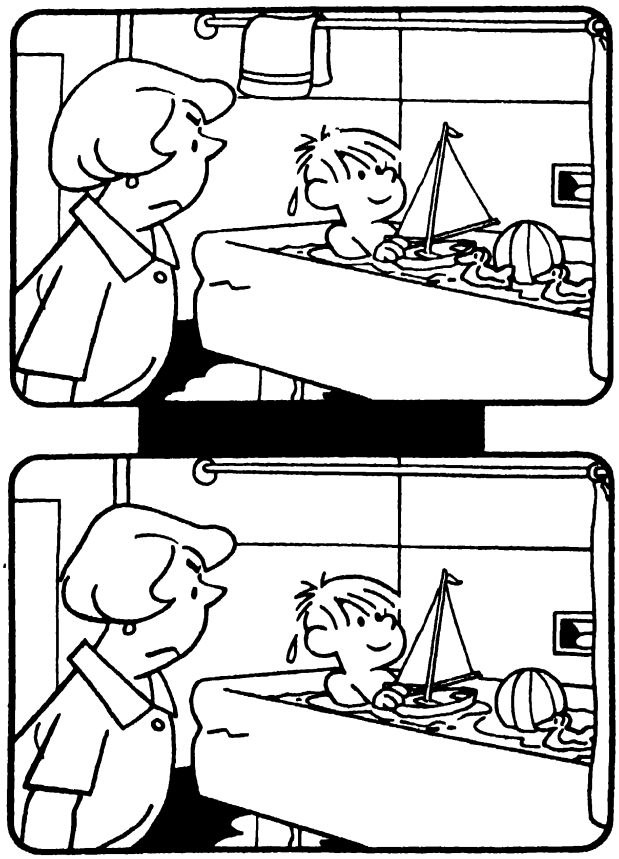
Press firmly to make sure dice cling.

• **HEADS UP!** Names of four regal and stately headpieces are contained in the maze of letters below. You are asked to trace them letter by letter in continuous order as follows: Tiara, diadem, coronet, miter.

Begin at top T, proceed to adjacent letters horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Use all letters.

♛	T	I	A	D
R	R	A	I	E
E	T	A	D	M
I	E	O	O	C
M	T	N	R	♛

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1 Hair is different. 2 Sleeve is shorter. 3. Tower is missing 4 Puddle is smaller. 5. Ball is smaller. 6. Rubber duck is missing.

FUNSPOT



HIT MAN! Well, fancy meeting you here! Apply colored pencils or crayons neatly above. Color code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Orange.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words.

NEPOTISM

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 30 points.

Possible solutions: Post, mens.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Impulsive buying, amusements and a bit of confusion about valuables, documents, passports, visas and bank drafts are the week's salient features. Be clear and concise in dealings and contracts. The heart will pulsate and the fair one will respond. Jogging, weightlifting, wrestling and a game of badminton or table-tennis should keep the doctor away. May 6, 7, 10 and 11 are ideal for travel.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Home, property, parents, in-laws and immigration are the week's main features. Moods fluctuate wildly. Go in for a hefty financial transaction around May 12 or 13. Get your travel kit ready. Health precautions are essential. Devote more time to the affairs of children. Give yourself as well as the home/office a facelift. Dancers and musicians do excel.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Education, research, communication, travel and new enterprise are what constitute the week. Romance for the eligible and fancyfree. Money is already in the pipeline. Travel is on the cards, but you do not have to make it at break-neck speed. Health improves after May 7. Kids, puzzles, sports, painting and partying are the other salient features of the week.

CANCER

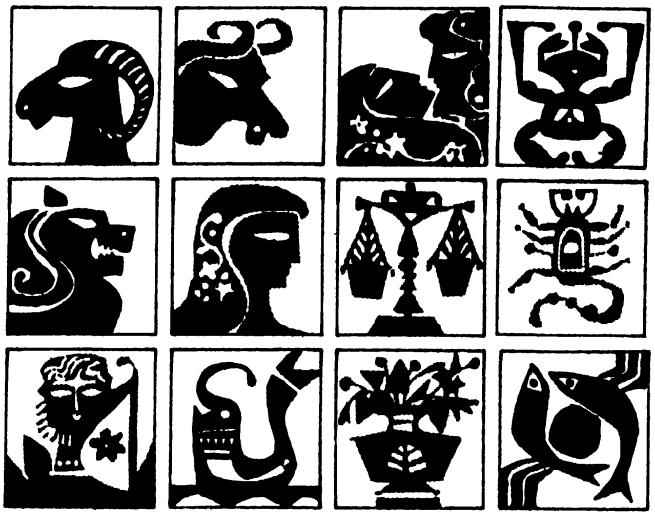
June 21-July 20

The week indicates buying, selling, trading, sales, commission and possibly a change in your work schedule and style. You could pick up a bargain, otherwise the week finds you negotiating and horse-trading. Passion and sympathy could cloud your judgement, but that's what being in love is all about. A journey at short notice is destined.

LEO

July 21—August 21

The moon's quarter in your sign, according to Western astrology, galvanises your personal frontier, and here clashes too must be reckoned. By May 11 parents, home and property affairs will have an extra significance. As regards romance, remember that the path of true love never runs smooth. Finance takes two steps forward and one backwards.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The main trends of the week are expenses, trips, ties, secret connections, collaborations, rendezvous, visits to hospitals, social centres and holy places. Health problems for you and your dear ones are not ruled out. You will have your share of romance. Get ready for massive financial investments. Travel is indicated, but keep an eye on the home base also. Kids though adorable give you a hard time. Hobbies deplete your purse/pocket.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Even if a few disgruntled elements oppose your plans, be tactful. Keep your eye on the main objective and try to sweet reason folks and mate into agreeing on a few points at least. Romance promises kicks and kisses, and perhaps near misses. Legacy, property, commission and perks are also well signified. Your health could run into rough weather as with you it is mind over matter. It is best to wait till May before undertaking a journey.

BIRTHDAYS

May 6

Sun conjunction Mercury: Despite this tough conjunction, you will do well as the moon trines Neptune. Accept responsibilities gracefully. Children and hobbies give tremendous joy.

May 7

Moon sextile Pluto: Lovers, poets, editors and scientists fare well. Look forward to a promotion or perks. A job-switch is probable, say around June.

May 8

Moon trine Node, Western astrology: Financial gains and a job-switch are likely. Those in communications, transport, import and export, will make it big.

May 9

Moon-Jupiter conjunction: Those born on May 6 or 7 have the factor of marriage and collaborations in common. While a wife (opposition Jupiter in place in your chart) should not be allowed to throw you off your stride. This is a birthyear to reach out to people and places.

May 10

For confirmed bachelors and resigned spinsters, a chance to wed. Relationships and travel do figure more than usual in your scheme of things. Artistes as well as scientists do a remarkable job.

May 11

Moon opposition Mercury: Trading, commission, agency, selling and selling turn out favourable. Lovers have a field day. A health home-coming awaits. Depression rises. Finances, though favourable, need careful handling.

May 12

Tycoons and industrialists find the full moon most penetrating. The inner spheres of their minds will help to raise it to money by following successfully the principle of co-operation with others around you.

SCORPIO

Oct 23-Nov 22

You are in for a round of sustained hard work as you push yourself to the outer limits of the Venus-Mars formation. Elders and family members demand much of you. Financial gains and gifts are likely. Romance shows erratic going. Health depends upon sensitivity and eating habits. The next two weeks suggest journey. Devote some time to the affairs of children.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

Romance and entertainment as well as health problems are predicted. Romance will be hectic and the heart will be a hunter; here a little tight-rope-walking will certainly help. May 8, 9, 12 and 13 suggest monetary transactions and buying/selling/shopping. Stomach, heart and back ailments are indicated. Travel is more than likely.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Loans, funds, children, grandchildren and a bit of entertainment are the salient features of the week. You have your share of romance around May 10. Mix finance with amusement for more mileage as results will be faster and better. Early in the week stomach, nerve and tooth problems may worry you. Children and socialising will keep you happy.

AQUARIUS

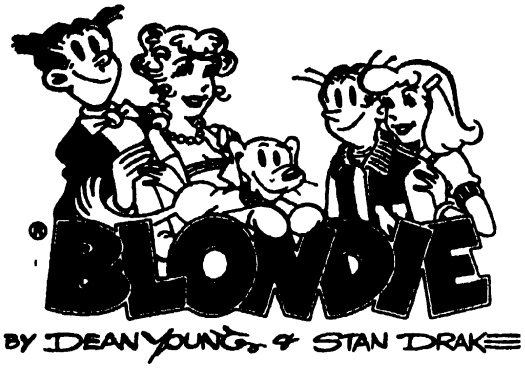
Jan 20—Feb 19

The moon's quarter makes for ties, links, travel, contacts, clashes and certainly some heart-burning too. The weekend promises some financial gains. Not all the pressures and inconveniences will stop you from offering a rose to your sweetheart. Overindulgence could tell upon your health. Travel is fated and cannot be dampened.

PISCES

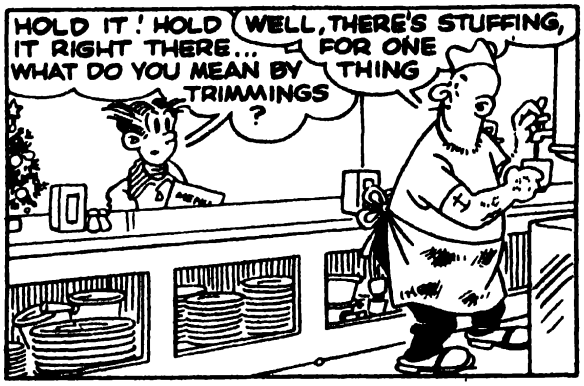
Feb 19-March 20

The week signifies shift, transfer, commuting, loans and investments. During the last days the focus is on home, property, designing and furnishing. Investments, securities, shares and capitals are well signified. A job-hop is also probable. Romance will be excellent in bits and snatches. You will be accident-prone, so take adequate precautions.



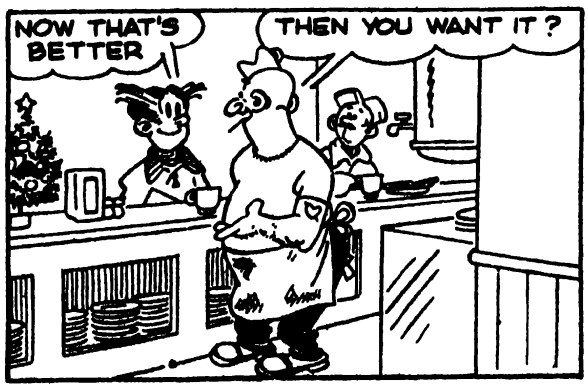






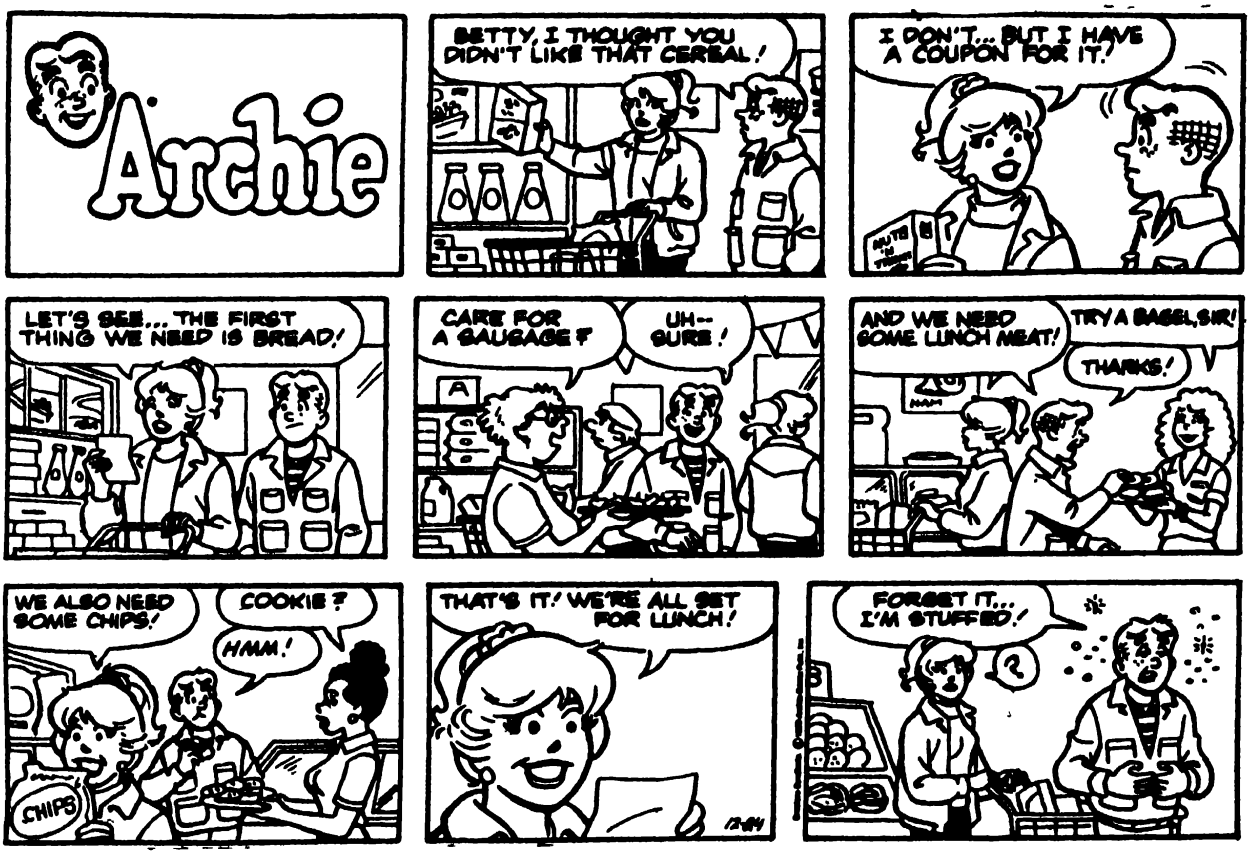


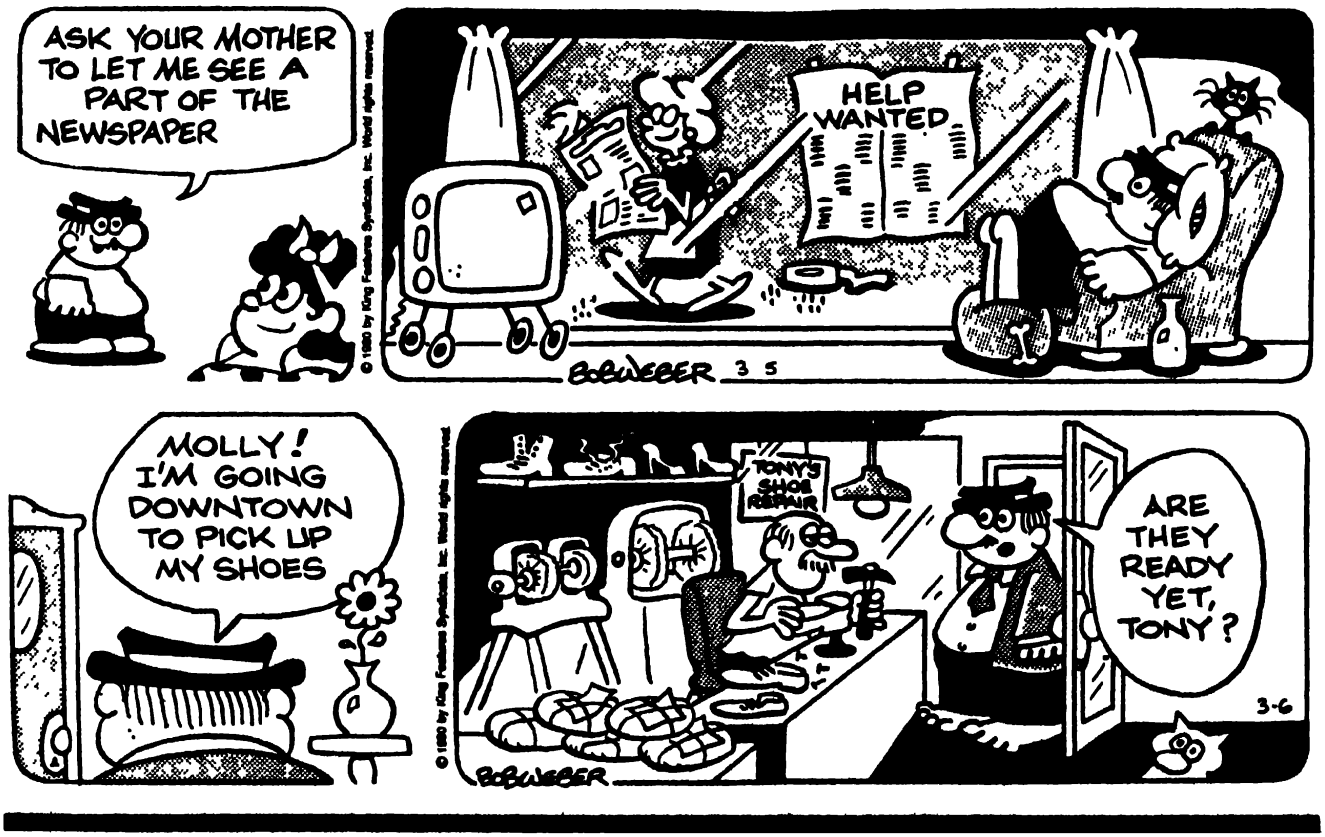


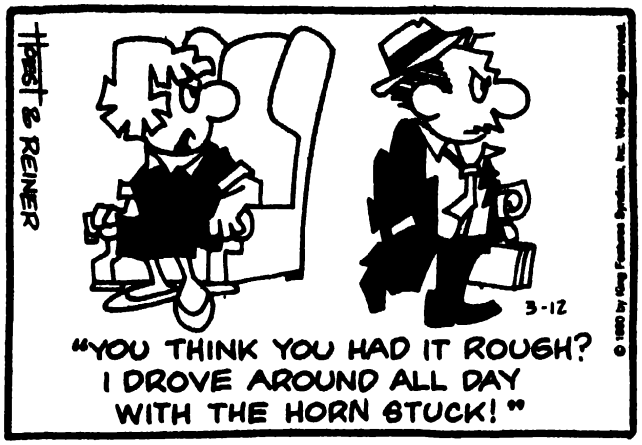


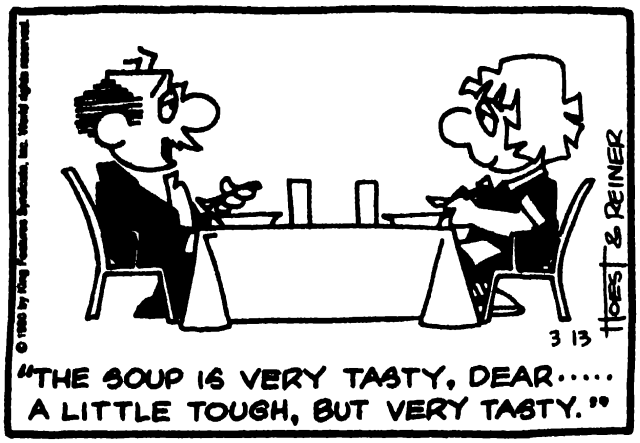
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Archie
BETTY, I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T LIKE THAT CEREAL!
I DON'T... BUT I HAVE A COUPON FOR IT!
LET'S SEE... THE FIRST THING WE NEED IS BREAD!
CARE FOR A SAUSAGE?
UH-- SURE!
AND WE NEED SOME LUNCH MEAT!
TRY A BAGEL, SIR!
THANKS!
WE ALSO NEED SOME CHIPS!
COOKIE?
HMM!
CHIPS
THAT'S IT! WE'RE ALL SET FOR LUNCH!
FORGET IT... I'M STUFFED!


ASK YOUR MOTHER TO LET ME SEE A PART OF THE NEWSPAPER
HELP WANTED
BOBWEBER 3 5
MOLLY! I'M GOING DOWNTOWN TO PICK UP MY SHOES
TONY'S SHOE REPAIR
ARE THEY READY YET, TONY?
3-6
BOBWEBER

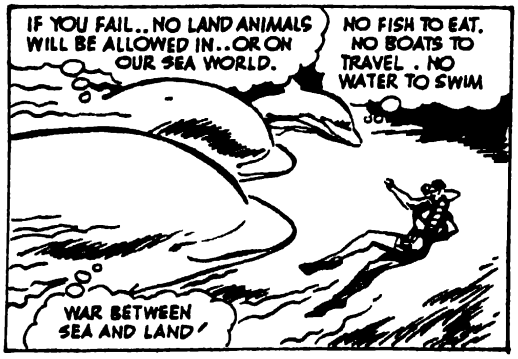

HOEST & REINER
3-12
"YOU THINK YOU HAD IT ROUGH? I DROVE AROUND ALL DAY WITH THE HORN STUCK!"

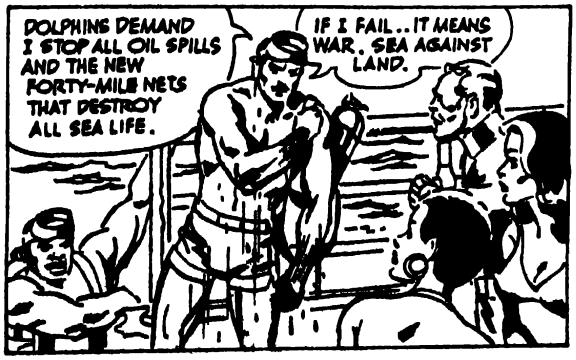

HOEST & REINER
3 13
"THE SOUP IS VERY TASTY, DEAR..... A LITTLE TOUGH, BUT VERY TASTY."


HOEST & REINER
3-14
"HE'S ONE IN A MILLION... THE ODDS WERE AGAINST ME."


HOEST & REINER
3 15
"IF I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING, LORETTA IS MORE THAN WILLING TO TELL ME."


UNDERWATER TELEPATHY.. MAN AND DOLPHIN.
WILL YOU PROMISE TO STOP THE EVILS.. OIL AND GREAT NETS.. THAT DESTROY US OF THE SEA?
I PROMISE I WILL TRY.

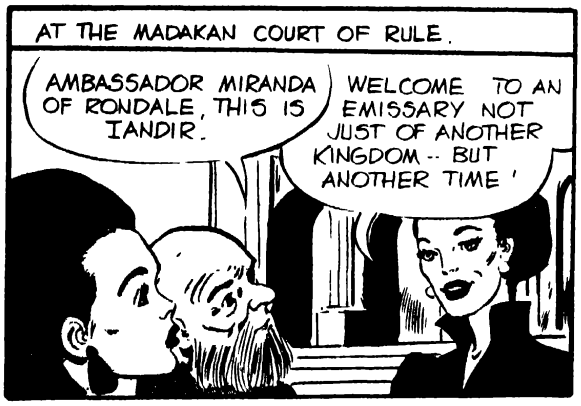

IF YOU FAIL.. NO LAND ANIMALS WILL BE ALLOWED IN.. OR ON OUR SEA WORLD.
NO FISH TO EAT. NO BOATS TO TRAVEL . NO WATER TO SWIM
WAR BETWEEN SEA AND LAND!


DOLPHINS DEMAND I STOP ALL OIL SPILLS AND THE NEW FORTY-MILE NETS THAT DESTROY ALL SEA LIFE.
IF I FAIL.. IT MEANS WAR. SEA AGAINST LAND.

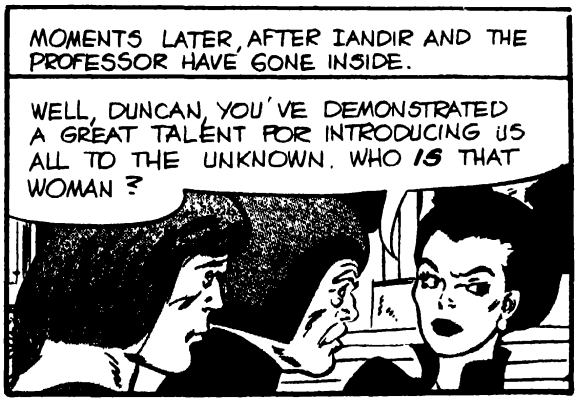

NETS.. MAYBE. CAN YOU.. OR ANY MAN STOP ALL OIL SPILLS?
NO.
1-7
CONT'D

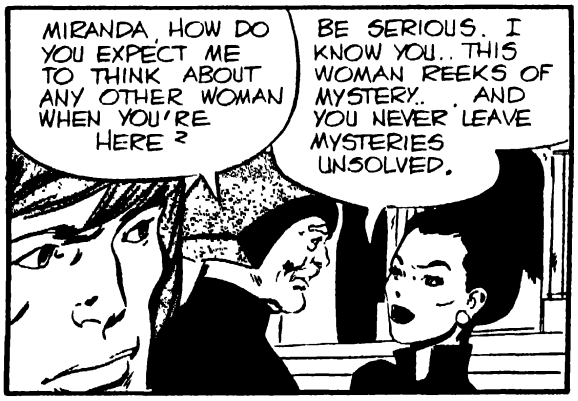

BEAU LOOK! IT'S A LETTER FOR ME - FROM VERA!
WHAT'S IT SAY? WHAT'S IT SAY?
"STOP BOTHERING ME, YOU LITTLE CREEP OR I'LL HAVE YOUR FACE RE-ARRANGED
ARE THERE ANY KISSES AT THE BOTTOM?
DENNIS, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO ADMIT THAT YOUR ROMANCE WITH VERA WAS NOT TO BE.
IF ONLY SHE HADN'T ENCOURAGED ME.
ER... TO BE FAIR, DENNIS, I DON'T THINK SHE ENCOURAGED YOU.
OH, YEAH? AND WHOSE GLASS OF WINE DID SHE PUT OUT HER CIGAR IN?
COR! IS THAT CHOCOLATE CAKE?
YUP.
D'YOU MIND IF I HAVE A BIT?
NOT AT ALL.
DELICIOUS! WHO MADE IT?
YOUR MUM, WASN'T IT PIERRE?
MY MUM MADE THAT CAKE.
AND VERY NICE IT WAS TOO.
THE POINT IS IT WAS MEANT FOR ME!
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY?
CRACK!
THAT SHOULD SAVE ON THE WASHING-UP!
IS MAD PIERRE STILL ANGRY AT ME FOR EATING HIS MUM'S CAKE?
YES.
HE SAID THAT WHEN HE GOES INTO A BLIND RAGE HE FORGETS EVERYTHING!
HE SAYS YOU'VE TO STAY AWAY FROM HIM TILL HE'S CALMER.
THAT WAY HE'LL BE ABLE TO REMEMBER THE NOISE OF YOUR BONES BREAKING.















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Photograph: **Abhijit Dhar**



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that's a situation none of us would like to get into But then, one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

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840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

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HTA 6766AR

Travesty of Divinity

The cover of the April 8 issue, showing Lord Ganesh attired in a jacket and trousers, was most reprehensible. It has not been very long since the late B.T. Ranadive spoke at a rally in Calcutta in a vile manner about Hanuman, a deity worshipped by more than 500 million people. This month, another politician questioned the authenticity of Lord Rama's birth.

The Hindus are systematically being taken for granted and they are timidly digesting every blasphemy. If this vulgar trend is not bridled, we might see heads of other deities installed on similar despicable objects as the Arts Acre artist has profanely sculpted. An artist's attempt at creativity should be in good taste.

Ratan Kumar Mintri,
Calcutta

■ The Hitler Ganesh on the cover was grotesque and offensive. It is in deplorable taste to give prominence to such a travesty of divinity. The recent trend towards sensationalism in art shows a disregard for Hindu sentiment. Is it due to lack of ideas, idealism, courage or conviction?

Purnima L. Kumar,
Calcutta

Once Again

On several occasions in the past, I have criticised your carrying obscene pictures. Once again, you have carried a cover story with objectionable photographs ('Our Pamella', April 1).

I repeat that you should give us bare facts, not bare bodies. How much more do you want to expose?

I'm sure you will not publish this letter because it requires real guts to face criticism. But I hope good sense will prevail and you will refrain from repeating past mistakes.

Arpita Mukharji,
Howrah

■ The article itself made good light reading, but the pictures used with it were obscene.

Amitava Chatterjee and **Rana Chatterjee,**
Calcutta

■ I have collected, chronologically, more than 300 issues of the Colour Magazine. But, alas, no more. You have forced me to stop subscribing to the Sunday issues.

You refuse to listen to your readers and forget that it is a magazine for the whole family, coming as it is along with a daily newspaper.

I strongly protest against the way my favourite magazine is going.

Pradeep Kedia,
Siliguri

■ It was an excellent issue and had gorgeous photographs. But we would have liked to see some photographs of Pamella Bordes, too.

Debabrata Mukherjee,
Calcutta

■ You always give us a variety of subjects, but whenever there is a story concerning sex, some old-fashioned readers thunder against it. Why don't they realise that like other elements, sex is also necessary and has a role in society?

If the sanctity of the Colour Magazine is being questioned, then the majority of the magazines in the market should be banned.

I hope you will not get intimidated by these readers. We would now like to see the semi-nude photographs of the sensational Steffi Graf, recently published in some foreign magazines.

Subir Das,
Burdwan (W.B.)

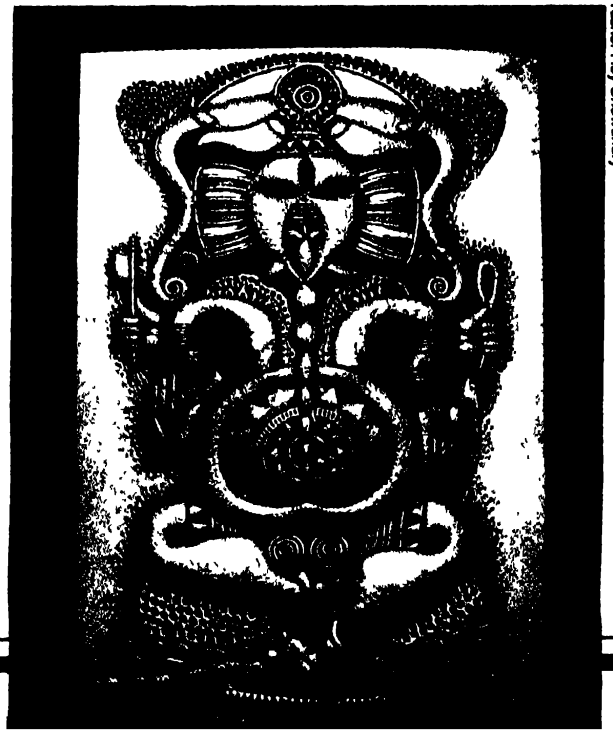
■ The film on Pamella with Asha in the lead did not merit a cover story simply because it was a non-event. How can you have semi-nude photographs and children's pages in the same magazine?

Deeptikanta Thakur,
Sambalpur (Orissa)

■ Will you *stop* it or not?

Subhamoy Chatterjee,
Haldia

From Rekha Dasgupta's collection



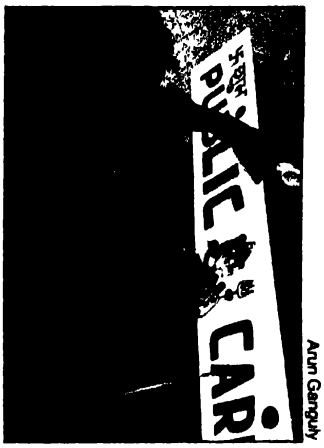
Kishor Roy Chowdhury

The Telegraph

13 MAY 1990

4 So, you thought marriage was an adult affair? You thought right. So did the law-makers. But children being married off before they can spell c-a-t, cat, is commonplace all over the country.

14 Goans are nothing if not full of life and fun. And the annual carnival brings out the merriest element in them.



Arun Ganguly

16 A photofeature on the novel art on trucks.

18 Does the ice-capped continent of Antarctica belong to anyone? A report.

SECTIONS

11 Heritage
12 Quiz
13 Focus
21 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Inner Eye
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover: Dilip Banerjee





MAN AND WIFE



Gouri Mal is seven months old, can barely sit up unaided and still takes her mother's breast. She can hardly nibble at a biscuit and begins bawling. Pick her up to caress and cuddle, and she wets your clothes.

Gouri Mal is her maiden name; she is now Gouri Khutia, possibly the youngest bride in the world. Her husband, Gautam Khutia, is only six years old and has just been promoted to class III of the Srirampur Kunjbehari Prathamik Vidyalay (his father-in-law, Laxman Chandra Mal, tells us this; he should be too young for class III, or he is older than six; but, then, rural folk could not be too bothered about age and mundane things like that). Gautam immediately gets surrounded by a score children who gape at him and at us in turns; the new groom is being interviewed by "suit-pant *lok*" from Calcutta, after all; but Gautam is hardly forthcoming. Shy to the roots of his over-oiled hair, he just stares at the ground, squirms a bit and refuses to take the promptings of his mates. But he is secretly thrilled at the attention he is getting and happily sneaks away to wear his marital attire to pose for the pictures.

After much prodding, Gautam speaks his only sentence that hot sultry hour: his teacher (Chittaranjan Das, whom he calls Sambhumaster) enquired after his newly wedded wife and wanted to know whether his *bou* was well and happy. No one teased him about his new status, it seemed, and maybe he himself was not too sure whether Gouri was his *bou* or *bandhu*.

To Gautam, marriage could not have been more cause for excitement than spinning his top. To Gouri, gurgling and peeing in our lap must have made more sense than all those *mantras* chanted by Puti Thakur, the priest who dubbed them man and wife on March 8.

Child marriage in a West Bengal village? There are hardly any reported cases of such weddings, but it is a safe conjecture that there are hundreds of Gautams and Gouris in this state, too. The bride's father, Laxman Chandra Mal, himself says, "Such a marriage has not taken place in the entire Midnapore district in the last 100 years." Laxman, in fact, waves away the statistics on Rajasthan and says, "Rajasthan is another matter, but such things do not happen in Bengal."

Srirampur is a not-so-remote village under the Tamluk police station in Midnapore district, some 100 kms away from the city. The houses of Khutia and Mal are separated by just a few yards and a stone's throw away is the gram panchayat office. Much of the area is motorable, and a house diagonally opposite Mal's sports a TV antenna (which means they probably see those government spots about child marriages). There is electricity (at least as much as in the city), there is a sub-divisional hospital, a post office, a school and a police station.

Laxman Chandra Mal has a well appointed shop, with all the 'urban needs' for sale: tins of Britannia biscuits, plastic combs, soaps and toothpastes; and he is very concerned about hospitality which extends from immediately ordered chairs to *mishti doi, rossogollas* and *nimki* and a full pack of cigarettes. Srirampur is evidently not doing too badly for itself and Mal himself looks upon child marriages in Rajasthan with disdain.

Then, what made him marry off Gouri to Gautam Khutia? "I don't believe in child marriage," he says insistently. Laxman Chandra himself married when he was 26 and his wife, Chandana, 20, while many in the city marry earlier nowadays. And,

So, you thought marriage is an adult affair? Ask Gautam Khutia (6 years) and Gouri Mal (7 months). Anil Grover visited them in their village in Midnapore to find some of the answers

Photographs: Dilip Banerjee

Gouri with her parents, mother-in-law (extreme left) and husband Gautam



going by his own statement and records, West Bengal is not 'into' child marriage either.

Superstition, as usual?

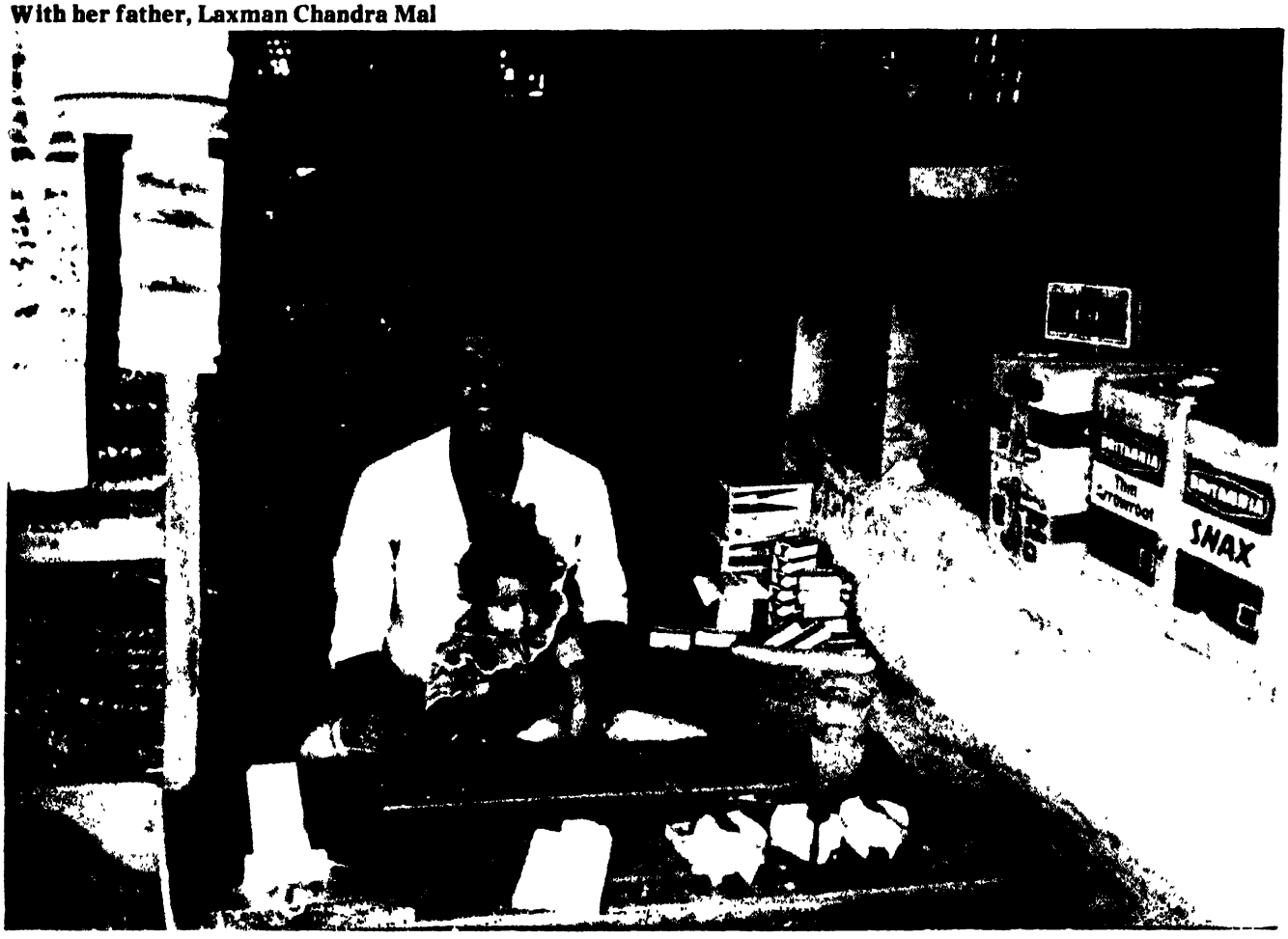
Chandana and Laxman Chandra had four offspring before Gouri, but none of them survived. He got the ages and order mixed up, but Dr Bankim Chandra Parai's prescription at the Tamluk sub-divisional hospital indicates that all the four children died before they were three years old, the last one dying a few hours after being born prematurely at eight months. Things had become so traumatic that Chandana had even consumed poison. "Woman's intelligence, after all, so she didn't go and buy poison. She went and plucked *dhutura* flower and quietly consumed that," says Laxman Chandra with a sheepish grin. "I had in fact thought of getting married again so that I could have a child that would live. Of course, she didn't take it too well, but then she agreed to it later. Gouri is the last hope for us." Laxman Chandra, like many rural people, can hide emotions behind a nonchalant facade when he wants to; he narrates the tragic story with as much emotion as students learning their tables.

To Gautam, marriage could not have been more cause for excitement than spinning his top. To Gouri, gurgling and peeing in our lap must have made more sense than all those *mantras* chanted by Puti Thakur, the priest who dubbed them man and wife

For the sake of Gouri, they consulted an elderly priest in the nearby Nikashi village who, according to Mal, was said to have married off a dozen children in his career (contradiction in his earlier statement), and he advised them to have her surname changed through marriage, that is, *gotrantar*. For 10 months before that, even before Gouri was delivered, the couple spent Rs 40 on the doctor's fee per month apart from medicines. "My wife had become a mental case," said Mal, "and I too was becoming desperate. There are some witches in the village, you know, and it seems their curse was on Chandana's issues. The idea of getting Gouri married off was only to break the curse." In fact, the Khutias gladly agreed to accept Gouri as their *bou* because they were aware of the special reason. "We are human beings, too," said Matarani Khutia, Gautam's mother.

Two kms away at Nikashi village, we found our way into the priest's house. Bhim Chakraborty (76) was well known. His first reaction to our introduction was "Laxmanbabu, who?" and what child marriage were we talking about. But the old man softened very quickly and rattled off the whole story without as much as a query. He had solemnised only one child marriage, that too some 30 years ago, he said, though he had heard of a couple of such marriages in nearby villages. "Laxman and Chandana are both distantly related to me. He visited me several times and I brushed him off, saying, why do you want to drag me into a police case in the

With her father, Laxman Chandra Mal



winter of my life But considering his case, I agreed. I did tell him, it may help, it may not, but he could try *gotrantar* as a last resort and get the child married I told him it's against the law, but it's a new world today In my earlier days, people couldn't look into my eyes and talk to me, today, the young boys challenge me and ask, who are you? Our advice doesn't really matter, nowadays "

And, then, March 8 The *lagna* was at 9 pm, Gouri's grandmother doing the *kanyandaan* The festivities lasted for three hours with 1,200 invitees from the village (population 5,000) Officially, about 300 were invited, but many others jumped onto the bandwagon The Mals spent Rs 9,000 on the wedding though there was "no question of any dowry" Gautam was, however, presented a gold ring worth Rs 450

"The police also landed up at around 10 pm," laughs Mal, "but when they saw the crowd, they knew they couldn't do anything about it So they returned They had thought they would throw the law books at our face and arrest us!" The police did return on "compassionate grounds" They felt that when both parties had agreed on it, when there was so much support from the villagers, when the reason was so heart-rending, discretion was the better part of law—which was nothing if not followed in the spirit

Members of the gram panchayat were naturally tense at our visit They very politely questioned our motive and angle of the story and warmly invited us to the office for a little chat Gaurhari Das, one of the members, was happy that we had come to see for ourselves "the splendid tide of the village" Dr Abdul Khalid, another member, who was also aware of the medical side of the problem, said once superstition took over, it was impossible to convince them otherwise Binodbehari Burman, a third member, was most



Bhim Chakraborty, whose priestly advice it was

apprehensive about our visit, and at the same time, the most vociferous in condemning the marriage because of "pressures of superstitions" And all of them were agreed that it would be impossible to judge the right or wrong of this child marriage because of the "emotional point that was worth considering"

The 'curse' here was, after all, medical in nature Dr Parai's prescription notes that all four offspring died of *amoebiosis* It happens in the cities, it happens all the time in the villages And Srirampur was bringing down the temperature by cooling the thermometer Imagine all such 'curses' being broken not through literacy, basic hygiene and health care, but through *gotrantar*

There is an array of laws from the Civil Marriages Act of the last century to the Child Marriage Restraint Act (popularly known as the Sarda Act) enacted in 1929 and enforced from April 1, 1930, fixing the age of marriage at 14 and 18, respectively This was amended in 1949 and 1956, raising it to 15 and 16 for girls (the boys remaining 18) and in 1978 to 18 and 21

Yet, in selected pockets of *Mera Bharat Mahaan* this is a socially accepted norm In as much as one third of all districts of India, the average age for marriage of girls is less than 15 and this is most deeply entrenched in Rajasthan's Marwar region

The number of child marriages in that state touches 40,000 every year during Akha Teej (Akshay Tritiya) In that state, even ministers have been guilty of marrying off their minor daughters Child marriage is normally directly linked to poverty and illiteracy, several studies show Prosperity and education could finally overcome superstition, but can they overcome calculated beliefs? ■

BARTER BANK

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●**Magazines:** I offer almost all the copies of *The Telegraph Colour Magazine* for the past five years for a good book of quiz or general knowledge Write to T K Chandrasekhar 71/A Pratapaditya Road Calcutta-26

Just Good Lovers

Jack Dantes was one of them

She was shaped like a vase A breathless beauty Her name was Sheila Bengali to her dainty fingertips Flashing black eyes Dusky, slim, petite and ample in the right places So graceful, she must have escaped from the walls of the Ajanta caves

She was 19, two years older than I Came from an affluent family She was from what you would call 'the convent educated, English speaking elite" Maybe 1943 sounds like a long time ago, but I can still see her in front of me Her dimpled smile, her voice gentle, lilting and at times saucy Anybody who's seen Disney's Cinderella will know what I mean Naturally, I was in love with her, but when you're 17 love is no hotter than platonic Sleepless nights don't make it any hotter Arm's-length affair Couldn't help it She was a sprite Not real at all

How can you touch something that's not real? Oh yes, she did once walk this earth A skilful danseuse in the Indian classical tradition, she performed for charities at the Globe Theatre No, not a professional, but spellbinding anyway An irrepressible artiste On impulse, she would spring upon a chair with a paint brush and make a flawless, sweeping maroon arc on an off-white wall in the family drawing-room—and *voila!* there appeared like magic in one unbroken line the seven foot portrait of an elegant woman sitting enfolded in a saree, face mysteriously hidden, in an attitude of sensuous contemplation Her poetry, too, was published from time to time in the Sunday newpapers She was truly Indian in the rarest sense of the word, blessed with the innate sophistication of a princess and the blind modesty of a village belle Totally without inhibitions

Then, one day, another sprite entered her life He was an Australian called Kim He was almost her exact counterpart A roving journalist by profession, he was also a poet and an artist who could unfold a landscape like a magic carpet across the four walls of a room with the broad, playful strokes of a brush He couldn't dance at all, but he walked with cat-like grace His blue eyes reflected our October skies and his tousled blond curls shone like spun gold in the sunset An unspoiled boy sprite with a clean-shaven, cherubic face A Percy Bysshe Shelley

He used to travel all over the country and wrote a popular column for a local daily He wrote on all sorts of subjects from descriptions of the Himalayas to more scholarly items like Moghul miniatures, Hindu sculpture, the genius of Tagore and the mystique of the Indian female form Kim had a variety of interests and helped plan early public relations films for ICI Incidentally, he was also endowed with the gift of blind modesty and sometimes answered the door in the altogether Not that you'd notice anything amiss Only blind modesty could carry it off with aplomb

They say if you want to get married, first take a good look at the girl's mother—the picture of your wife 20 years hence So Kim met her mother, by intent or not I don't know She was a widow, but very self assured and apparently from a Westernised family Spoke Bengali at home but was equally at home with English (which she spoke without the faintest trace of an accent) Except for her black eyes, she didn't resemble her daughter physically Rather squat and well-built, with a square jaw that was businesslike and uncompromising She had devastating charm She was dark-skinned and was fondly nicknamed Blackie' by her sundry



friends. She didn't mind being called 'Blackie', that's how forward she was. She was the life of any conversation and benevolently shrewd. No flies on her. Her cultural interest encompassed all the arts, East and West. In fact, she enjoyed the best of both worlds.

Coupled with all this, her measure of commonsense and resoluteness had seen her through 15 years of widowhood, bringing up a son and a daughter through the ranks of the best schools possible. Could be very commanding and demanding. Kim was a great admirer of hers and attended to her every want with filial devotion. An absolute slave. So now you know why I would never have married Sheila, if that were possible. One day, she was going to be 40.

Kim left for England on some journalistic mission, but found himself subject to the laws of conscription. He refused to be conscripted and was subsequently arrested as a 'conscientious objector' and removed to a prison in Dublin.

There followed between Dublin and Calcutta possibly the greatest exchange of love letters of this century. Love in black and white between two pining and very talented souls. There is no trace of these letters, now lost to posterity. With their fine sensibilities, they must have chiselled sentences as passionately as anything D.H. Lawrence had written. From her mother I learnt that they sometimes wrote white-hot sonnets to each other, some of them anguished epics laced with passages of blind modesty. I would have willingly parted with my complete works of Shakespeare for a peek at that correspondence.

A couple of years later, the war was over and Kim returned to Calcutta. I was too busy to keep up with my social contacts, but I'd meet the couple occasionally, he in sandals and shorts, browsing at a Park Street pavement bookstall. Another couple of years went by when I met Sheila on Park Street again, but this time she was in the company of a tall, slim, bronze Englishman, moustache and all, very much the *shikari* type. A real lady's man. She introduced him to me as 'Jim'. No explanations followed. Whatever happened to Kim?



Out of curiosity I dropped into Kim's flat and this time, a tall, thin lady in an ankle-length dress answered the door. Her red hair streaming down to her waist. I spent an hour with them and learnt that this lady was Kim's fiancee, Jenny. She had been his childhood sweetheart—a rebound with vengeance. Kim informed me that Sheila and Jim were coming for dinner if I'd care to stay. I was too busy. Kim and Jenny returned to Australia and I've never seen them again. Soon after, Sheila married Jim.

Jim was an executive in a large British firm. He was the opposite of Kim. Very extrovert, not inclined to things artistic. And was, in fact, an enthusiastic *shikari*. In the years that followed, I would meet Sheila and Jim by chance at the theatre or a music concert or an art exhibition. Apparently she was subtly inculcating him into the arts and he was apparently taking to it like a deprived fish to water.

Through her mother, I heard that Jim was in turn widening her interests in masculine sports like *shikar*, polo, rugby and cricket. He himself was a public school product and firmly believed that the battle of Waterloo had been won on the playing fields of Eton. (Wellington, of course, believed otherwise and had once described his victorious army as "the scum of the earth enlisted for drink".) Actually, Jim did have the seeds of cultural awareness inside him, but the Engish public school system had drilled it out of him. If you preferred poetry to rugby, you were a sissy. There were no two ways about it. Obviously, Jim was putty in the hands of Sheila who, gently yet firmly, destroyed the veneer of his public school mentality.

Jim rose to be managing director of his company and with the flight of time soon retired. The last I heard of Sheila and Jim was that they had bought a house in the heart of Thailand where, like lotus eaters, they planned to spend the rest of their lives in pursuit of the beatific mysteries of Angkor Wat.

Just like a Somerset Maugham story. Hardly fictitious. ■

The author, a wellknown figure in the city's media and entertainment circles, passed away a few months ago.

VOICE

Eve-teachers, Ahoy!

President R. Venkataraman last month awarded the Shaurya Chakra to Monisha Verma, the first woman to be accorded this honour. What Monisha, a keen sportswoman, actually did to merit the award was to foil the attempts of five Delhi Transport Corporation employees to assault her in a moving bus. Not content with having engineered her own rescue, Monisha set out to "do something positive for women." She set up an organisation called Rakshak to impart training in self-defence to college girls and young women in Delhi who have to confront eve-teasers regularly, for, as Monisha put it, "nowhere is the problem of eveteasing so acute as in Delhi."

True enough, for the sordid pleasure that has gripped the young and not-so-young men in Delhi carries such an aura that public support tilts in favour of the assailants. What is most alarming is that the trend seems to be gaining ground elsewhere. A couple of weeks ago, armed eve-teasers attacked a schoolbus near Dhanbad, beat up the boys and parents in it, and set about molesting the girl students. Such a phenomenon may be unheard of in West Bengal, but thanks to people who come from places where eve teasing is commonplace, the trend may soon gather momentum here. While organisations like Rakshak come in handy here, one hopes the people of this state, on whose unstinted support a woman in distress can count on, be it on public transport or thoroughfares, will uphold the values that set them apart. Whether it is an inferiority complex or that of being henpecked that gives rise to such obnoxious and dangerous behaviour is secondary; what is important is that girls adopt a tenacity and the kind of self-help that Monisha advocates to keep predators at bay

Guiding Factor

Calcutta University has opened a centre for women, to explore and investigate the role and status of women in society and suggest measures for the development of women power. This was announced by the pro vice-chancellor, Dr Bharati Ray, at a recent seminar-cum-workshop on "Legal literacy for Women" organised by Loreto College here. As chief guest, Dr Ray called on colleges to avail of the UGC sponsorship and open a women's study cell for action-oriented research.

The three-day deliberations were inaugurated, quite appropriately one feels, by Mother Teresa, the one woman of this century who has selflessly served more distressed people than all other social workers put together. In a touching speech the Nobel laureate spoke of her interaction with the sick, the poor and the homeless, and urged people to spread the joy of loving—the ideal that has been her driving force over the years.

The principal of the college, Sr Claire MacFarland, touched on several salient points, noting that women were, on the whole, quite ignorant about legal matters. Her bid to promote legal literacy in this International Literacy Year should hopefully provide a stepping stone for functional literacy in this sphere in the near future.



Ashoke Chakrabarty

Bharati Ray, pro vice-chancellor (academic) of Calcutta University, speaking at the seminar while (left) Mother Teresa arrives for the inauguration

Fr P.D. Mathews, SJ, a member of the Legal Aid Programme of the Indian Social Institute in New Delhi, conducted the seminar and came up with some candid eye-openers about corruption in judicial circles, afforded by his proximity to the Supreme Court. Over the three days, Fr Mathews explained the constitutional provisions (as enshrined in Articles 14 to 32) guaranteeing rights and special privileges to women.

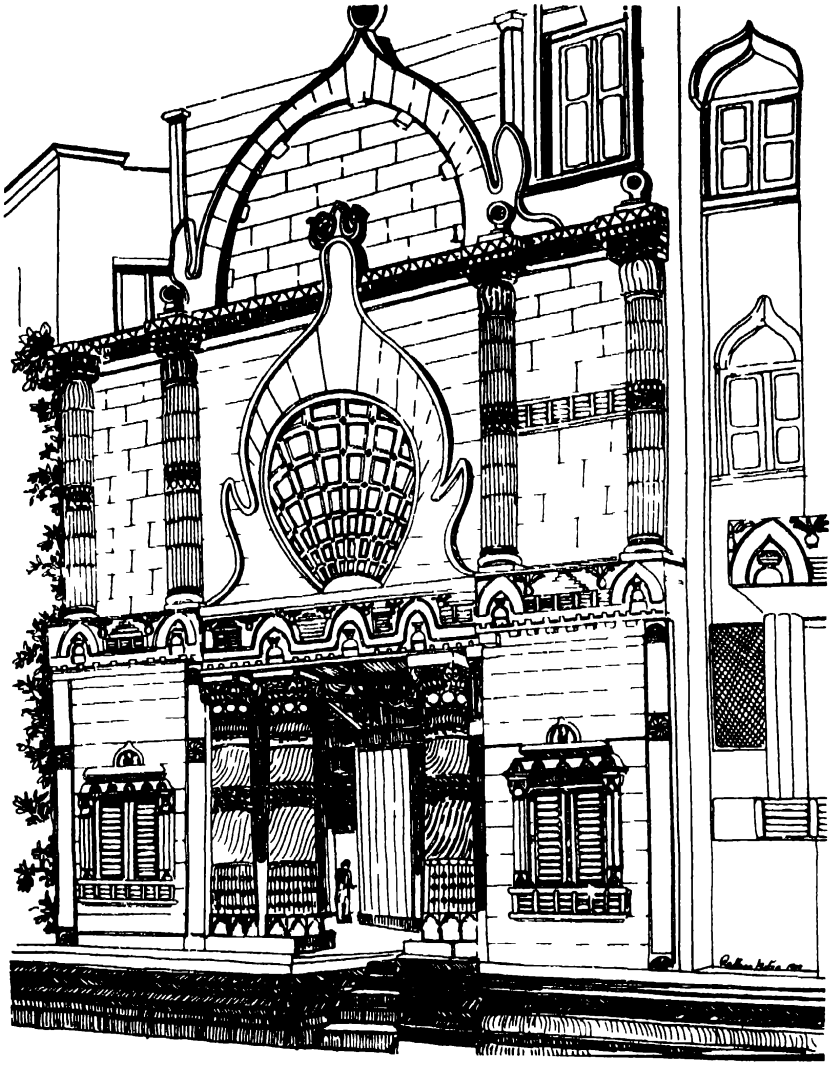
Ms Ruma Pal, an advocate of Calcutta High Court, expressed her views on "Hindu marriage and divorce," while social worker Lakshmi Chatterjee rendered a realistic exposition on the problems of immoral trafficking of women. While pimps and prostitutes are taken to task, she said, the law has no provisions to tackle the "clients" who create the demand in the first place. Such lacunae in the legal system invariably encourages immoral traffic, often victimising innocent girls in the bargain.

Mr Milon Mukherjee, another High Court advocate, spoke on dowry and dowry deaths. He, too, confessed that the legal system offered no remedy; that uprooting this evil lies in a metamorphosis of social values and public consciousness. Justice Ajit Sengupta, a judge of the criminal bench, drew on his wide experience to conclude that incompetent lawyers end up misguiding the public and said the best solution was often out-of-court settlements.

Mr Shaktinath Mukherjee, a senior advocate of Calcutta High Court, followed up with a lucid discussion on problems faced by women workers, observing that West Bengal was the most progressive state in this sphere. Indeed, with the election manifestos of several political parties stressing the need for the uplift of women, it is incredible that hardly any measures are being taken for their welfare. If we are to believe the lawyers, the implementation of laws is left to unconcerned and sometimes unscrupulous members of the judiciary. Can the esteemed woman judges do nothing to arrest this trend?

Sudipta Bhattacharjee

THE MAHA BODHI SOCIETY (Founded 1891)



The Maha Bodhi Society (originally The Bodh-Gaya Mahabodhi Society) derives its name from the tree under which, more than 2,000 years ago, Lord Buddha took his adamantine seat (*Vajrasana*) and visualised the Truth, the Reality. This tree was an Asvattha (*Fcus Religiosa*) which was sanctified by Siddhartha Gautama's attaining supreme knowledge (Bodhi) beneath its shade. Thus it came to be known as the Bodhi-tree in India and Bo-tree in Ceylon. A branch of this tree was sent to Sri Lanka (erstwhile Ceylon) by Emperor Asoka.

This society was formed at first to resuscitate the ancient site at Buddha Gaya and along with it the Maha Bodhi Temple built thereon at a later date and to make it a hallowed pilgrim place for all the Buddhists of Asia. In January 1891, Anagarika Dharmapala, a distinguished scion of an aristocratic family of Ceylon, visited Buddha Gaya. His heart borke when he found that Buddha's images were being described by the local people as one or other of Brahmanic deities. He decided to restore the place to its legitimate custodians, the members of the Sangha. On May 31, 1891 the Budh-Gaya Mahabodhi Society was established at Colombo, with the objectives of a Buddhist Monastery, a Buddhist College and maintaining a staff of Buddhist Bhikshus at Buddha Gaya representing the Buddhist countries of China, Japan, Siam, Cambodia, Burma, Ceylon, Chittagong, Nepal, Tibet and Arakan, and publication of Buddhist literature in English and Indian vernaculars.

In no time, branches of this society were established in different countries. The Maha Bodhi Society of India aims at providing facilities for the propagation and understanding of Lord Buddha's messages. It firmly believes that this would provide a cementing force for building better relations among different countries.

In 1904, after the rest houses were built at Sarnath and Buddha Gaya, the headquarters of the Maha Bodhi Society were shifted from Calcutta to Benaras. However, the headquarters were later reverted to Calcutta. In 1915, the Maha Bodhi Society of India became a registered body and regular office-bearers were elected, with Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee as its president. The foundation stone of the Vihara was laid in Calcutta on December 16, 1918, and it was opened on November 20, 1920 by H.E. Lord Ronaldshay.

The sketch shows the headquarters of the Maha Bodhi Society of India at 4A Bankim Chatterjee Street in central Calcutta.



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

Francis Groser pays a well deserved tribute to "My Prima Donna".

"To the regulars on the AQUO quiz circuit, Caro Basil whose unexpected death a few weeks ago came with shocking suddenness, will always be associated with quizzing in general and the Octave in particular Caro, however, was a man of many talents and wide-ranging interests Considered against that background, quizzing formed only a tiny part of his many other activities.

"Quizzing entered Caro's life rather late, but looking at it now, it seems to me that it was inevitable that he would have been involved. To tell the truth, Caro became a quizzard by happenstance I can remember the first ever quiz he took part in, the D.I. Open Quiz of 1975, where because of his Anglo-Indian affinity Blair Williams asked him to appear for the Rangers Club. That, as it were, was the spark which kindled his interest in quizzes, so much so that he appeared for the Rangers again in the one and only Rangers Open in January 1976 When subsequently the Rangers quiz team folded, I approached him to join the Octave and it was with great difficulty that I finally persuaded him that he was not ousting anyone from the team

CBS

11th Question: **What are "sanitary airports"? (Shuvomoy Ghatak, Room No 53 N.R.S. Medical College Boys Hostel Calcutta 700 014).**

Ans: **Airports which allow aircraft infected with particular disease germs to land. This infected aircraft may come from an area where an infectious disease has taken the shape of an epidemic. In India, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras airports are designated as "sanitary airports".**

"Having Caro in the Octave was a great feeling and I remember what a wonderful experience it was when we won the 1976 Eddie Hyde It was not the last time we ever won a quiz because we won the 1986 Argus Plate but it was the last time the Octave ever won an open quiz. It could very well be the last time the Octave's name appears on a quiz trophy since three of the four members of that winning team, Brian, Martin and Caro, are no more.

"Caro's contribution to the Octave was immeasurable When Brian and I were suddenly transferred to Delhi in 1977, Caro it was to whom I handed over responsibility for keeping the team going. I must say that he did that quite admirably. In fact, with me tucked away in Delhi, Caro was the Octave's front man and it is not unnatural that the younger generation of quiz people in Calcutta looked to him as leader of the Octave and so he was. Caro was a fierce loyalist and had fixed ideas about his and the team's rights as senior quizzards. His principles would not permit him to sit through a qualifying elimination round and his personality, honed from years on the stage, was rather like that of an operatic leading lady. One of my duties was, whenever the occasion demanded, to soothe ruffled feathers and attempt to pour oil on troubled waters. I called him the Octave's prima donna and he guffawed adding "Yes I am, and so I bloody well should be!".

"Whether it was a premonition or not I cannot say, but shortly before he died when speaking to Neil and David (my brother) at separate occasions, Caro broached the subject of retiring from quizzing in general except for the Summer Invitation Quiz. I shall never know whether he would ever have carried through with his plan. All I can say is that it will never be the same on the Octave without Caro. In fact, I wonder if I would be able to sit for the team again with the memory of Caro ever there. Caro making irreverent remarks about the quiz master or the question he had asked. Caro going "I knew it" when unfailingly the Octave drew the Hindi music in the audio round. But most of all and particularly after the D.I. and Summer Invitation Quizzes, I shall miss him at the post-mortem over drinks on the evening's happenings when essentially the D.I. and Octave teams would animatedly gather round discussing what was and what might have been. Caro was always involved and when the last point had been discussed and the last pint had been downed, he would drive David and me home. There he would wish us goodnight and say how much he looked forward to having me on the Octave for the next quiz. I shall miss you, my prima donna, my friend."

All regular quizzards of the city will miss this colourful, jovial and lovable personality as we echo Francis Groser's fond sentiments.

Postscript: There are three days of quizzing this week at the Dalhousie Institute for the Errol Cowper Trophy.

QUESTIONS

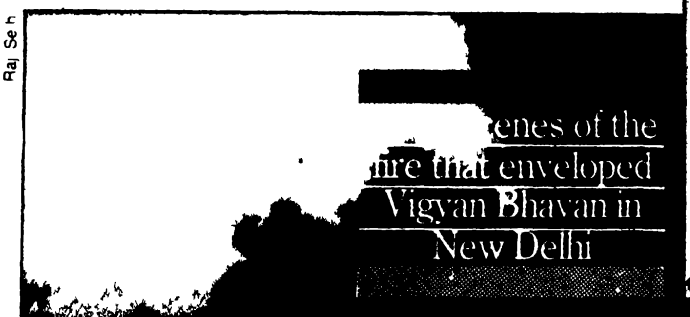
1. Who is called "The Moscow Communist Party Maverick"? (Binayak Das, Shillong 4)
2. Which US Presidents died on the same day? (Sunil Monohar Barpanda, Balangir 45)
3. What is an autoporometer? (Sheikh Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
4. In corporate management, what is "featherbedding"? (Sunil Madhogarhia, Calcutta 54)
5. In which film did Mukesh make his debut as a playback singer? (Jaydeep Guha Thakurta, Calcutta 91)
6. Who said, "The lathi blows hurled at me will prove as nails in the coffin of British imperialism"? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Jharsuguda 3).
7. What is 'ringolevio'? (Zeenat Afrin, Calcutta 16)
8. Which was the first animal millionaire? (Murali Panicker, Calcutta 29)
9. What is pato? (Navin Kr. Gambhir, Calcutta 9)
10. What is dog-tooth? (Othello Mazoomdaar, Calcutta 61).

ANSWERS

BU ING BHAVAN



Raj Seth



Scenes of the fire that enveloped Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi



CNS



A devastating fire all but consumed the prestigious Vigyan Bhavan building in New Delhi recently the damage was estimated at several crores of rupees The fire broke out on the second floor just as the meetings of the state secretaries of information and cinematography and directors-general of police reconvened after a tea break late afternoon due to a suspected short circuit in the air conditioning system The fury of the flames was fought for four hours by 14 fire tenders including six snorkel tenders Sabotage was among the possibilities and the Delhi police commissioner himself said, "Nothing can be ruled out "■



EVENT

IN FULL SWING

It's Ramba, it's Samba, it's floats, it's parades, it's comical—pure, healthy, clean fun It's the carnival, one of the rarest celebrations of the world, four days of non stop frenzy—of parades, balls, feasting and merriment



The origin of the carnival can be traced to the feasts of the anti-Christian times like the Bacchanalian feast celebrated twice a year by the Romans in winter and summer and the Lupercalian festivities in honour of Pan and Ceres Pan—the half man and half goat pastoral god—and Ceres—the Roman goddess of harvest and grain

The carnival, however, is neither pagan nor Christian, neither plebeian nor patrician for that matter There is no caste, no creed, no social snobbery, and the rich and the poor celebrate together It is also a festival that ushers in the spring and bids goodbye to the harsh winter It is time to share the harvest and savour the fruits of the new season, a time to love and live

Carnival time is celebrated in Latin American and a few European countries with great pomp and show People let their hair down and enjoy themselves silly before the coming of the period of Lent and fasting These celebrations are meant as a sort of valedictory consolation for the privations about to follow during the period of Lent

Another very practical reason for the feasting and merriment was the necessity of finishing the food which could not be eaten during Lent—meat, butter, cheese, milk, eggs, fats and bacon, which could not even be kept in homes during the fast days of Lent This meant an increased consumption of rich food the week before Ash Wednesday Thus came the names, 'Fat Days' in Poland, 'Mandi Grass' in France and America and 'Butter Week' in the USSR. During these days before Ash Wednesday all the fatty rich food had to be consumed

Nowhere is the carnival



celebrated in a bigger way than in Brazil. The carnival in Rio de Janiero is four days of barely controlled hysteria that reaches the point of insanity. Thousands of visitors join the Brazilians and dedicate themselves to forgetting reality and ignoring tomorrow.

The three principal aspects of Rio's carnival are the costume balls, the street carnival parades and the blocos, that is, street parades organised by different blocks. Night clubs and discotheques throw parties where all are welcome.

Those who have not been to Rio to experience this festival

It takes little to have Goans celebrating. And carnival time is hardly something they will let pass quietly!

Text, photographs and illustrations: Arthur Cardozo

can get a taste of Rio right here in the fun-loving state of Goa. Though opposed by a section of the Church as being over-commercialised, the carnival is still celebrated with great revelry in this one-time Portuguese colony of Goa.

Francisco Martin, better known for his creative floats of Goa in the Republic Day parades, is one of the chief promoters of these celebrations. His efforts in the float competitions that are organised have given him numerous prizes. Mr Martin feels that the carnival is nothing but clean fun and that there is no reason why a section of the Church should make an issue of these celebrations as being harmful to the youth. The carnival, he feels, is four days during which the people forget all their worries and make merry, before the period of Lent.

Goa has always celebrated the carnival in a big way. It was only during the last two years that these celebrations were subdued due to pressure from certain sections of the Church who felt it was corrupting the youth and also owing to the language agitation in Goa. But this year, once again, the carnival was in full swing and Mr Martin foresees a bigger celebration next year.

On the first day, Fat Saturday—*Sabado Gardo* in Portuguese—the carnival procession gets off to a merry start led by King Momo who is an individual chosen on the grounds of his humorous character. The procession starts in Panjim and passes through other towns like Murgao. The crowds that gather to see the float competitions are massive. These floats are also a photographer's delight and there are a number of them at these celebrations. The parade route is lined with judges, spectators, the press and police, and TV and movie crews. In the villages they dress up in weird costumes and throw confetti and coloured powder 'bombs'. They sing traditional Goan *mandos* and Portuguese songs.

It is often said that a Goan needs only the slightest bit of an excuse to begin enjoying himself—he has music in his blood and dance in his limbs. Here, too, it is the fancy-dress balls that are the most organised form of merriment. The notable balls are the Red and Black Ball and the Sinquetim Carnival Nite. Other than these, there are a number of dances throughout the length and breadth of Goa. The atmosphere is one of high frequency of Latin American Samba, Goan Mando and Portuguese Romp.

The whole joyous mood really makes one wish that the carnival were a national festival—most of all because it is non-religious. ■





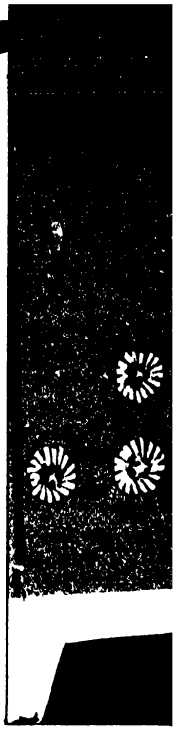
ONE FOR THE ROAD

To a truck operator, his vehicle is often as dear as a member of his family In exchange of the care bestowed on it, a truck gives back to its owner sufficient returns to enable him not only to maintain his family in reasonable comfort, but also to add to the number of his wheeled assets No wonder many owners have their trucks colourfully painted, just as they would like their children to wear bright and smart clothes

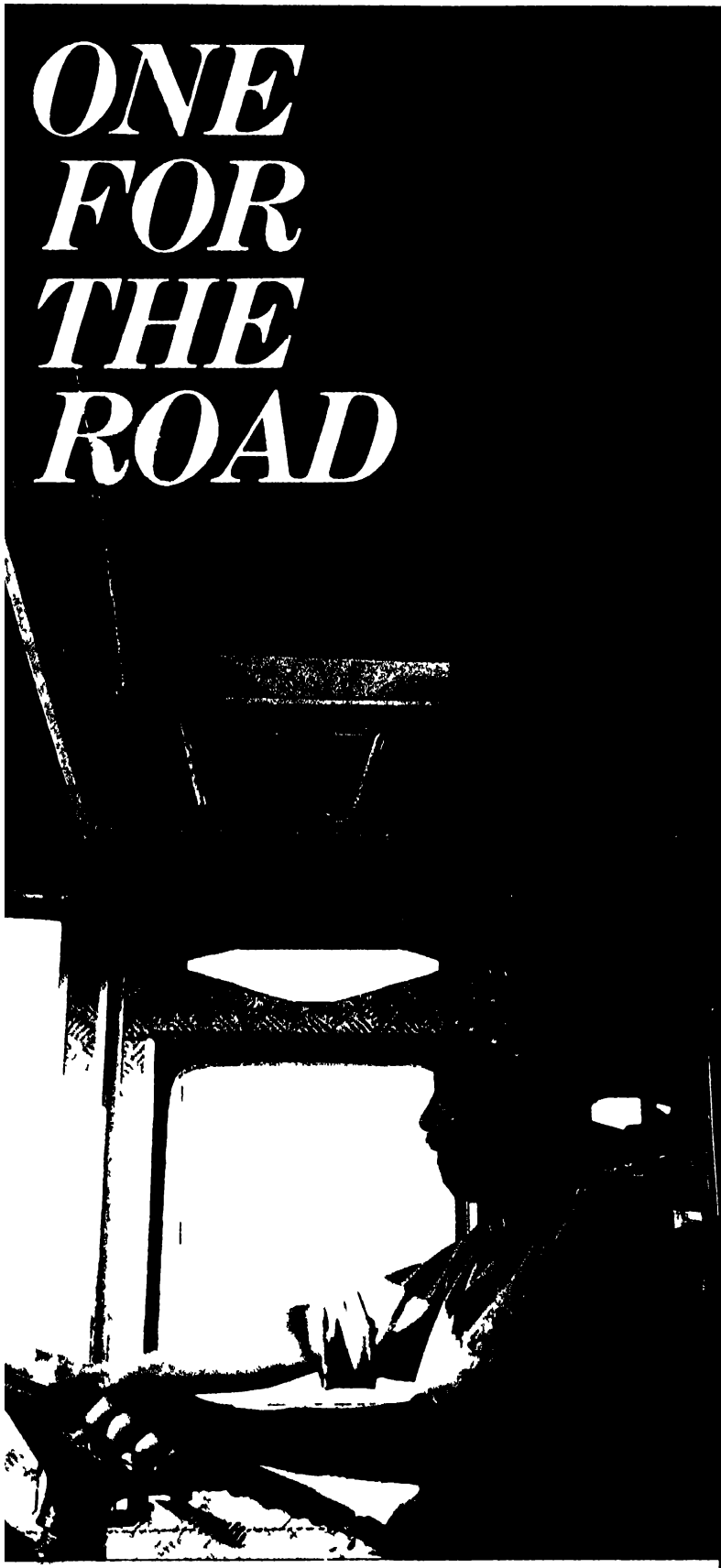
Among the many motifs drawn on trucks are gods and goddesses, religious symbols, animals and birds as well as pleasant sceneries, flowers or maybe just some design fancied by the artist

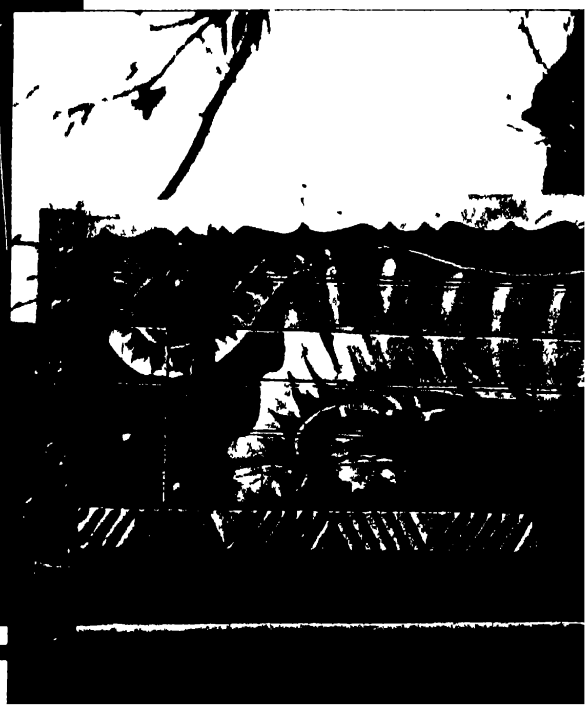
Truckers from all over the Hindi belt in northern India seem to have a preference for a composite painting of Shiva and Durga A large number of trucks carry this image on the crest of the driver's cabin Painted on glass with fluorescent colours, these are fixed with a light bulb behind them, so that after sundown, the light can be turned on to make the portraits of Shiva and Durga visible in the dark

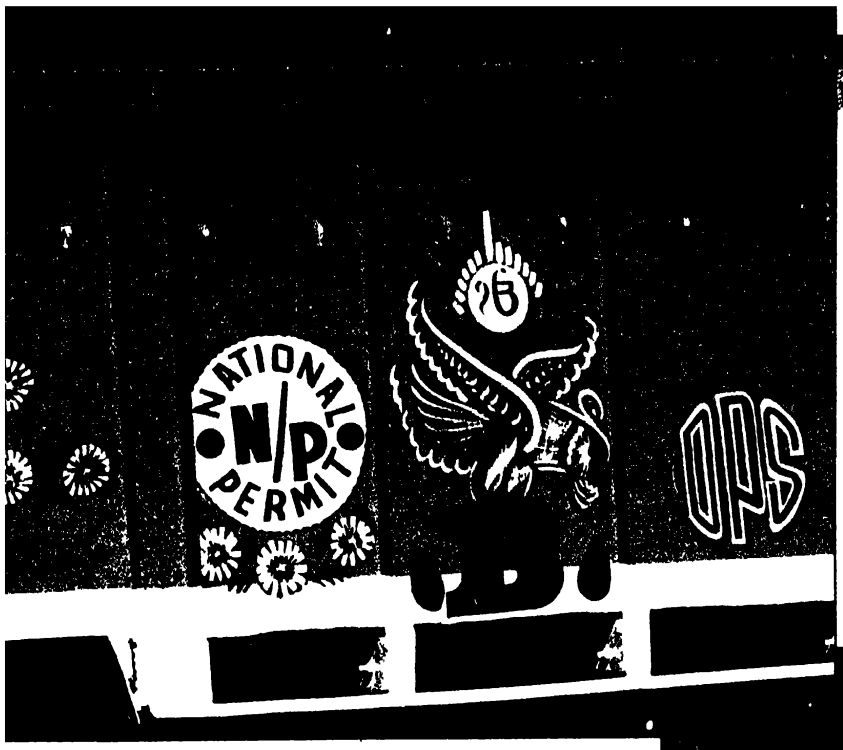
A Sikh truck owner would prefer a portrait of one of the venerable Sikh gurus Separate pictures of Shiva or Durga as well as Lord Krishna in many of his playful childhood moods are also popular but













Travelling down lonely highways, truckers choose to face a tough life with a colourful front. **Arun Ganguly** brings this novel art into sharp focus





these are usually painted on the sides of the trucks

Among the animal motifs, the tiger easily dominates the scene Some truckers like to identify their vehicles with the power and grace of the great cat from the Indian jungle Pictures of bulls and cows are also very popular

Amongst birds a falcon is most favoured probably for its association with speed And the lotus is the most painted flower

In a country as big as India, often a truck has to stay on the road for a number of days on its journey from one state to another That necessitates provision of a reasonable degree of comfort in the driver's cabin Beside the driver's seat is another for his helper The long back seat serves as a bunk as well, while an upper bunk above the back seat provides a second sleeping accommodation The ceiling of the cabin is the only convenient area where a truck artist has the maximum scope for displaying his skill But instead of paint, here the work is done with leather, foam, coloured plastic or laminated sheets and light bulbs Embroidered designs are also used

Between themselves, the proud truck owners and the unsung truck artists add a colourful dimension to a tough and demanding profession. ■



ANOTHER

Competing claims on the Antarctica are dividing the Treaty Nations. The point is: Does the ice-capped continent belong to any one?

When 39 member nations of the Antarctic Treaty meet at Santiago next October to decide Antarctica's environmental future they may be forced to confront an unanswered question from the past: Does anyone own the ice-capped continent?

Dormant for almost 30 years, the issue was rudely awakened at last year's biennial treaty meeting in Paris.

French environment minister Brice LaLonde accused Chile and Argentina of "nationalist behavior" because they rejected French and Australian demands that Antarctica be made a world park where mining and oil development would be permanently banned. LaLonde also excoriated Britain and the US for opposing the demands. The resulting media blitz threw the regular meeting into chaos, forcing delegates to convene two unprecedented special meetings next fall to discuss the so-called Wellington Convention, which started it all.

The convention, under laborious negotiation since 1977, provides that mineral exploration and exploitation can take place in Antarctica only after rigid scientific and engineering requirements are met and only by mutual consent of all treaty members.



For Argentina and Chile the special sessions will merely bring matters home where they belong. Both nations claim large chunks of the continent and generations of schoolchildren have grown up studying maps that show "Antartida Argentina" or "Provincia Antarctia" as part of the national patrimony. Both nations have underlined their claims by establishing colonies there, complete with banks, post offices, tourist facilities, schools and year-round family housing. Since 1978 six Argentine mothers have given birth at Base Esperanza on the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula. Chile's modern airport and sheltered anchorage at King George Island have made Chile vital to the logistics needs of treaty members.

"We Chileans are nearest to being "homo antarcticus,'" says Ambassador Fernando Zegers Santa Cruz, head of Chile's delegation. "We lie only 500 miles from Antarctica. What happens there affects us directly. We introduced the idea that any plans for the Antarctic environment must also consider the dependent ecosystems. Nobody is more dependent than Chile and Argentina. Chile is the third-largest fishing nation in the world. If anything happens to our ocean currents, there go our fish.

"At present, the treaty nations are restrained from mineral development only by a voluntary moratorium that Chile proposed in 1970. The Wellington minerals agreement fills a legal vacuum that might otherwise permit unregulated exploitation. It requires that you must have enough scientific knowledge of any area you are exploiting in order to make it safe—knowledge that does not exist today or for the forseeable future."

Argentina's minister for Antarctic affairs, Alberto Luis Daverede, puts it more bluntly. "Australia and France say they have to respond to citizen concern with the environment," he says. "We share the same goals, but not the methods. Not with big words are we going to protect the environment, but with serious work within the system. We believe these big new initiatives are contrary to Article 4 of the treaty. National claims are a very important issue."

Article 4 carefully spells out that member nations neither recognise nor reject existing claims, and that "no acts or activities taking place while the present treaty is in force shall constitute a basis for asserting, supporting or denying a claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica. ..." Since the treaty also specifies that new

COLD WAR?



Argentine children walk to class on Antarctica's Esperanza Island. Chile and Argentina are the two nations that have colonies in Antarctica, complete with banks, post offices, tourist facilities, schools and year-round housing.

A cross stands atop a hill overlooking Teniente Rodolfo Marsh, a Chilean base on King George Island, Antarctica, one of the South Shetland islands. A modern airport and sheltered anchorage make Chile important to the Antarctic Treaty's 39 member nations. They will meet next October in Santiago, Chile.

provisions can be imposed only by unanimous consent of all members, both Chile and Argentina see the politicising of the minerals issue as a direct threat to the treaty itself. And they see a challenge to territorial claims that have been fiercely insisted on since the turn of the century, when England was the major Antarctic player and South American nations were weak.

Britain laid claim to about two thirds of the continent between 1908 and 1923, assigning large chunks to Australia and New Zealand. Chilean claims go back as far as 1906, but weren't formally defined until 1940 as extending from longitudes 53 degrees west to 90 degrees west. Although Argentina had been active in Antarctica since 1903, it was only in 1942 that the government of Gen. Juan Peron announced formal annexation of all lands between longitudes 25 degrees west and 68 degrees 34 minutes west.

As for other nations, France claimed a narrow wedge called Adelie Land in 1924, neatly slicing Australia's section in two without ever setting foot there. Norway, an old hand in Antarctica, laid claim to Queen Maud Land in 1939.

During World War II, German raiders based on French-owned Kerguelen Island in the southern Indian Ocean sank 193,000 tons of Allied shipping and captured Norwegian whalers. Alarmed by this, and by Argentina's sympathy for the German cause, Britain established secret Antarctic naval bases under the code name Operation Tabarin. This naval mission would later develop into today's British Antarctic Survey.

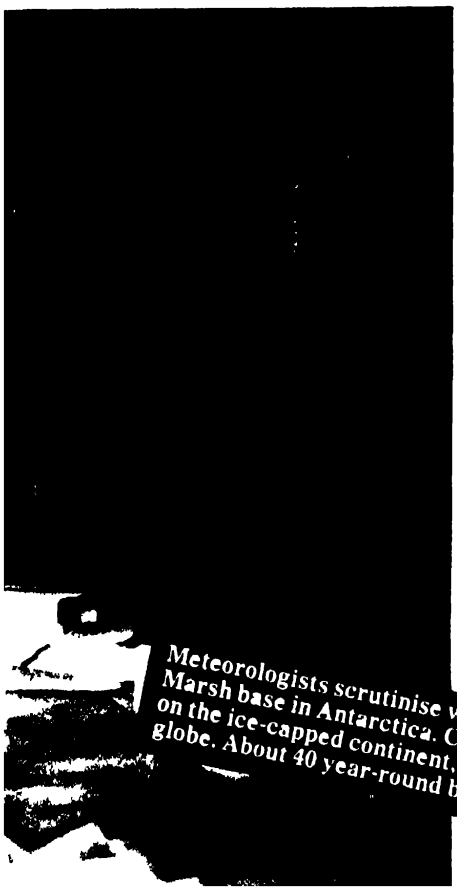
Militarism re-emerged in 1947-48, when a fleet of eight Argentine warships entered Deception Bay to back up establishment of an Argentine base. Britain sent warships in response. Although violence was avoided, both nations were sufficiently concerned to agree that neither would send warships south of latitude 60.

Nevertheless, in 1952 Argentine troops fired machine guns over the heads of a British party attempting to land near Argentina's Esperanza base at Hope Bay. Fear of such military confrontation helped inspire the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, which banned all weapons. Members have scrupulously observed the treaty, sometimes under considerable stress.

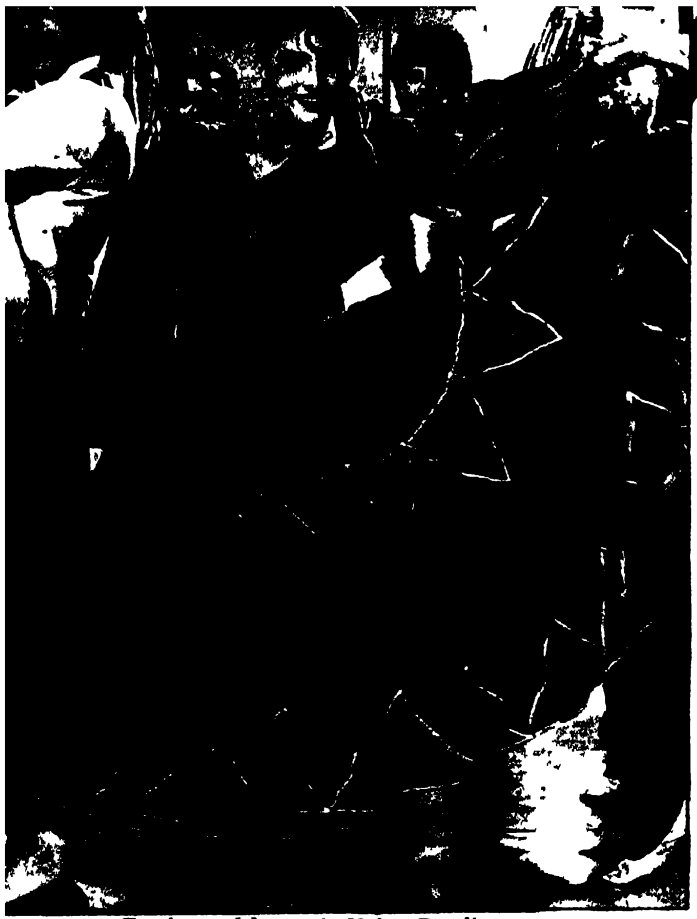
In the Falklands War of 1982, Argentine forces occupied British-held South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, but did not take control of British bases south of latitude 60, which delimits the treaty area. While nearly 900 people died in the short, savage war, scientific cooperation prevailed in the zone of peace.

Treaty members have been able to preserve the main interests: peace, harmony, freedom of scientific research. "We should avoid divisive issues that we've been able to accommodate for the past 28 years," says Ambassador Daverede. "What we do is not perfect," says Ambassador Zegers. "But it is very good."

(National Geographic News Service)



Meteorologists scrutinise weather maps at Teniente Adolfo Marsh base in Antarctica. Climate is a constant consideration on the ice-capped continent, the highest, coldest place on the globe. About 40 year-round bases dot the Antarctic.



Chunkey Panday and Sonam in *Nakaa Bandi*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Amiri Garibi:** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442)—12 3 6 9

A film by Harmesh Malhotra starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor Raj Babbar, Poonam Dhillon and Neelam The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Azaad Desh Ke Gulam:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266)—4 shows

Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, Pran and Prem Chopra are the major attractions in this film, directed by S A Chandrashekhar The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Ghar Ho To Aisa:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138) Krishna (T C Dutta Street 250437), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 551133) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464440)—4 shows

Directed by Kalptaru and with music by Bappi Lahiri the film stars Anil Kapoor Meenakshi Seshadri Raj Kiran, Bindu, Om Prakash and Kader Khan



Satabdi Roy and Prasenjit in *Aapan Aamaar Aapan*

• **Haatimtai:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849)—4 shows

Jeetendra and Sangeeta Bijlani are the lead pair in this film, directed by Babubhai Mistry The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

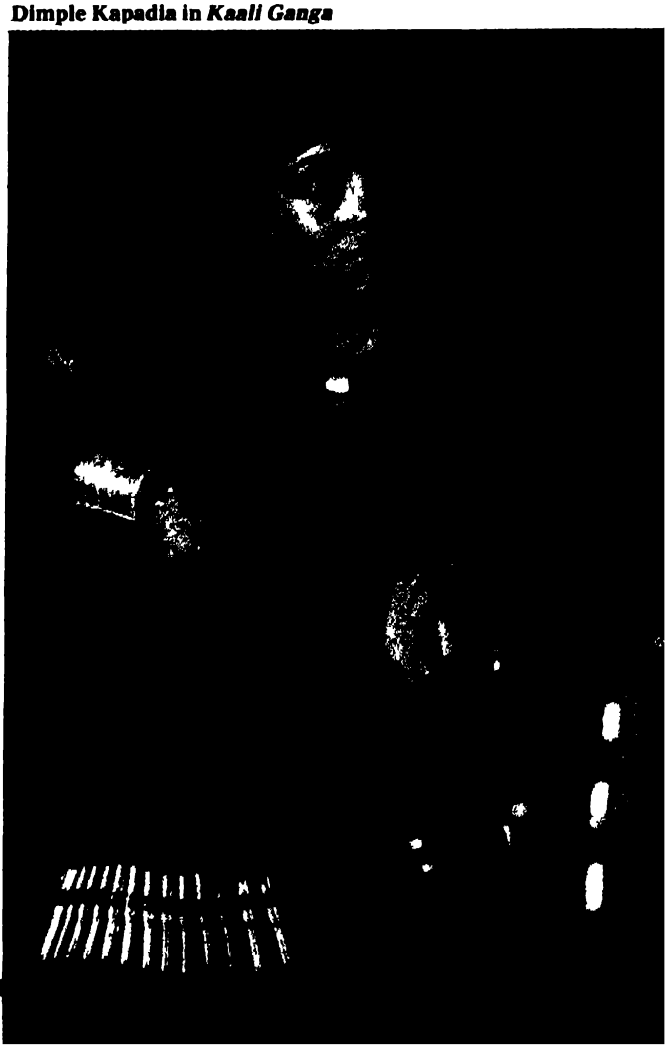
• **Kaali Ganga:** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani, 270147), Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762), Liberty (Sadananda Road, 478141), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street, 554033)—4 shows

A film by Raj Sippy, starring Dimple Kapadia, Govinda, Suresh Oberoi, Anooradha Patel, Om Shivpuri, Gulshan Grover, Satish Shah, Goga Kapoor and Prem Chopra The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)—10 45, 2 15, 5 30, 9, Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows, Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270)—11 30

The biggest hit of recent times, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman

Dimple Kapadia in *Kaali Ganga*



• **Nakaa Bandi:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 272473), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311090)—4 shows

Dharmendra and Sridevi are the lead pair Also in the cast are Chunkey Panday, Sonam, Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri The film is directed by Shibu Mittra and the music is by Bappi Lahiri.

Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—4 shows

A film by Tarun Majumdar, starring Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Indrani Dutta, Sanghamitra Banerjee, Anup Kumar and others The music is by R D Burman

• **Andha Bichar:** Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street,

552270), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—3 shows.

Mithun Chakraborty, Mandakini, Tanuja, Deepa Sahi, Biplab Chatterjee and Sadashiv Amrapurkar star in this Shakti Samanta film whose music is by R.D. Burman.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Awaaz De Kahan Hai:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266)—4 shows,

Directed by Sibte Hasan Rizvi and with music by Naushad, the film stars newcomers Avinesh Wadhwan and Shikha Swarup along with Bindu, A.K. Hangal, Shobha Khote, Satyen Kappu, Jamuna and Annu Kapoor.

• **Awwal Number:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200)—4 shows, Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 351382)—3 shows.

A film by Dev Anand, who also stars along with Aamir Khan, Aditya Pancholi and debutante Ektaa. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Police Public:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311090).

Directed by Esmayeel Shroff and with music by Raam Laxman, the chief attractions of this film are Raaj Kumar, Naseeruddin Shah, Kabir Bedi and Poonam Dhillon.

Special Events

13-18 May: 6.30 pm

Rabindra Janmotsav '90, organised by West Bengal government's information and cultural department, features a programme of Tagore songs at 9.30 am and dance-drama, *Shapmochan*, presented by Tribeni in the evening on 13th; a programme of Tagore songs on 14th, children's programme and puppet drama, *Rather Rashi*, presented by PPT on 15th, *Phalguni*, presented by Chhandik, on 16th; musical feature *Biswatanер Sandhane*, presented by Batayanik, on 17th; *Shatabarshe Manasir Kabita* and recitation of Tagore's poems on 'Prem' on 18th, and dance-drama, *Chandalika*, presented by Nrityangan, on 19th.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

13 May: 6 pm

Anamika Kala Sangam presents a programme of music and dance by its members and their children.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

15 May onwards: 3 pm-8 pm

A fortnight-long exhibition of paintings by the twin Kabasi brothers, Ashis and Debashis.

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Gariahat Road, 755314).

15 and 16 May: 6.30 pm

Anamika Kala Sangam presents the play, *Agnes of God*, produced by Hosi Vasunia Productions (Bombay) and directed by Meher Jahangir, and based on the Oscar-winning film by the same name.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Queens Park).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910, Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1625.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1825.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2): SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7): SQ-413 at 1530; Arr. (2): SQ-416 at 1020; Arr. (4): SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1650; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (1, 3, 7): BG-094 at 1800, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 2100; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 5, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): BG-091 at 1015, Arr. (1, 3, 7): BG-093 at 1645, Arr. (5): BG-095 at 1945.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1315; Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1230.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2, 5): KB-106 at 1430; Arr. (2, 5): KB-105 at 1330.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1640; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262848, 262888, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6) PF-721 at 0930, Arr. (2, 4, 6) PF-722 at 1805
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5) PF-723 at 1045; Arr (1, 3, 5). PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6)· PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 060(
Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

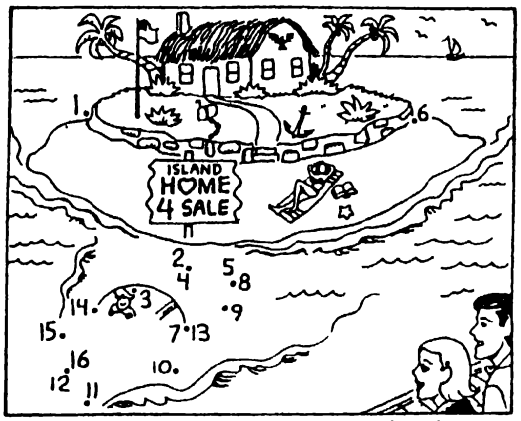
Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep - Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri – Tues, Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs, Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** ia Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

JUNIOR WHIRL ©Hal Kaufman



GETAWAY SPOT! Someone has latched on to the getaway spot above To complete scene, add missing lines dot to dot

• SO TIS! If all the sea was ice cream and all the land was cake and all the trees were doughnuts some folks would YELL BEACH " — W G Patterson Rearrange cap letters to form original rhyming word

Orginal rhyming word Ballyache

1 A N D _ _ _ _ _
2 _ A N D _ _ _ _
3 _ _ A N D _ _ _
4 _ _ _ A N D _ _
5 _ _ _ _ A N D _
6 _ _ _ _ _ A N D

LEND "AND" A HAND!
Challenge Fill blanks of the dia gram above with missing letters to form six eight-letter words containing the word AND stepped off in the manner shown

Definitions
1 Fireplace tools
2 Court game
3 Puzzlement
4 Native Hawaiian, for instance
5 Shock trooper
6 Type of drawing

Upon completing this exercise redraw the diagram and see if you can find another set of intercating AND words
Time limit 2 min

1 Andirons 2 Handball 3 Quandary 4 Islander 5 Commando 6 Freeband

• SUM LETTERS! Convert letters into numbers below to complete a problem in addition Here's how. Number letters of words SLIP 'EM OUT 1 to 9, left to right. Now, replace letters in addition problem below with respective digits above

When transferrals are complete, entire "lot" below should add correctly

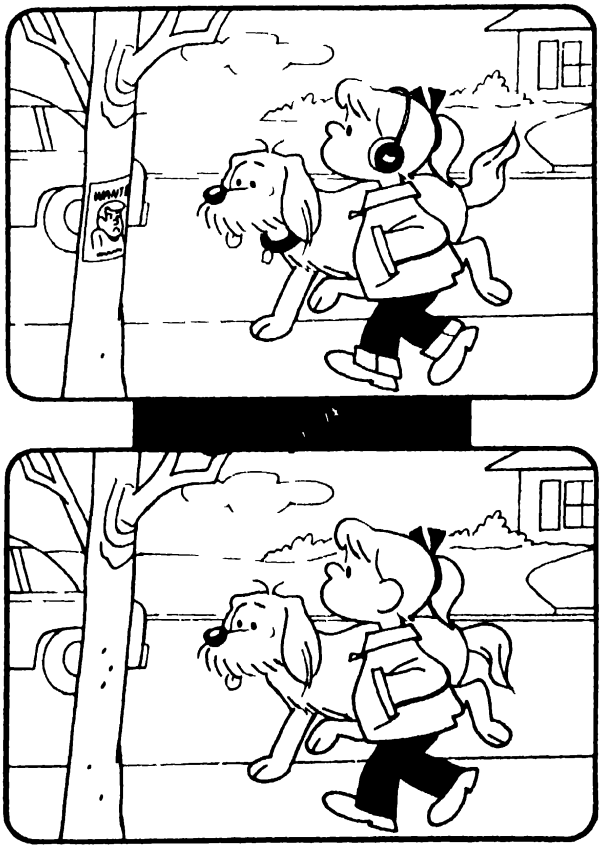
Sum 91 + 85 + 73 + 26 + 4 equals 279

SLIP 'EM OUT



T S
U E
O I
L M
+ P
LOT

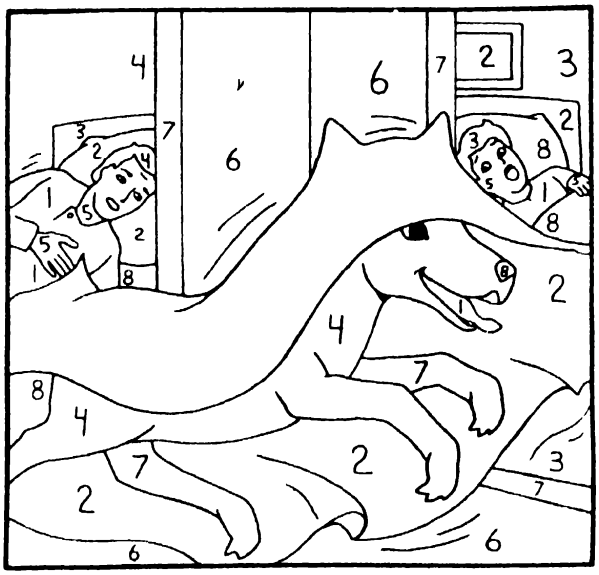
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Car is different 2 Poster is missing 3 Collar is missing 4 Headset is missing 5 Tail is different 6 Cuffs are missing

FUNSPOT



PUP TENSE! Wha dat? A dog posing as a ghost! Who ya gonna call? Ghostbusters! Code 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

FURBELOW

- - - - - - - - -

• THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible anagram Fuel brow

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Loans funds investments marketing shifts and transfers are well signified Happy intimacies and fat profits make a pleasurable week Moments of passion are very much there but also see that you concentrate on the work sector Commuting immigration and long-distance journeys are indicated An old health problem may emerge

TAURUS

April 21 May 20

Partnerships at all levels will be the week s salient features You will get your work done Journey and communication are also well signified Romance for the eligible It is time to meet contact and communicate Your health improves and so does your efficiency and general performance Assignments and contracts offer a greater scope to make money Collaborations are foretold

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Employed Geminis stand to gain Those in property and travel also do well During the last three days of the week your heart goes pit a pat Promotion perks and possibilities of a new business keep you agog and alert By July a contract should come through A lot of commuting and shuttling are predicted during May 11 16

CANCER

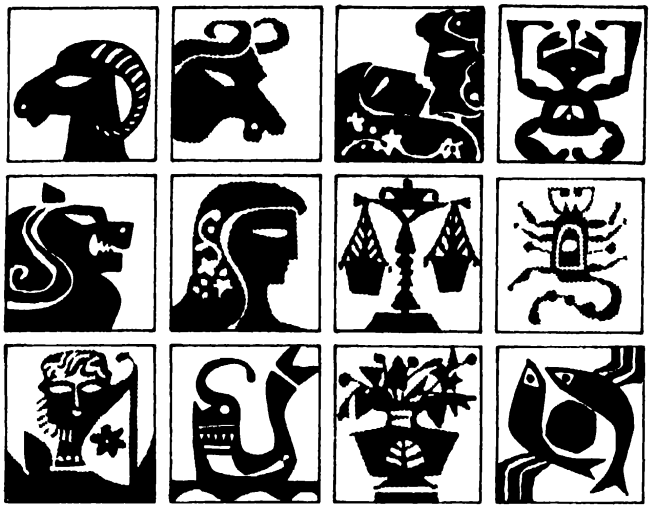
June 21—July 20

The *joie de vivre* will be yours as romance, finance travel socialising good food and more money fly to you A contract can be bagged Job satisfaction is likely It is just the right time for romance It is also travel time Except for minor ailments your health will be more or less sound Home and family bring joy and happiness

LEO

July 21—August 21

The home comes in for a lot of care and attention Travel may be necessary Romance could be absorbing but not trouble-free It will prove expensive too Buying selling, shopping investing and purchasing are foretold Your property and business requirements will make you travel Health safeguards are essential during May 12-15



VIRGO

August 22 –Sept 22

You see more of the neighbours and relatives though paradoxically enough you could be travelling Explorers and scientists will be in their element Expect news messages and calls Loans and funds will be available Investments made and promotion and perks will be yours

LIBRA

Sept 23- Oct 22

Money family and entertainment from the trio Your earnings spending and life-style will be as great as ever Like the curate s egg romance will be excellent in bits and parts Important transactions as well as investments are absolutely certain Travel only if absolutely necessary

BIRTHDAYS

May 13

Moon square Mars: Given the grit and determination, you will get your work done. It is a year of heavy expenses and perhaps investments. Family separations are probable. In short, a birthyear of mixed grill. Learn to accept what you cannot change or overcome.

May 14

Moon trine Mercury: Those in sales, teaching, news, information, advertising agencies and publicity do wonderfully well. Taureans will organise and manage with tremendous practicality and utility.

May 15

Moon conjunction Uranus-Neptune: You could fly off the handle and be a bit erratic but it all should turn out okay. Journey and ceremony are listed. Events, scholastics, research and foreign collaboration will have an extra dimension and dimension.

May 16

Moon square Sun: Confrontation ahead! Your energy to go to the root of a problem will guarantee success While there will be hitches and delays, rest assured that you will triumph because of the powerful impact of the sun on the moon Have faith and use your imagination Those in business do best

May 17

Moon sextile Venus Those in hire, purchase, lease and sales run to the bank in happy anticipation A birthyear of growth, expansion and happy developments. This is a happy combination for housewives. Newly weds amass riches though the danger of accidents persists

May 18

Moon's last quarter, Aquarius: This quarter helps you in expansion and progress but not without conflict and some opposition. Around October and December expect a big boost in your career, loans and funds.

May 19

Moon trine Jupiter: Surgeons, lawyers, preachers, editors, teachers and religious heads get more mileage from this excellent positioning. You will definitely succeed in reaching out to people and places.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Property travel romance and marriage make a fine quartet Romance will be hectic but satisfying The full mooon in your sign indicates expansion A journey with a stopover is indicated The focus is on communication Health problems specially breathing blood circulation colds and knee ailments continue to worry you A property deal could come through

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

The main trends of the week are secret meetings journeys collaborations and foreign and local trips and ties Romance children and hobbies make a tripod for you Be ready to shell out money as a shopping and spending spree is on the cards Important business negotiations and deals are also foretold

CAPRICORN

Dec 21 Jan 19

Friends pitch in for you money hugs you and luck favours you You will have your full share of romance The next 21 days are for a thick wad of crisp currency notes negotiations deals offers promotion of products and resounding success Mars propels you to travel and this should be well worth it

AQUARIUS

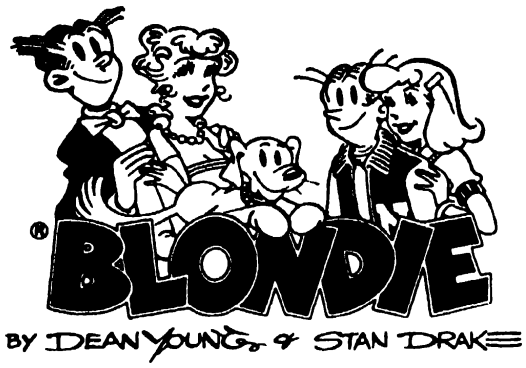
Jan 20—Feb 18

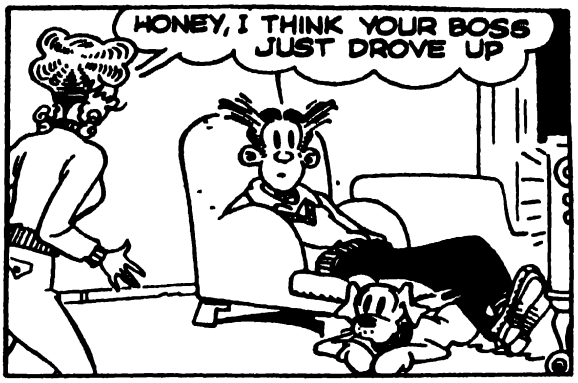
On the work front you will be firing on all cylinders Romance though not ruled out will not be of primary importance By June you should clinch a big financial deal Your work will make you travel a lot Minor health problems continue to nag you It is time to deck your home and feel mighty proud Clothes and toys for kids are a must

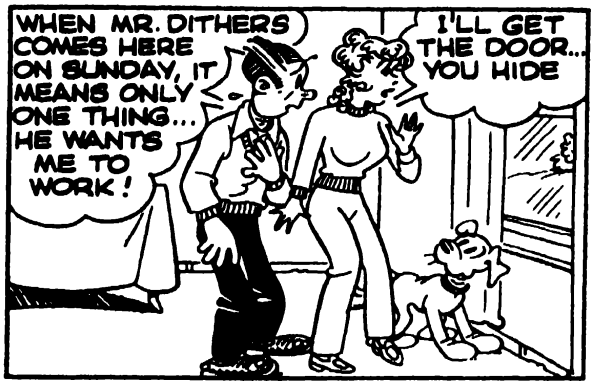
PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Journey ceremony publicity and mighty progress in work are the week s highlights Your love will be a flame with your beloved s dear name An opportunity to make a fast buck as well as long-range planning for future security will be available Traders employers and those in service do well Health remains fine provided you cultivate a balanced and disciplined habit

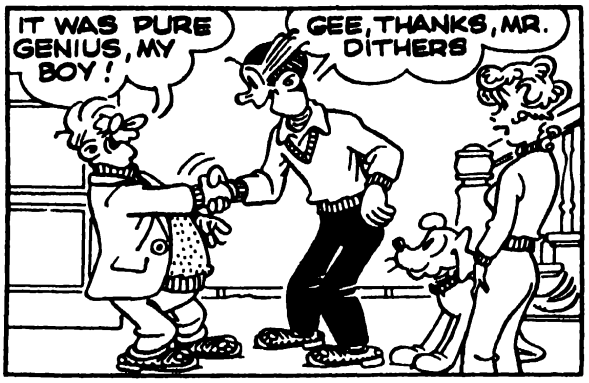


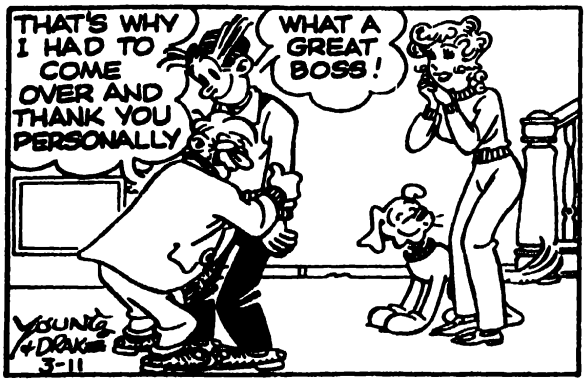




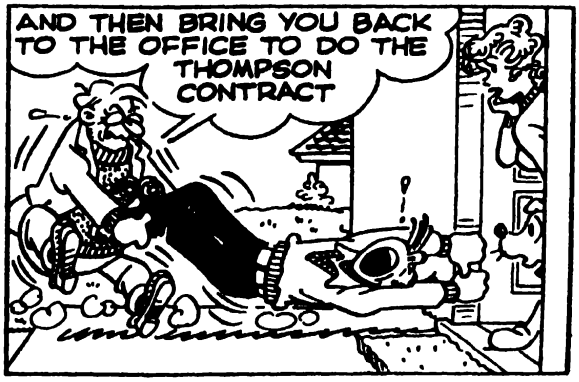


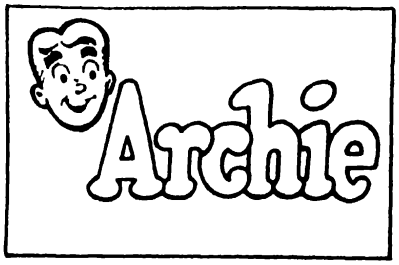






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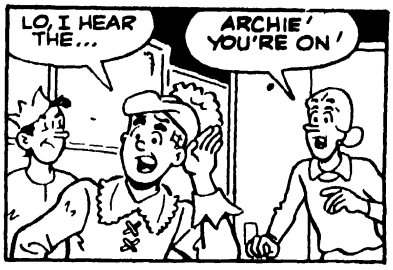


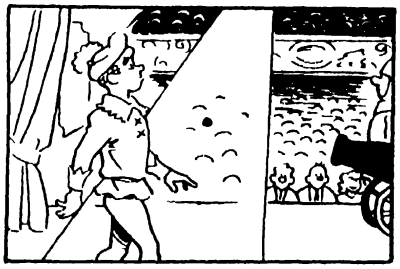


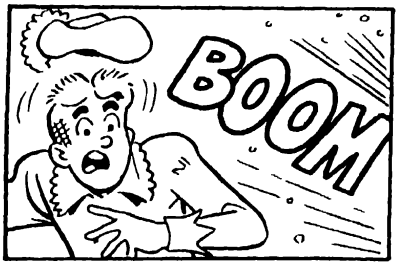


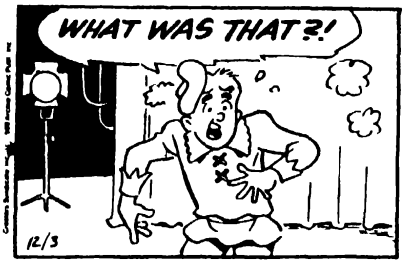




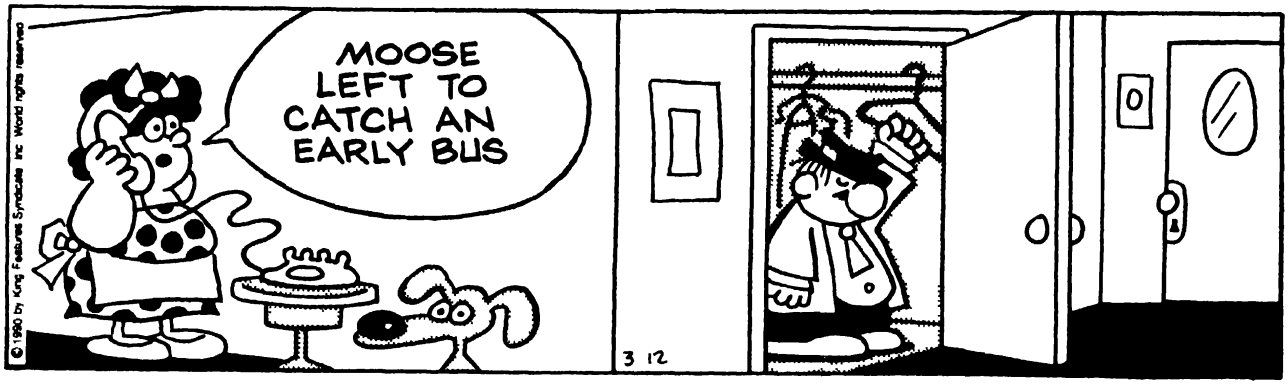




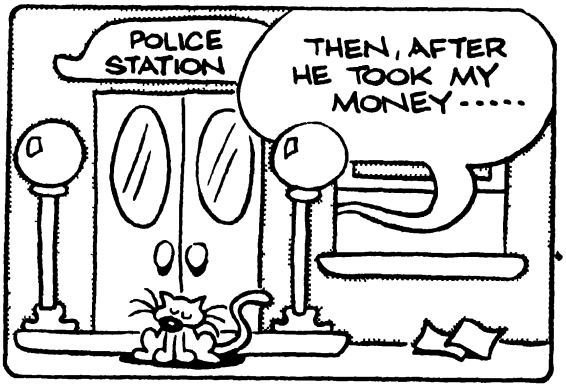




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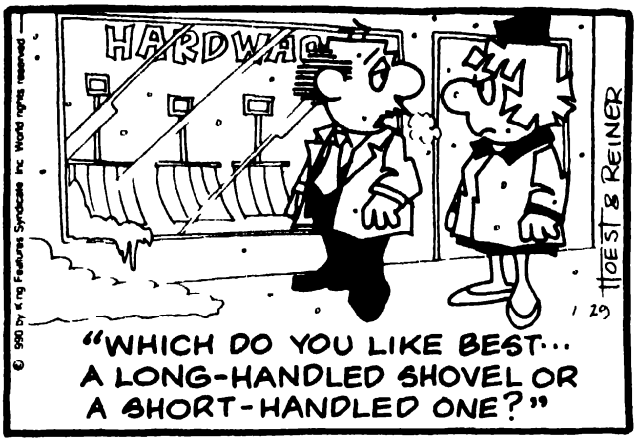
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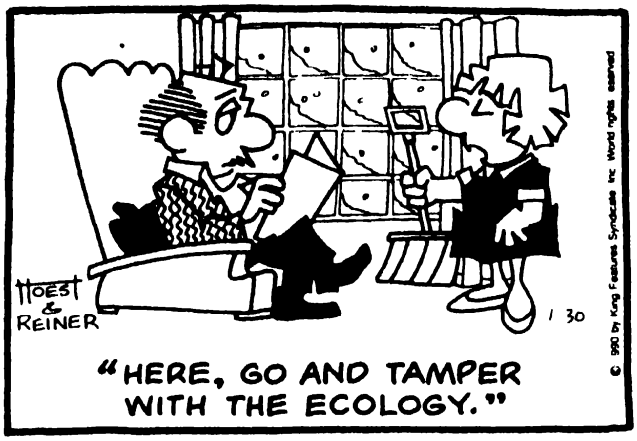


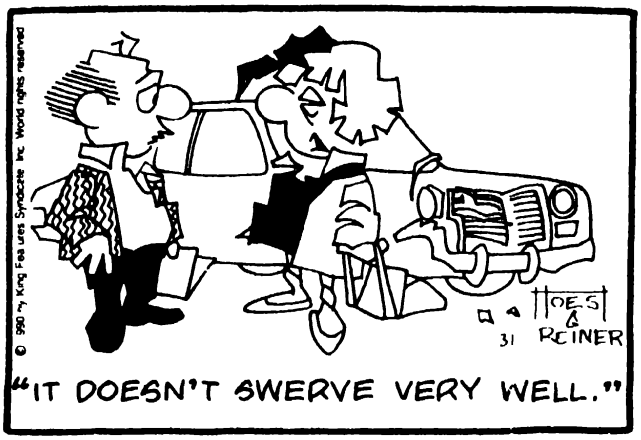


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THE LOCKHORNS

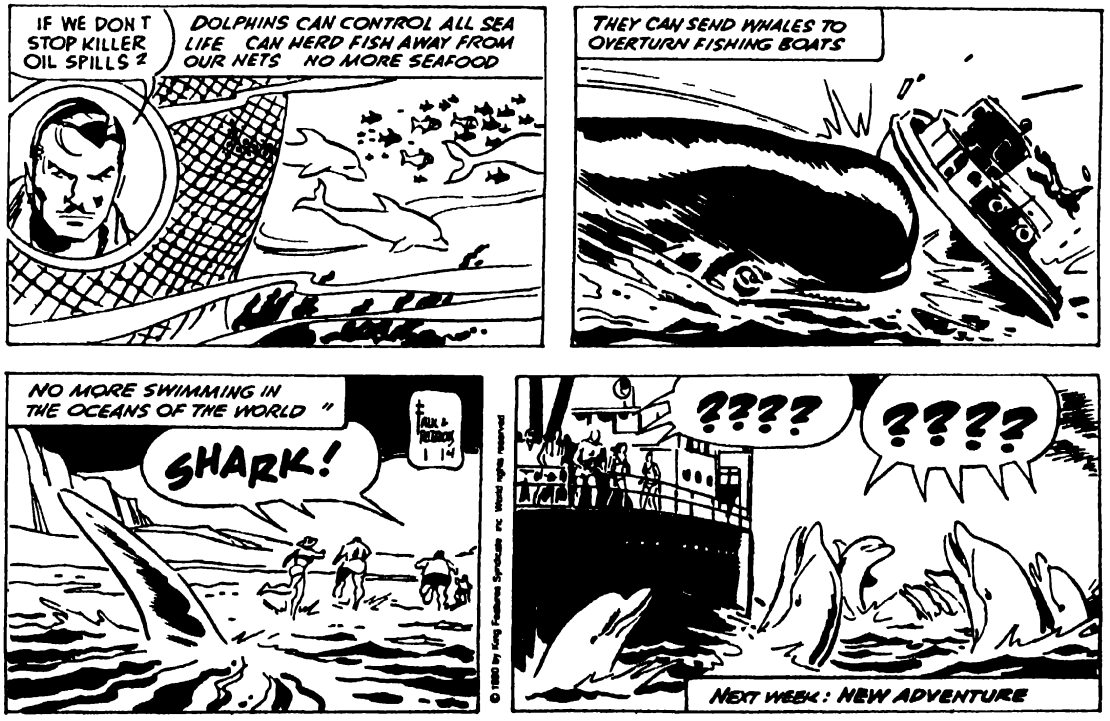








MANDRAKE By Lee Falk




KITCHEN
EGON!
YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME! MAD PIERRE GOT A CAKE FROM HIS MUM AND I ATE IT AND NOW HE'S GOING TO KILL ME! MAKE ME ANOTHER ONE!
DON'T WORRY— I'LL MAKE ONE EXACTLY THE SAME AND HE'LL LET YOU OFF.
RIGHT! FIRST I'LL MAKE THE GRAVY FOR IT!
THAT'S THE BEST CAKE YOU CAN MAKE?
WELL I ONLY HOPE MAD PIERRE WILL ACCEPT THIS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE ONE I NICKED.
HE'LL LOVE IT! THERE'S A SURPRISE FOR HIM TOO!
I PUT A LUCKY COCKROACH IN IT!
DID YOU GIVE PIERRE THE REPLACEMENT CAKE?
YES.
WHAT DID HE DO WITH IT?
LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY— I'M GLAD THE CANDLES WEREN'T LIT.
HALLO! YOU MUST BE THE NEW BLOKE! I'M BEAU!
JINGS! AH'M HAMISH! HOWS IT GOIN' YE WEE RASCAL?
AHA! I'D RECOGNISE THAT LILTING ACCENT ANYWHERE!
TELL ME, HOW IS CARDIFF THESE DAYS?
ER... HAMISH HERE HAS A JOKE TO TELL YOU, DENNIS.
...AN' THE OTHER COO SAYS "DINNIE SHOOGLE IT ABOOT!"
OH, NO! HAR-HAR! HAR-DE-HAR!
WHAT'S HE SAYING?

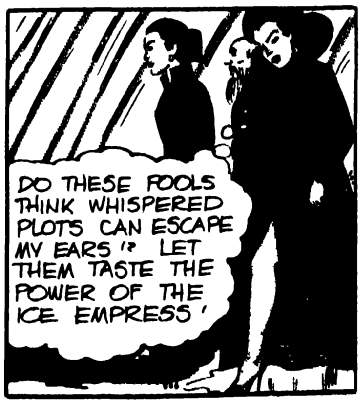

HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™
OUTSIDE THE MAKADAN COURTS OF RULE
IANDIR' YOUR PRESENCE BRINGS GOOD FORTUNE TO OUR PEOPLE


A LIGHT RAIN MARKS A POSSIBLE END TO THE DROUGHT IN THE NORTHERN ISLES
THEN IT'S SETTLED, IANDIR WILL BE QUARTERED WITH AMBASSADOR MIRANDA 'TILL AFTER LAND'S DAY


DUNCAN I FEEL A STORM BLOWING INTO MADAKA AND I DON'T MEAN JUST THIS RAIN!


FIRST THIS STRANGE WOMAN ARRIVES THEN I LOSE CONTACT WITH GRAYSKULL SUDDENLY, POOF! THE DROUGHT ENDS


I M FEELING THE SAME STORM IN MY BONES, HE-MAN THIS IANDIR BEARS KEEPING AN EYE ON!


DO THESE FOOLS THINK WHISPERED PLOTS CAN ESCAPE MY EARS!? LET THEM TASTE THE POWER OF THE ICE EMPRESS!


© 1983 Mattel Inc. © ST EDITORS PRESS SERVICE INC.


WHOOOAAHH!
A PATCH OF ICE!?
HOW DID THAT WATER FREEZE OVER SO FAST?



If you look at your motherland with black-tinted glasses, you will, of course, find enough cause for Tamil separatism. You will even criticise IPKF's "genocide" against the Tamils and champion the LTTE. You will then, like Tamil Nadu chief minister **M. Karunanidhi**,garland yourself for the anti-national tirade....Photograph by ASHOK VAHIE

India's largest selling cameras

Snapper



Snapper offers better value for money A wider range of models And unique features that put it in a class of its own That's why more people smile with Snapper than any other camera

Snapper Cameras *Smiles ahead!*

Marketed by AGFA-GEVAERT INDIA LIMITED

ULKA 11402

India's largest selling cameras

Snapper



Snapper offers better value for money A wider range of models. And unique features that put it in a class of its own. That's why more people smile with Snapper than any other camera.

Snapper Cameras *Smiles ahead!*

Marketed by AGFA-GEVAERT INDIA LIMITED

ULKA 11402

The review of Prem Chopra ('The Good Bad Man', April 15) by Pradeep Kumar was informative. However, it was wrongly said that Amjad Khan's first film was *Sholay* (1975) as he had acted 20 years earlier in National Movietone's *Char Paise* (1955).

It was also unfair of the writer to say that Prem Chopra has not been successful in changing his image in spite of forays into character acting. Prem has done very well in positive roles as in *Jadu Tona* in which he plays the troubled father of a possessed girl. In *Upkar*, he was not just another villain, but a village youth who goes to the city and is misled into thinking that rural life is backward. In *Do Raaste*, too, he played a good guy who gradually gets influenced by his wicked wife and turns hostile. One of his most striking performances was in *Do Anjane* where he plays the middle class Amitabh's friend.

He has done roles with a comic touch in *Raja Jani* and *Chhupa Rustom* with great success. He has also played the good guy in *Para* but in his personal life, he is a gentleman.

Mithun Chakraborty who, from a vagabond in his earlier days, became the industry's highest tax payer should be called 'The Good Bad Man'.

N. Ahamed,
Calcutta

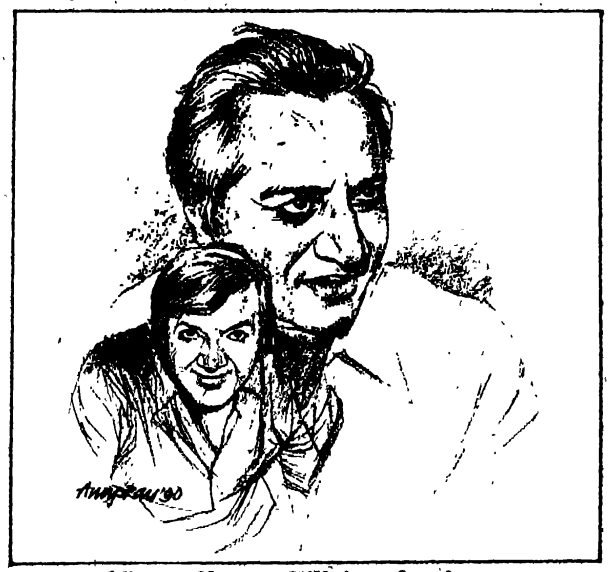
■ It was beyond our expectations that you would put Pran on the cover. Pran's performance has always been good, even if the film flopped. It is said that [illegible] *kuch bata hoon ki shoshke se pattay ko todta hoon*' in *Souten* became very popular. From *Shaheed, Kala Sona, Keemat, Kati Patang* to *Desh Premee*; from *Bobby, Trishul, Prem Nagar, Ghar Ek Mandir, Duniya* to *Betaab*; from *Pukar, Andhaa Kaanoon, Abhimanyu* to *Daata*, Prem Chopra has proved himself to be a match to Pran.

Ramesh Pal Tewari,
Calcutta

■ Pran should rightly have been called, '*Shareef Badmash*', in your cover story. In films he acts as a villain, but in his personal life, he is a gentleman.

[illegible] The most attractive in the issue [illegible] was the tribute to Lata Mangeshkar. But I think you should also publish the original songs along with the translations to help us appreciate them better.

Md. Masoom Akhtar,
Calcutta



Pran and Prem Chopra: Villains of a piece

Uncalled For Drawing

The cover story on Devi Lal ('Taurus', March 11) made good reading, but the cartoon was absolutely uncalled for and hurt the sentiments of Christians. Is the vocabulary of the cartoonist so limited that he can think of nothing other than words like 'Trinity' and 'Holy Ghost'? Christians are a peace-loving people, but they should not be taken for granted.

Sanjay Bose,
New Delhi

■ We are constrained to protest strongly against your publishing the uncalled for and motivated cartoon hurting the religious sentiments of the minority Christian community. We regard with utmost holiness the Holy Trinity as the basis of our Christian doctrine.

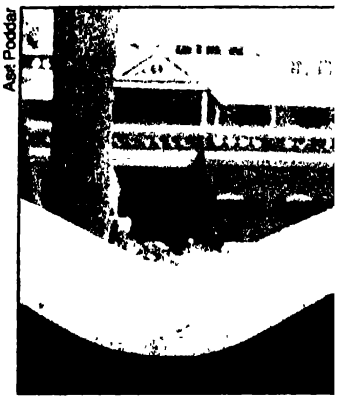
At a time when our dear motherland is troubled with communalism, you are exposing yourselves to the offence of fanning such cancerous growth. Will you dare to do the same with Islam or Sikhism? If you are inclined to bring the idea of the 'Unholy Trinity' in the cartoon, why don't you draw the analogy with Brahma, Vishnu and Maheswar?

Rev. M.K. Swarnakar,
General secretary, The Assemblies of God of North India,
Calcutta

The Telegraph
27 MAY 1990

4 Stanley Laurel, of the riotously funny Laurel and Hardy team, is 100 years old. A tribute to the thin-fat duo of rib-ticklers.

Asit Poddar



14 Rabindra Jayanti was celebrated for the first time in Bangladesh on a national level. A photofeature on the three-day festival there.

16 The Japanese are naturally interested in earthquakes. Hence it is not surprising that large scale sponsorship of seismology research also comes from Japan though many countries are doing useful work in this field.

SECTIONS

11 Heritage
12 Inner Eye
13 Focus
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Quiz
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Stan Laurel, the senior partner of the famous duo of rib-ticklers, is 100 years old. But that has hardly dated their sense of the comic. **Soma Guha** and **Moyna Sen** give Laurel and Hardy a thump on the back

STILL GOOD FUN A LAUGH



Flashback: Me And My Pal (1933)
Wireless: Ladies and gentlemen! It is with pleasure that I announce that Mr Oliver Norvell Hardy is to be married today at high noon to the only daughter of that well known oil magnate, Mr Peter Cucumber. The wedding is to be held right home and will be one of those highlights of the social scene...
A blissful Mr Hardy is at tea, soothed by the words on air. Mr Stanley Laurel, package under his arm, breaks in on the radio-radiance.
Ollie (pointing to the package): What's that?
Stan (scratching his head, looking up and trying to recall): Uh... well, it's a wedding present I bought for you.
Ollie: What is it?
Stan: Guess?
Ollie: I haven't got time to guess. Open it and show it to me.
With a broad grin, Mr Laurel tears off the wrapping and holds up the gift. A jigsaw puzzle.
Ollie (disappointed and mystified): Now, why did you have to buy a thing like that?
Stan: Well, now that you are going to be married, you won't be going out much at night and I thought it'll be something for us to play with.
Ollie: My playing days are over. My time is too valuable to waste on such childish balderdash. Don't you realise that I'm about to become a big oil magnate? You know what a magnate is, don't you?
Stan: Sure. A thing that eats cheese.

Laughter for a custard-pie! Giggle for taking a tumble! Allround applause for a Tubby Titter and a Skinny Snicker? Absurd! Ha! Ha! The fat man makes eyes at the camera—his timing is definitely off—but then, heh, heh...he does it again and takes off his hat with a flick of his finger and...goodness! Falls splash into the bath tub! Haw! Ha! Ha! Look at the thin guy scratch his head and fumble. And scratch his head and fumble. And scratch—a shout from the tub. A pull. A kick. And ho! ho! A drenched duo. What a laugh—no, no, what a gag, pulled off by a pair of wags. Set apart the whys and hows. The critic, take a backseat now. Back to Fun—hearty, wholesome and dripping with the good ol' days. A ride to the start of the last hundred years. When Laurel as Arthur Stanley Jefferson was born in Ulverston, England on June 16, 1890.

"Baw-aw-o-ll-iiii-ee," yelled the new-born Stan, and promptly two years after, the roly-poly Ollie took shape in Atlanta, USA. Younger while living but older in death, Oliver Norvell Hardy was born on January 18, 1892. While he was growing up and trying to decide between an attorney's office and the cinema, Stan, after a grammar school education, was already miming out a future at The Juvenile Pantomime Company in 1903 and playing the music halls.

1910: Busy running a cinema, how was Ollie to know that Stanley Laurel, the Chaplin understudy, had set foot on Columbus' land with Fred Karno's Company? And how was Stan to know that Oliver Hardy was just around the corner, running a cinema and trying for bit-parts? So it was back home and backing Chaplin once again for Stanley Laurel.

Then it was 1913. Laurel in US Vaudeville. Hardy, an extra on screen. Laurel imitating Chaplin. Hardy acting the heavy in Billy West comedies. Years roll on. Enter Stan as Hickory Hiram in Adolph Ramish's two-reeler *Nuts In May* (1918). Exit Hickory as Stan following the sack after three or four shorts. A stint with Broncho Billy Anderson in *Lucky Dog*. Next, Stan in a series of spoofs for the Metro: *Mud And Sand, When Knights Were Cold*. Move in: Hal Roach and his studio. Move out: Hal Roach and his studio. Over to Universal and his own *The Stan Laurel Series*. Luck flunks. Roach to the rescue with shorts over 50.

Laurel was just beginning to enjoy the fame of a fun-fuddled face in 1926, when 'Babe' Hardy, the star of Larry Semon comedies, swaggered in on the scene.

Flashback: The Laurel+Hardy Murder Case (1930)
Legal Notice: Will the heirs to the 3,000,000 estate of the late Ebenezer Laurel be at the Laurel Mansion at 8 o'clock in the night for the reading of the will. L.A.H.
Mr Laurel and Mr Hardy decide they need a rest. They have been looking for work since 1920. Ollie has a spark.
Ollie: Stan, was your father's and mother's name Laurel?



Still from *Sons of the Desert*

Stan: Sure. Why?
Ollie: Did you ever have any relatives?
Stan thinks hard.
Ollie: Where were you born?
Stan: I don't know.
Ollie (disbelievingly): C'mon, you don't know where you were born?
Stan: Why, I was too young to remember. How do I know where I was born?
Ollie: Didn't you once tell me that you had an uncle?
Stan: Sure, I have an uncle. Why?
Ollie (moving closer): Now we're getting somewhere. Is he living?
Stan: No, he fell through a trap-door and broke his neck.
Ollie: Was he building a house?

STRIPPING FOR A LAUGH

For the youngster still to be initiated to movie halls, it is in the comic books that he takes refuge to be tickled by the endless escapades of the bumbling duo. Undoubtedly, it was the screen popularity of the two that inspired the concept of the comic series by Larry Harmon. But that, in turn, carved out an audience of its own. In fact, the popularity of the comics was such that rather than one depending on the success of the other, they became two separate success stories. Except, that the films had an audience that cut across age barriers, while the comic strips were basically for the children.

The fat pompous Ollie, ever-domineering and the perpetual bane of the bland-faced Laurel's love for a peaceful, indolent life would be the constant butt of the comic situation. In his bid to outwit Laurel in situations where the latter would, often accidentally, carry off a job with complete elan, Ollie would land himself in the most outrageous mess and naturally dump the blame on Stan.

Oliver, the hard taskmaster, would make the clumsy Stan do the hardy jobs like painting the house or chopping the wood. Inevitably, Stan would leave everything topsy turvy, leaving Ollie to tear his hair in utter desperation, while he would look on with the unconcerned air of a person who wonders what on earth is all the hullaballoo about. But Stan bereft of any ambition or high-flying ideas is the more practical and level-headed of the two, who would often see Ollie driving himself into trouble, but his warnings would naturally be brushed aside by the ever-confident Ollie. Their comedy is essentially situational, slapstick in nature and action-packed. But in comic strips it is also necessary to have punchy dialogues because it is difficult to sustain a reader's interest with only heavy-sounding words like 'thud', 'slam', 'whoosh' and 'boom'.

Take that camelback ride through the desert as newly appointed legionnaires. Ollie and Stan encased in a uniform and a hat to keep out the desert heat trudge along till Ollie decides to confess to his mate his dislike for the job.

Stan: If you don't like the foreign legion, why did you join?
Ollie: To learn foreign languages. They told me the best place to learn them was abroad. Why did you join?
Stan: To forget.
Ollie: To forget what?
Stan: I can't remember.
An officer stops them: Hey you two!
Stan to Ollie: He's talking to you.
Ollie: Me? He said 'you two'.
Stan: That's right. If he had wanted me too, he'd have said, 'You three'. You're so fat, you count for two.

Stanley Laurel's sense of repartee is also much better than his counterpart's. In fact, contrary to what most critics would have us believe, Stan Laurel is a definitely not the dumber of the two. He would be the one to take full advantage of the situation in most cases and walk away unscathed while Hardy would be left cursing and wanting to retrieve the situation, this time with him in command.

Another episode: The two manage to get a job as airline guards, mainly at Oliver Hardy's initiative, because Stan would like nothing better than to laze around.

Stan to Ollie: Perhaps it is dangerous, Ollie.
Ollie: Don't talk rubbish, Stanley. What on earth can happen to us when we are up in an aeroplane?
Stan: Perhaps nothing on earth can happen to us, but plenty can happen in the air.

One of the most hilarious situations arise from the constant ego tussle that goes on between the two. Laurel is a party to it in a much more subdued way, not letting it get the better of himself while plump Ollie gives it free play and lets himself into the most embarrassing situations. Stanley wins a $10 reward on returning a valuable dog to its owner. Lest Ollie relieves him of the money, he returns home only after spending it on a good feed. Ollie not to be outwitted by Stanley, goes out in search of a valuable dog. The next day Stan finds Ollie behind the bars—

Stan: What's happened Ollie?
Ollie: (With tears streaming down his cheeks) Boo-hoo, I found a valuable dog, but it turned out that I found it before it was actually lost.

What probably made the comic strips more endearing to the readers was the knowledge that characters with names and appearances like that actually existed. Laurel and Hardy were probably the most popular duo to hit the silver screen, but they were not to be outstripped even as far as the comic pages went!

Stan: No, they were hangin' him. Poor ol' uncle.

It happened this way. Laurel was directing *Get'em Young*, in which Hardy had a small part as a butler. But Hardy fell sick and Laurel played the part. That brought them close. Acting together in *Slipping Wives* brought them closer. They were tried out in about ten two-reelers, till Roach and his Comedy All-Stars team made them into a permanent pair. And the best of friends. *Putting Pants on Philip* (1927) was their first short, where Laurel (Philip) in a Scottish kilt embarrasses his rich Yankee relative Hardy. The film was not typical Laurel and Hardy, but the duo ambled on gathering no moss but momentum. The pompous, portly, gentleman Ollie—"My dear madam, being a true southerner, chivalry is my middle name, to say nothing of hospitality,"—and wiry, crushed and confused Stanley with a child's luck and maliciousness. His 'uh...s' and 'huh?s' really came into being with *The Battle Of The Century* (1927). Throwing one custard-pie was a cliche at that time. By throwing thousands of them in *The Battle*, Laurel and Hardy made it big-time fun.

Flashback: A Chump At Oxford (1940)
Laurel in a maid's garb and Hardy as a butler attends to a dinner.
Host (to Laurel): Would you please serve the salad without any dressing?
Laurel (aside to Hardy): What kind of a joint is this?
Hardy: What's the matter?
Laurel: They want us to serve the salad undressed.
Hardy: Well, if that's the way they want it, that's the way they shall have it.
Laurel, the maid, serves the salad in his pyjamas.

With Jean Parker in *The Flying Deuce*





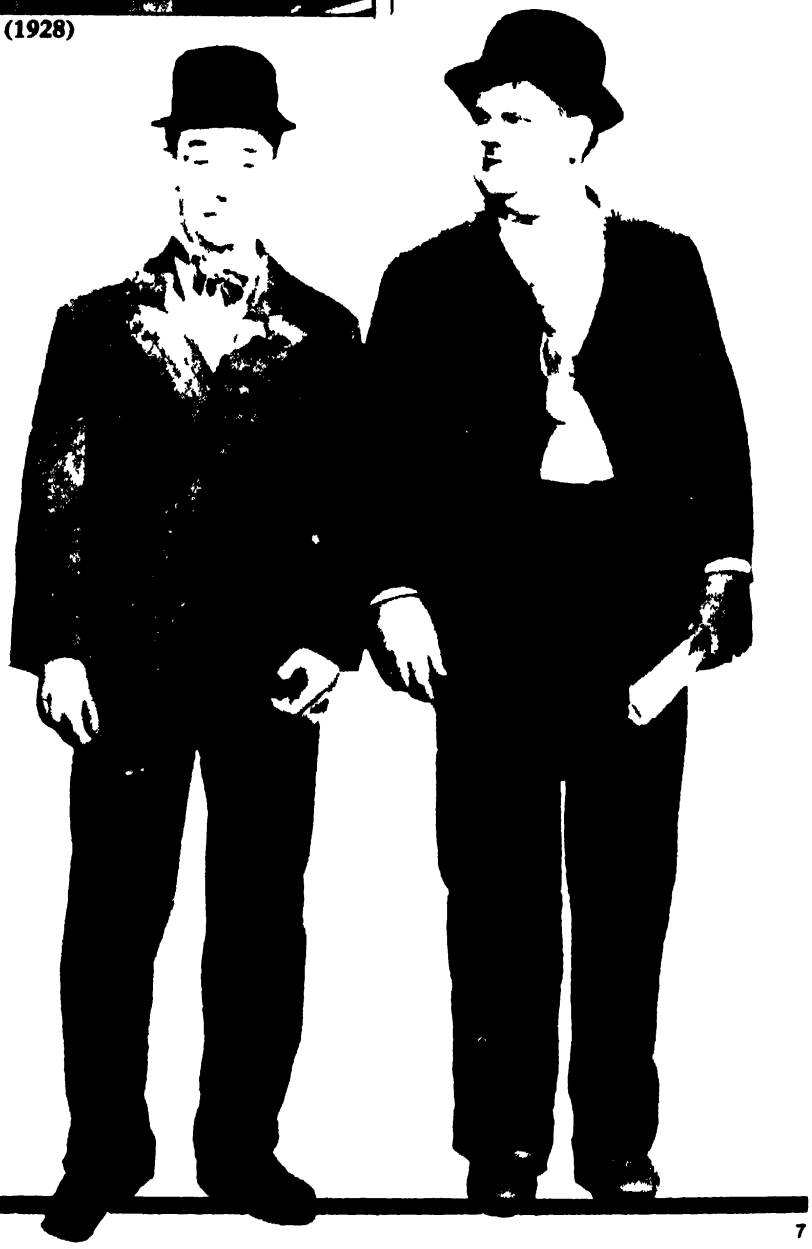
***Leave 'Em Laughing* with Edgar Kennedy (1928)**

Another flashback Blockheads (1938)
Stan and Ollie are climbing up the stairs to Ollie's apartment
Stan How long did you say it would take us to get up there?
Ollie Oh, just a jiffy
Stan (after a thoughtful while) How far is a jiffy?
Ollie About three-sixth of a dead lamb's tail
Stan Then I think it's quite far
They reach the seventh floor They are aiming for the 13th
Stan Seven How many with seven make thirteen?
Ollie Six
Stan Then we've only got six more jiffys

On screen, Ollie tended to bully Stan for bumbling Stan was always deflating tyres, keeping washed dishes on a stove to dry, saying the wrong word, trying to remember But Ollie bumbled too It was Ollie who lost the way, super-confident of his sense of direction, it was Ollie who found himself at the end of a gun, failing to see through Stan's tall tales, it was Ollie who fell flat on his back trying to carry Stan who, Ollie thought, was lame but really wasn't Stan and Ollie started out as the next-door men, added one gaffe to another, one daft act followed by the next that ultimately paved the way for a chaotic climax Behind the screen, Laurel was the creative one On screen, Hardy matched his talent

What was that special something that made them tick, down the ages? Subtle wit? Not them Tongue-and-cheek? Not them Satirical significance? Not them Hint of Chaplin? Pep of slapstick? Yesh, yesh, yes But more than all this—good, clean fun Laurel and Hardy were simple funny men—one an 'apple-cheeked boy' full of hot air, the other an eternally innocent thinny—their physical disparity itself a cause for the chortle The chortle turned to convulsion as the characters were revealed—the audience could not but feel a bond of sympathy and amusement at such constant bungles and bumbles The way the duo managed to retain dignity even in their most ignominous minutes was no mere joke It was nb-tickling rollicking fun

Theirs was a humour without strain Oh, they huffed and puffed hauling the piano up and down and down and up the stairs in *The Music Box*, and grunted and groaned taking off the wrong pair of boots in *Be Big*, Laurel shivered hanging out of a window and Hardy with a broken leg howled dangling from the ceiling in *County Hospital* Ollie fiddled with his tie for the



THE OTHER FUNNIES

umpteenth time and Stan fumbled and fingered his hair and laughter came easy. In fact, they were the only stars who were not hassled by the talkies It was a smooth transition from silence to sound for the otherwise bumbling duo That was one thing that gave them no trouble in their rough-and-tumble existence on-screen and off.

Flashback. Be Big (1930)

Mr Hardy is a man of great care, caution and discretion Mr Laurel is married, too The Hardys and Laurels are about to go on a vacation. Tempted to attend a stag-party on the evening of their departure, Mr Hardy shams sickness as an excuse to stay back. He wants Mr Laurel to stay back too.

Hardy: You wouldn't mind staying back and taking care of me, would you,Stanley? Laurel: Well, if it's all the same to you, I would rather go.

Mr Hardy promptly gives him a kick The taxi arrives

Mrs Laurel (to her husband) Well, make up your mind. What do you want to do? Laurel. I just said I wasn't going

Real life saw Laurel and Hardy as the best of friends, surviving through thick and thin—in a way their wives never did.

Stanley Laurel and Oliver Hardy's phenomenal success on the screen had naturally also set off other aspirants in the same direction and not without success too. One of the more popular comic duos to capture the cinema audience in the late thirties were Bud Abbott and Lou Costello. Bud Abbott was the straight man, Lou Costello the funny one, a roly-poly little man prone to mishap and misunderstanding. They were a comedy team of the forties and the early fifties and their humour was mainly verbal and too immediate.

Costello started out his life as a salesman in a hat shop, became a prize fighter and saved enough to try his luck at Hollywood. Abbott came from a show business family. They formed a team in 1930 and carried on for seven years without any result at the end of which a radio booking in New York led to their popularity as radio artistes. Their film career began with *One Night in the Tropics* (1940) and audience response was so enthusiastic that Universal signed a long-term contract with them.

A standard pattern of comic situations was followed: they were put in a specific situation (an army installation, a departmental store) where maximum havoc would be wrought, relieved now and then by a love story involving two of the studio's most innocuous players. Often well-known artists would be brought in to bolster them.

Towards the end of the forties there was a definite dip in their popularity. At the time of Costello's death Abbott was suing him for over $222,000 which he claimed as dues from their TV series. Abbott died in 1974 without seeing any revival of interest in their films although in the forties they were among the top 10 draws.

Buster Keaton was one of the comedians of the time who was appreciated for having developed his own brand of comedy. Born Joseph Francis Keaton in 1895, he spent his childhood doing knockabout vaudeville acts with his parents. Keaton was a vaudeville headliner when at the age of 21 he accepted an offer from Fatty Arbuckle to enter films. Between 1920-23, Keaton wrote, co-directed and starred in a series of exciting shorts, most memorable of which were *One Week* (1920),

Groucho Marx



Bud Abbott and Lou Costello



The Boat (1922) and the *Electric House* (1922). Keaton projected a character of two sharply contrasting elements: a dignified and straightfaced young man with weird body movements. Keaton loved knockabout comedy, films laced with pretty girls. But like Charlie Chaplin, he also liked comedy themes.

Keaton's rapid rise in the twenties was matched by his decline in the early thirties. He spent the remainder of his career doing bit roles, including one in Chaplin's *Limelight*.

Harold Lloyd, born in 1893 in Nebraska, was first of that era's comedians to enter films. Following his debut in 1912 when he worked as an Indian extra in an Edison Western short, he acted in several comedies for Keystone and Universal movies. Financed by a person named Roach he started acting in a series of one-reelers about a lazy fellow named Willie Work. But it bombed at the box-office.

Harry Langdon, a veteran of vaudeville, burlesque and the circus came to films in the mid-twenties. He became such a hit in two-reelers that he was hailed as Chaplin's most likely successor. But impractical handling led to financial disasters and Langdon returned to short subjects, never again to regain status as a major star.

The Marx Brothers occupied a special place in the popularity chart of comedy actors. Groucho, Chico, Harop and Zeppo made their film debut in 1929 in Paramount Films' *The Cocoanuts*, an adaptation of their Broadway success. Marx had a unique style of blending slapstick and sophistication which made runaway hits of movies like *Animal Crackers* (1931), *Horse Feathers* (1932) and *Duck Soup* (1933). They retired on completing *The Big Store* and then gradually branched out into different careers.

Mae West added to the variety in comedy in the thirties with her blatant satires on sex in *She Done Him Wrong* and *I'm No Angel*. In fact variety was definitely a thing to note in the comedies of the forties onwards with the actors equally adept at comedy and drama. Danny Kaye's *Secret Life of Walter Mitty* and the double family comedy by Doris Day and David Niven in *Please don't eat the daisies* (a novel by Jean Kerr) are two of the remarkable films of the era. The Honeymooners with Art Carney and Jackie Gleason were a duo that took off largely on Laurel and Hardy. Surprisingly, their popularity never waned, the serial still being run on American TV.



With Lupe Velez in *Hollywood Party*

(Laurel married four times and Hardy twice) They put across 24 brilliant shorts—including *The Finishing Touch, You're Darn Tootin', From Soup To Nuts, Leave 'em Laughing, Liberty, Big Business, The Hoosegow* and other familiar names—in the 1928-1929 period, generally considered their golden period These quick-capers were mostly directed by Leo McCarey and included notables like James Finlayson and Edgar Kennedy The brilliance spread out to the thirties which threw up titles like *Be Big, The Laurel And Hardy Murder Case, Laughing Gravy* and *Pardon Us*, which ultimately became a feature. More shorts followed, like *The Chump, Scram* and *The Music Box* which won them an Oscar. In *Thicker Than Water*, each ended up as the other, Laurel Hardy and Hardy Laurel.

But Laurel having grown tired of two-reelers—they announced a break with Roach and Hardy but instead turned out a superb dance duet with Hardy in the feature *Bonnie Scotland*. Announcement of a break-up again came following the super-hit *Way Out West* (1936) but things patched up by the end of next year and they went on to make *Swiss Miss* and *Blockheads* which dealt with situations arising out of a 20-year separation.

There was a break in real life too when Laurel's contract with Roach ended and Roach tried pairing up Hardy with Harry Langdon. The effort fell flat Laurel and Hardy formed their own company but due to lack of sponsors, they had to tie themselves with the big studios. Allowed no creative control, the titles of their last films, like, *A Haunting We Will Go*, and *Nothing But Trouble*, strangely reflected the shadow of sadness surrounding their smiles Crushed by the failure of their last film together, *Atoll Ka/Robinson Crusoeland* (1951) and weighed down by money and marriage problems Laurel and Hardy ended up with a raw deal.

Flashback. Blockheads (1938)

Twenty years after the war, a pilot finds Laurel still guarding his post. Thinking him to be enemy, Laurel raises his gun.
Pilot You idiot Put that thing down.
Laurel War is war and I've got my orders.
Pilot You blockhead, the war's been over for 22 years.
Laurel: It doesn't make any difference. When I'm told to do something... What did you say?
Pilot: The war's been over for 20 years.
Laurel: Huh! How time flies. Just seems like yesterday.. That accounts for it. For things being kind of quiet around here.

When Hardy died of a paralytic stroke in 1957, things must have been much quieter for a devastated Laurel. Stan Laurel died of a heart attack in 1965. And since then, things have definitely become much quieter for the movie-goer. ■

Sportsworld

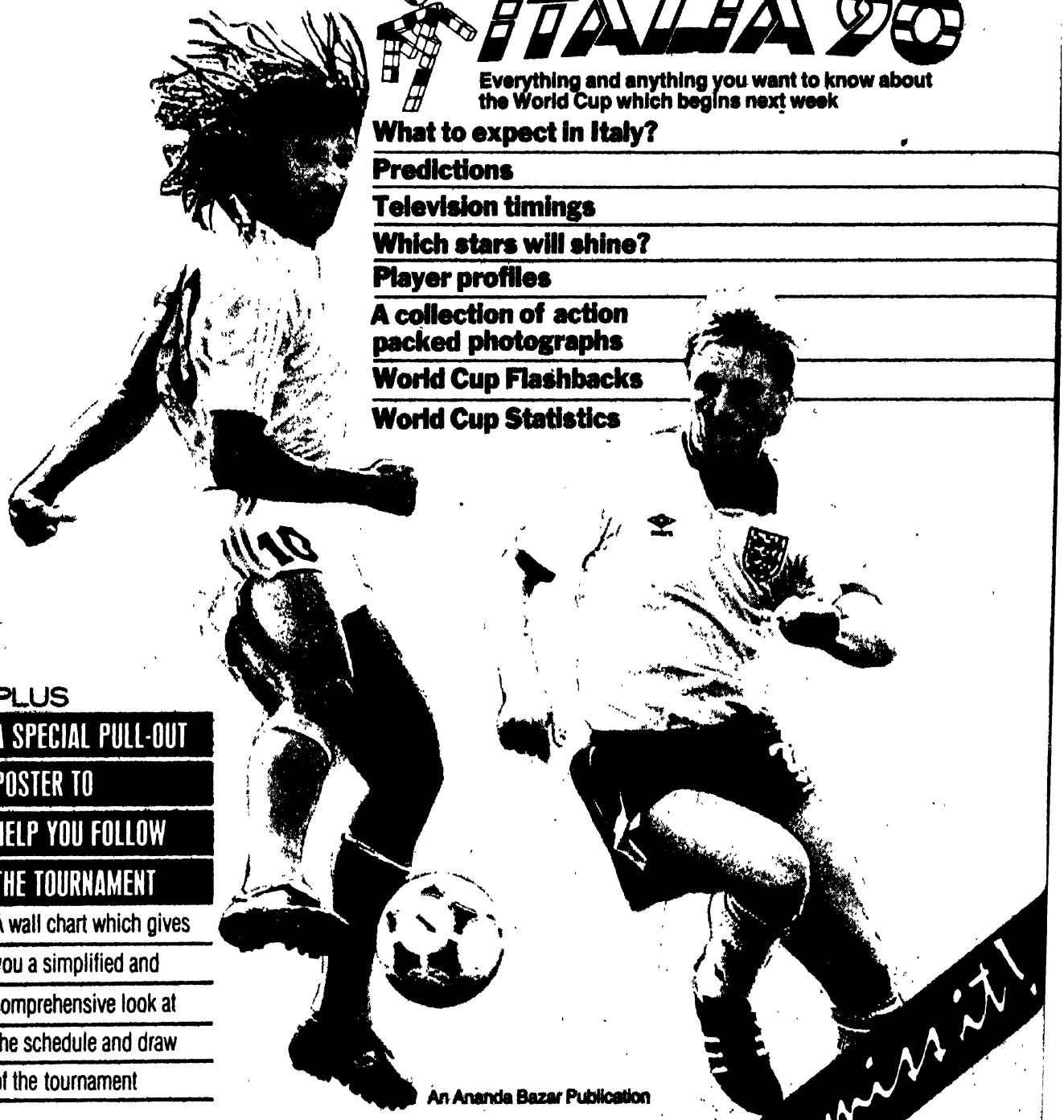
ANNOUNCING

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CHAITANYA LIBRARY (Estd 1889)

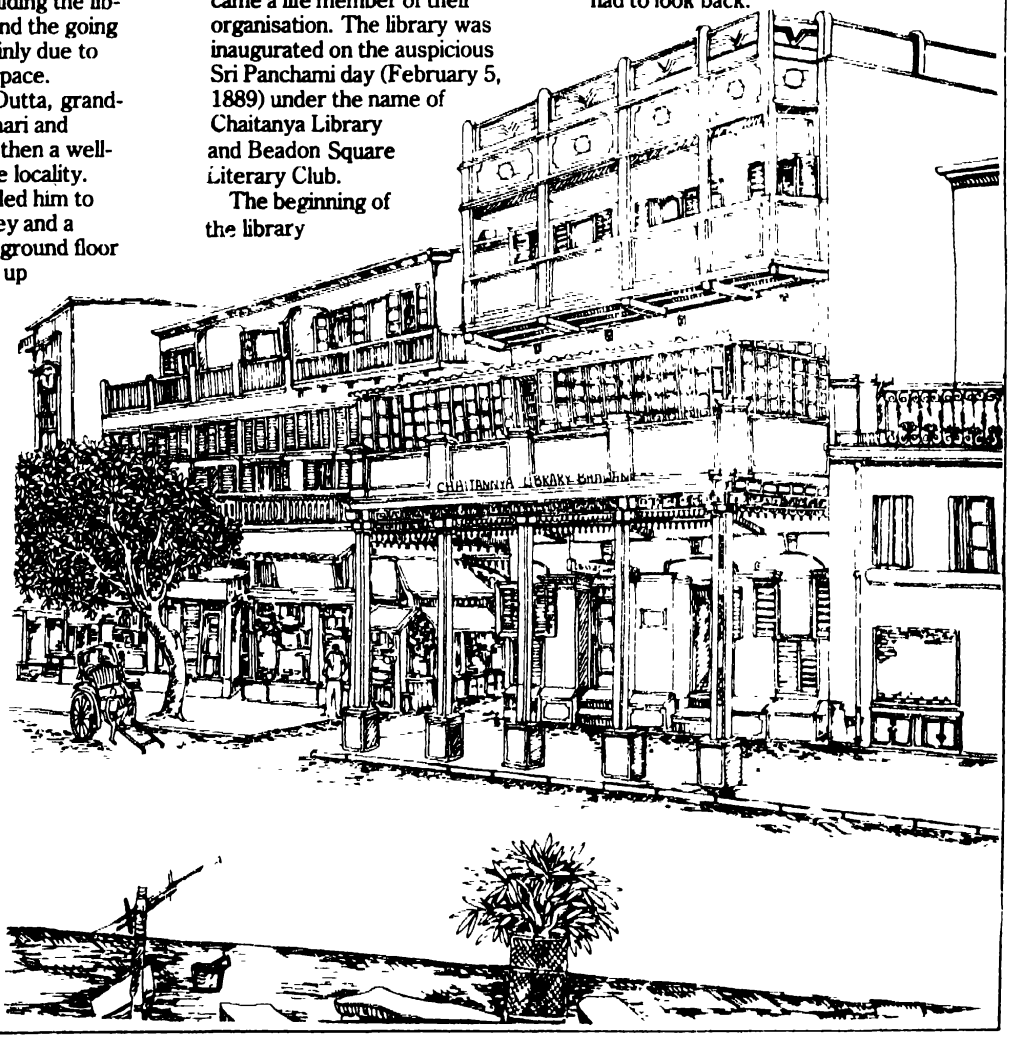
One of the oldest and well-known libraries of Calcutta, the Chaitanya Library was founded on February 5, 1889 at 83, Beadon Street in central Calcutta, chiefly due to the efforts of Rev. Alex Tomory and Gour Hari Sen. The latter (a resident of Beadon Street) along with his bosom friend, Kunjabehari Dutta, mooted the idea of establishing a library in the Beadon Street area.

Kunjabehari's brother Netai Chand, a student of class VIII at Hare School, his (Netai Chand's) private tutor, Haralal Seth, and Gour Hari's neighbour, Rangalal Basak, also joined hands in building the library. But they found the going a bit too tough mainly due to lack of funds and space.

Ganganarayan Dutta, grandfather of Kunjabehari and Netai Chand, was then a well-to-do person of the locality. Gour Hari persuaded him to donate some money and a large room on the ground floor of his house to set up a library. The five enthusiasts got hold of a cupboard and a few English and Bengali books. It was decided that the library would cater to readers of a varied taste. The subscription rates for an ordinary member would be two annas a month while a life member was required to pay Rs 10.

The library began with two periodicals, *Bangabasi* and *Sanjibani*, and the daily, *Indian Mirror*. At that time Rev. Tomory used to stay at Beadon Street and was teaching English and history at Duff School on Nimtola Ghat Street. Gour Hari got hold of this missionary to join their fold. Rev. Tomory was so impressed by the dedication of the five youths that he donated some English books and became a life member of their organisation. The library was inaugurated on the auspicious Sri Panchami day (February 5, 1889) under the name of Chaitanya Library and Beadon Square Literary Club.

The beginning of the library was not very encouraging. The number of members was far below expectation. However, during 1889-94 the library caught the attention of Calcuttans. Besides Rev. Tomory the ones who figured prominently in its formative years were Nagendranath Choudhury, Upendranath Basu and Nagendra Narayan Acharya. Towards the end of 1893, the library shifted to a two-storey building at 4/1, Beadon Street on a monthly rent of Rs 200. The ground-floor housed a free reading room while the first floor was used as the lending section. Since then the library has not had to look back.



ARIES

March 21—April 20

The time is right to close deals, invest, go in for major transactions and important settlements, be they professional or personal First attend to your duties, you can have your share of romance later Extra health care is a must for the next 24 days A shift or a sudden trip is probable It is also the right time to deliver and improvise in matters of home and children

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Your enemies will be willing to wound but afraid to strike because you will gorge them to death Success in enterprise and romance is destined In matters of romance you will be in your typical ardent element You will make substantial financial gains Your health remains fine and you will be as radiant as the sun Travel is a distinct possibility Expect visitors to drop in As far as home and children are concerned, you will give your best

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

You will be loved and hated in equal measure Also, it is travel time Expenses will sky-rocket In romantic affairs you will carry on with gusto and zeal Take care of expenses and outgoings A journey towards the end of this month is probable Property transactions and painting the house or erecting a fence are probable

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Expect good news by mail, calls, journeys and word of mouth You will be happy and thus spread good cheer all around Visitors, lovers and friends may drop in Romance will be sweet and lovely Your purse or wallet will be bulging You will be as strong and active as the acrobat Travel will give you pleasure and profit You will be the perfect husband or housewife Children give joy

LEO

July 21—August 21

A new position of power and responsibility or a promotion or tremendous social status will be yours In romance, your heart twangs like a guitar played by an expert Money will pour in Health safeguards are essential



as there is a danger of accidents or operations You will overhaul your home in a strange manner

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Journeys, ceremonies, functions, meetings, publicity and success are the highlights of the week In matters of romance you will be valued and trusted as never before Assignments, proposals and offers make you prosperous Health will be a case of mind over matter You may have to travel for some important work

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Expenses will be heavy but you will get your work done It is also travel time Visits to hospitals and clinics are indicated Secret attachments and liaison are probable

So also is a rendezvous Financially the overheads will be killing But you will certainly manage to keep your head above water It is just possible that you could feel a bit low or under the weather Children and hobbies will take your time and energy Attend to the home and house in a big way

BIRTHDAYS

May 27

Moon sextile Mercury: This sextile will help salesmen, teachers, editors, writers, poets, musicians and those in publicity and advertisements.

May 28

Moon square Pluto: You will be ambitious and diplomatic. Therefore, success is certain. It would be best to take periodic rest because pressures to perform will be tremendous.

May 29

Moon trine Mars: This trine will push you to the top provided you are willing to give it your best shot. Do not be lazy and dreamy. Just remember that this is action time.

May 30

Moon trine Saturn: This trine will give you solidity and depth. But you must learn not to count your chickens before they are hatched. Architects, musicians, actors, dramatists, managers and executives will do wonderfully well.

May 31

Moon trine Venus: You will be successful in science, research, technology, fashion and designing. A marriage proposal or a business offer, including a foreign connection, will come your way.

June 1

Moon trine Mercury: Journey and communication are the twin trends which dominate the year. Children and home also have their very say. In your work, expect a new high. It is absolutely certain that you will be victorious. Expenses will soar.

June 2

Mercury square Mars: This square only means that you should be careful of your honour and good name, as jealous eyes and idle tongues will be set to malign you.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

You will sing like a nightingale and bellow like a bull Your work will be done Romance and marriage are destined So also are collaborations Your financial graph will be mobile and show an upward trend Health improves and so does your performance A journey for pleasure and profit is indicated

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

You will be busy building your financial muscles Rest assured that new openings and assignments will be yours Always remember, first your work and then your heart Take time off to rest and relax Travel only if your occupation requires you to do so Children give immense satisfaction and the home has the necessary tranquility and comfort

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

News, views, children, hobbies, work and finance will all be there in a fine mix You will be ardent and successful in romance Money will pour into your pocket but it will also leap out again with equal agility Health will improve and so will your temper The next 21 days are definitely favourable for a trip and an emotional tie

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

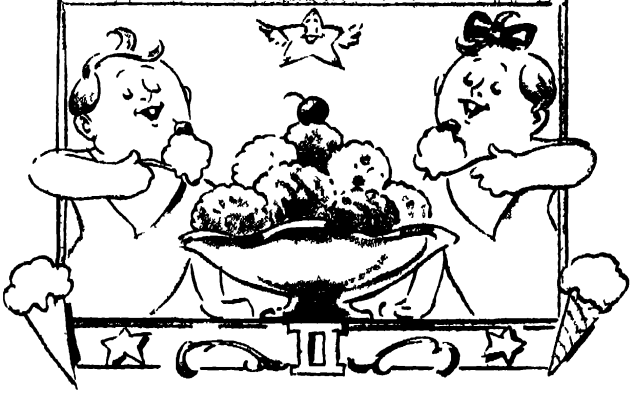
The home front is completely activated and revitalised A journey at short notice is probable You will love with half the heart and count your cash with the other Loans, funds, buying and selling are the other highlights of the week A little extra care of your health will never harm you The mid-week is favourable for a journey a letter or a call

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Messages, calls, love, laughter, socialising, group activity and possibly an important proposal for marriage and business are the week's main trends Deals will be closed and offers received Your health holds up to pulls and pressures You will be mobile and active Get your travel kit ready Renovation, decoration and a home away from home are foretold

THE POSITIVE Kwality OF GEMINI

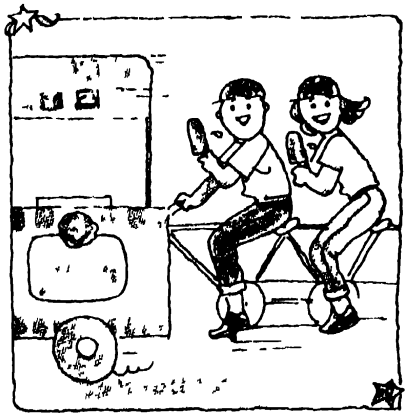




They savour the twin pleasure of music and work



'Sweet nothings' come easy to him



'Ruled by Mercury' always in a hurry



Tricks and treats at his finger-tips



Lots of work is 'cool' with them



We've all the Kwality of a real Gemini

HTA 4909

BARD DAY

The 129th birth anniversary of the great Indian poet was celebrated for the first time on a national level in Bangladesh. President H.M. Ershad inaugurated the three-day festivities on May 9 at Kuthibari, Tagore's ancestral home in Shilaidaha. **Asit Poddar** was there with his camera to record the grand occasion



...g to welcome the President

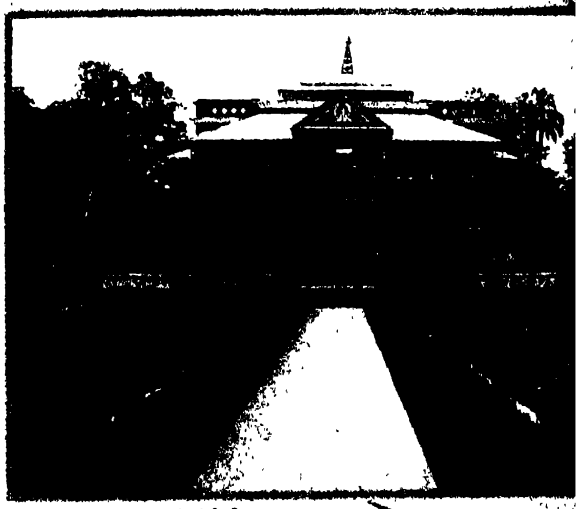


President Ershad at the inaugural function



...the inauguration





Kuthibari in Shilaidaha

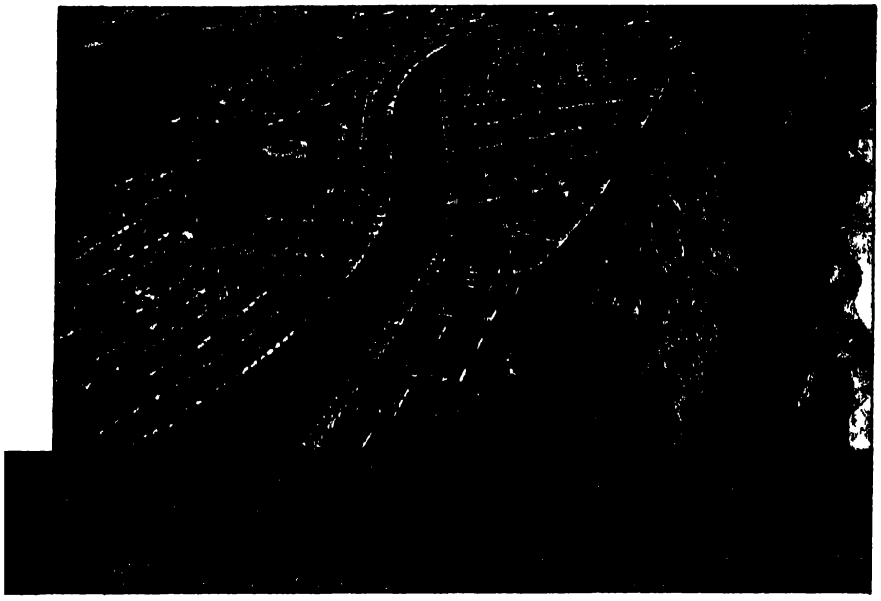
The river Padma near which is Tagore's ancestral home



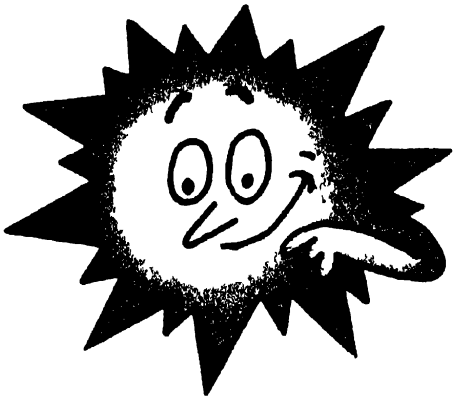
IN BANGLADESH

It looked a school science fair put together by some very smart, very rich kids. Occupants of some 80 booths, each touting a specimen of state-of-the-art earthquake technology, vied for attention in a hall about half the size of a football coliseum.

EARTH-SH
RESE



It is only natural that the Japanese lead the world in seismology research with large scale company support. But many other countries are doing work of great importance, too



Does Your Car Look As Good After

THE SUMMER ?

AKING ARCH



There were arrays of seismological gadgetry; architectural rendering and realistic scale models of buttressed buildings; sleek video productions; and live demonstrations of techniques for predicting earthquakes, observing them when they occur and mitigating their dreadful effects on people and property.

But the sponsors of these sleek, high-technology wonders were not students. Each exhibitor in the latest World Conference on Earthquake Engineering Research, held in Tokyo was a major Japanese company that had opened its coffers to earth scientists and engineers in Japan and around the world—a use of corporate funds unheard of elsewhere.

"We do a lot of innovative things in the United States in terms of earthquake research, but Japan is far ahead of us and the rest of the world in spending," says Tsu-Teh Soong, chief scientist of the National Centre for Earthquake Engineering Research in Buffalo, NY.

In the opinion of many in the field, large-scale sponsorship of research by the private sector, encouraged by tax incentives, gives Japan the edge.

It is not surprising that the Japanese are intensely interested in earthquakes. Their island nation sits on one of the world's most active earthquake belts, an arc of violence that extends southward to the Marianas, a part of the Pacific Basin's 'Ring of Fire'.

The subject gained renewed attention in the United States after a quake shook the San Francisco Bay area and killed 67 people last October.

New Zealand, which sits near the earthquake-prone Tonga-Kermadec Trench in the South Pacific, also conducts a substantial research programme, as does neighbouring Australia. China, though res-



Does Your Car
Look As Good After

THE MONSOON ?

ADROIT



tricted by relatively primitive technology, employs tens of thousands of volunteers who make up "earthquake battalions" under the direction of the State Seismological Bureau They monitor daily earth movement and such indicators as water levels in wells and the behaviour of animals in an attempt to forecast earthquakes

Mexico expanded its research efforts after the disastrous 1985 quake that shook Mexico City, killing more than 9,000 people Venezuela also devotes some resources to earthquake research

Of Latin American countries, Chile is rated by geologists worldwide as having the most effective programme It concentrates on earthquake-resistant buildings and the enforcement of strict construction codes

"Chile has been the frontrunner in implementing their engineering ideas, almost regardless of cost," says Klaus Jacob of Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory "It really paid off in the big 1985 earthquake There was so little damage that people could hardly believe it "

In Europe, Italy is the most respected for its earthquake work, which focuses on the safety of nuclear power plants India also conducts considerable research, although Indian scientists and engineering complain of bureaucratic frustration in implementing their findings

The Soviet Union's programme, conducted by the National Academy of Sciences in Moscow, concentrates on observation of earth movement in the seismologically active southern republics of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan Soviets also keep wary eyes on their massive reservoirs because large quantities of water are known to induce earthquakes

But it is Japanese who are the recognised earthquake masters—to the chagrin of many US geologists and engineers "Some of the best research is done in this country," says Soong, a State University of New York civil engineering professor "The Japanese do fine work too, but they also come in and learn all the things we have done and then go back and put it into practice They're ahead of us in terms of implementing ideas "

One concept that originated in the United States 15 years ago and is still under study is to construct new buildings with sensors and huge braces with computer-driven pistons that would instantly counteract earth-shakings as they occur

Lack of money has prevented anyone outside Japan from trying out the idea But two Japanese construction firms—the Takenaka and Kamima corporations—have built such technology in two full-scale models, one of them an unoccupied, six-storey building on a test site, the other an 11-storey office building in downtown Tokyo

"We have the resources in this country for earthquake mitigation work on the same scale as Japan," says Jacob "We just choose to spend our money on other things and hope that a killer earthquake isn't just around the corner in some vulnerable place like New York City "

Another American scientist is blunter. "The public consciousness has to be raised," he says. "It will take more earthquakes "

(National Geographic Society)

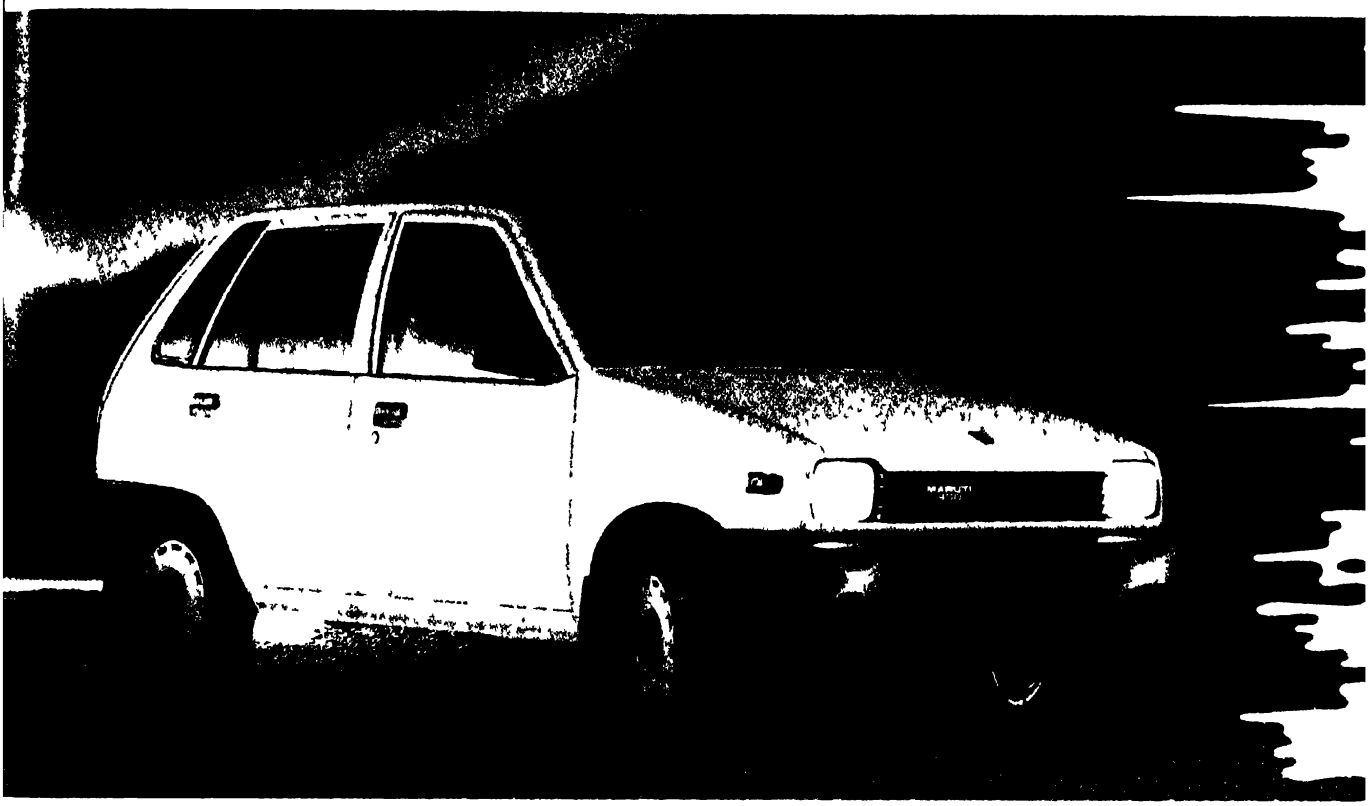
A second-century A.D. Chinese instrument on which this model is based was thought to reveal the point of origin of an earthquake. The quake's waves would jolt a ball from a dragon's mouth. Chinese colleagues presented this gift to Bruce Bolt, a University of California (Berkeley) seismology professor



Asian Paints introduces

APCA

automotive paint



The Car Paint that looks good through Sun, Rain... and Time

Haven't you often wondered why it's so difficult to maintain the good looks of your car as the seasons pass? The colour fades, the finish gets chipped ... and you long for the original look that once was.

Presenting APCA. The car paint that looks good and continues to look good. That's because the APCA paint system is specially formulated for Indian conditions. It contains special non fading pigments and ultra violet absorbers to ensure the good looks of your car last through blistering summers. And rust-inhibiting agents to protect your car from corrosion in slushy monsoons. Furthermore, APCA has been rigorously tested in all conditions, across all regions, so that your car's good looks last longer!



Popular shades for all vehicles. APCA can be used on all vehicles and it's available in all popular shades, including shades of automotive manufacturers, matched exactly to the original. Because it's Asian Paints who supply the original paint to vehicle manufacturers such as Maruti, Telco, Hero Honda, TVS Suzuki, among others.

So now that it's time to repaint your car, would you settle for anything less?

Looks good. Keeps looking good.

(Available in select towns only)

asian paints



ADROIT 320/90

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Awaaz De Kahan Hai:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266)—4 shows.

Directed by Sibte Hasan Rizvi and with music by Naushad, the film stars newfinds Avinesh Wadhwan and Shikha Swarup along with Bindu, A.K. Hangal, Anjan Srivastav, Shubha Khote, Dev Kumar, Satyen Kappu, Jamuna and Annu Kapoor.

• **Awwal Number:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Krishna (T.C Dutta Street; 250437), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200).

A film by Dev Anand, who also stars along with Aamir Khan, Aditya Pancholi and debutante Ektaa. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Ghar Ho To Aisa:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

Directed by Kalptaru and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the film stars Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Raj Kiran, Bindu, Om Prakash and Kader Khan.

• **Kaali Ganga:** New Cinema (Lenin Sarani; 270147)—4 shows.

A film by Raj Sippy, starring Dimple Kapadia, Govinda, Suresh Oberoi, Anooradha Patel, Om Shivpuri, Gulshan Grover, Satish Shah, Goga Kapoor and Prem Chopra. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N Banerjee Road; 241383)—10.45, 2.15, 5.30, 9; Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows.



Sonam and Prasenjit in *Mandira*

Well on its way to being an all-time hit, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree. The film is directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Naaka Bandi:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932).

Dharmendra and Sridevi are the lead pair. Also in the cast are Chunkey Pandey, Sonam, Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri. The film is directed by Shibu Mittra and the music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Pati Patni Aur Tawaif:** Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road; 474403)—4 shows; Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808)—noon.

A film by Rajkumar Kohli, starring Mithun Chakraborty, Salma Agha, Farha and Amjad Khan.

• **Police Public:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311522).

Raaj Kumar, Naseeruddin Shah, Kabir Bedi and Poonam Dhillon are the chief attractions. The film is directed by Esmayeel Shroff and the music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Swarg:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141), Malancha (Regent Park), Jaya (Lake Town; 573936).

Directed by David Dhawan, the film stars Rajesh Khanna, Govinda, Juhi Chawla and Madhavi.



Shikha Swarup in *Awaaz De Kahan Hai*

Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Indrani Dutta, Sanghamitra Banerjee and Anup Kumar star in this Tarun Majumdar film whose music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Agnikanya:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—3 shows.

Farooque Shaikh makes his debut in Bengali films. Also starring are Rupa Ganguli, Utpal Dutt, Anil Chatterjee and newcomer Chinpal. The film is directed by Gopal Gupta and the music is by Dilip Mondal.

• **Badnaam:** Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282), Mini Jaya (Lake Town; 573936)—3 shows.

Shibu Mitra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit, Shakti Kapoor, Shakuntala Barua, Subhendu Chatterjee, Bankim Ghosh and Soumitra. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Mandira:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515)—3, 6, 9, Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—2.30, 5.30, 8.30.

Prasenjit, Sonam, Chunkey Panday, Indrani, Shakuntala Barua and Pradeep Kumar comprise the main cast of this Sujit Guha film. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

Special Events

27 May: 9.30 am and 6.30 pm; 28 May and 1 June: 6.30 pm

Nazrul Janmotsav, organised by West Bengal government's information and cultural department, features Nazrul songs and recitations on 27th morning, and musical feature, *Bidrohi*, presented by Ananda Shilpi Gosthi, and the dance-drama, *Prakriti*, presented by Aagami on 27th evening, and Nazrulgeeti and recitation sessions on 28th and 1st.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

28 May: 6.30 pm

PLT will stage Utpal Dutt's *Ekla Chalo Re*, directed by Bishnupriya Dutt and Mrinal Ghosh.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

29 May: 6 pm

Sangeet Kanan presents an evening of classical music featuring Dipak Ghosh (sitar) and Prabir Banerjee (vocal), with Kashinath Misra and Sumantra Guha on the tabla.

At Birla Academy of Art & Culture (108 & 109 Southern Avenue).

1 June: 6.30 pm

Gunjan presents a programme of Odissi dance featuring Poushali Mukherjee and her disciples.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

2 June: 6.30 pm

As part of *Rabindra Janmotsav '90*, Raginı will stage Tagore's *Tasher Desh*, directed by Asit Chattopadhyay.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5). AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1620, Dep. (5) : BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (2, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1340.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (2, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1540.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2): KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1640; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly) PF-706 at 1615
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF 716 at 1025
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF 721 at 0930, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF 722 at 1805
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF 723 at 1045, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF 724 at 1950
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF 725 at 0550, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF 726 at 1040
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF 737 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-738 at 1100

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

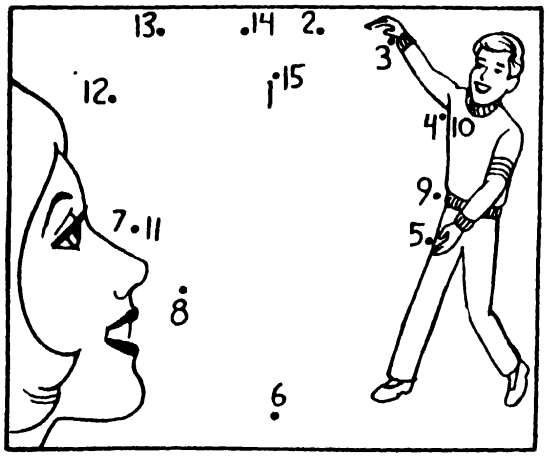
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	2312
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep Tues Thurs & Sat Arri Wed Fri & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	2304
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21 10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep Wednesday Arri —Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri - Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr — Mon & Fr	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6 15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	14-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21 45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21 20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11 20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	
	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep — Fri & Sun Arri Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	—
	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	—
	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains, 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays)

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



HEART LINE! Surely, you can guess what's missing from this Valentine's Day scene. Draw lines from dot 1 to dot 2, 3, etc.

• BEE OH! What did the bee say to the flower? "Hi, honey." What did the flower say to the bee? "Buzz off!" Moral: A bee and its honey are soon parted



OPEN SESAME COIN TRICK

Prove to yourself that you are able to perform this magic trick, then demonstrate it to your friends.

Cut a dime-size hole in a sheet of paper. Try to pass a much bigger coin (say a quarter) through the dime-size hole.

How it's done: Fold the paper across the centre of the hole (see above). Drop the larger coin into the hole in the fold. Bend up paper on each side of the hole with thumbs and forefingers of both hands. Alakazam, the larger coin will slip right through

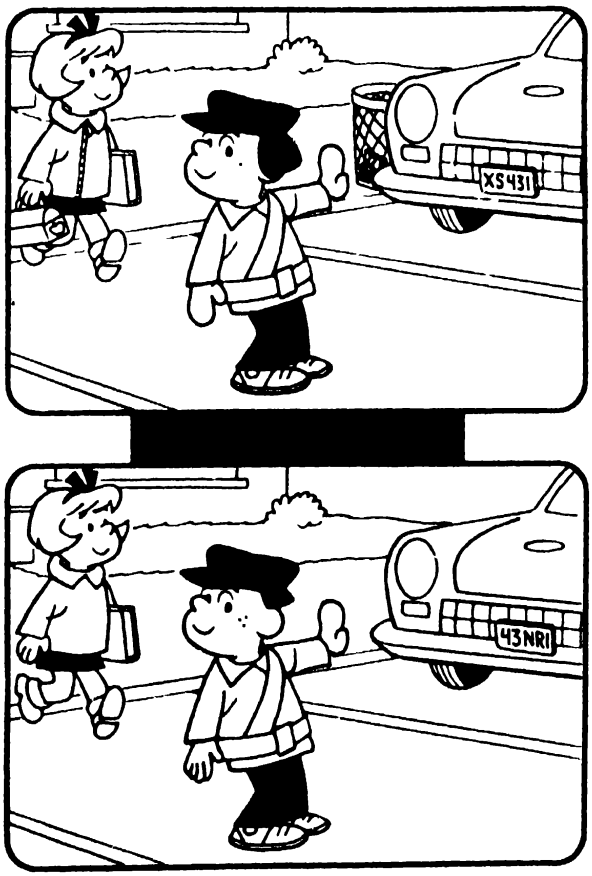
• **NUMBERS GAME!** Two numbers—1 and 11—are in place in the nine squares of the diagram below. You are asked to fill the blank squares with numbers 3-9 so that any three numbers in a row—across, down or diagonally—will total 18.

All seven numbers 3-9 are to be used. No number is to be duplicated.

1		11

Top (across)—6, 2, 4; middle—1, 9, 11; bottom—8, 7, 3 and do it.

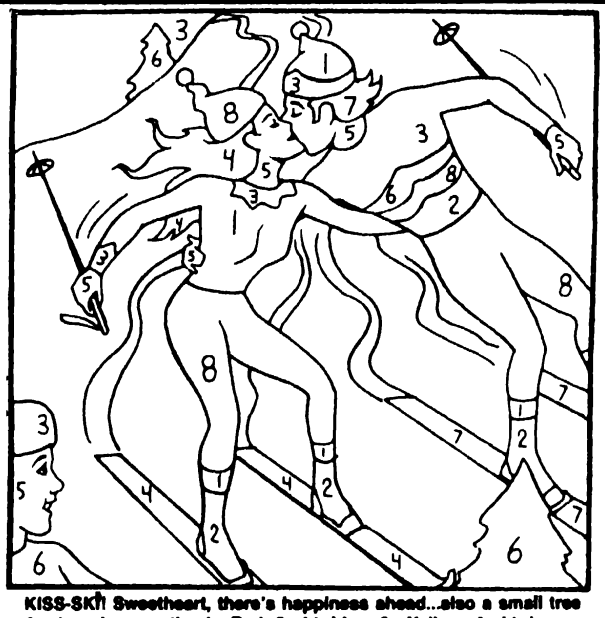
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences: 1 Zipper is missing. 2 Lunchbox is missing. 3 Earring is different. 4 Mitten is missing. 5 Trash can is missing. 6 License is different.

FUNSPOT



KISS-SKI! Sweetheart, there's happiness ahead...also a small tree. Apply colors neatly: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Lt. purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

ENAMORED

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram: Dear omen



Rahul Chandra Dutta, Calcutta 75, sends this question and answer exclusively for the Metro users of Calcutta "If one is travelling by Calcutta Metro, what is POM and TOM?

"POM is Passenger Operated Machine for faster issue of tickets to facilitate speedier, smoother flow of passenger traffic resulting in 'no-wait' in long queues at peak hours, thus saving precious time of the commuting Calcuttans

"TOM is the Ticket Office Machine which is the conventional booking counters dealing with monthly tickets

"The whole project is promoted by Keltron and it is educating the Metro public through innovative ads in the Metro stations "

A report from Karnal (Haryana)

"The National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal (Haryana) celebrated its 32nd annual day celebration, "Symphony-90" The Inter-College Quiz, Inquisitive, was sponsored by Alfa Laval (India) Ltd—the leading engineering multinational in the food industry The quiz master was the suave Debashis Sarkar The quiz brought together many good teams from northern India The questions ranged from Voyager to pizzas Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi, came out tops followed by National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal "

CBS

11th Question: **What might be a probable reason why there is no Nobel Prize for mathematics? (Arindam Dev, A-9/290 Kalyani, West Bengal, Pin: 741235)**

Ans: **It is said that Alfred Nobel was hostile towards mathematicians becaue his wife ran off with a maths professor!**



Long queue at the Metro station

Kaushik Dutta, Jorhat, has a problem "I have consulted a few books and magazines to get the answer to this question but I could not get it Instead of getting the same name in all the books and magazines I have got four different names In some it is Laski, in another Byron, in still another it is Jefferson and in one magazine it is Philpot I, therefore, finding no other alternative, dare to write to you for a correct answer to the question My question is Who said, 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty '?"

Well, Kaushik, I think you haven't got the quotation quite right The original quotation from which variations might have been derived goes back to the 18th century In a speech on the celebration of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, July 10, 1790, John Philpot Curran, lawyer and statesman, who is remembered as a great advocate of Irish liberty, said 'The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance, which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime, and the punishment of his guilt "

"Who won the first Nobel Prize for literature?" asks Priya Pandey, Calcutta 6

In 1901 Rene F A Sully Prudhomme (1839-1907) of France was the first winner Forced to abandon an early interest in science because of eye trouble, the Parisian-born poet began writing essays and verse while serving as a law clerk in Paris His first work to be published was *L Art* in 1863, followed by stanzas and poems in 1865 His contributions to a *Le Parnasse Contemporain* reflected his distaste for the excesses of Romanticism, but his connections with the Parnassian movement remained tenuous because of personal differences His later, more formalistic verse reflects his early scientific interest and his philosophical idealism

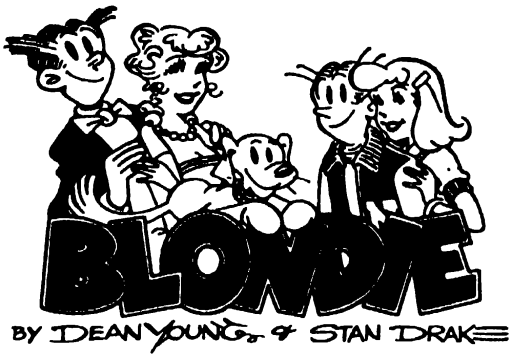
Leo Tolstoi seemed the obvious choice for the initial Nobel Prize in literature, but one of the Nobel judges, Dr Carl David of Wirsen, criticised the Russian author for his "narrow-minded hostility to all forms of civilisation " The conservative academy members concurred and gave the award to the less controversial Sully Prudhomme, whom they cited for 'lofty idealism, artistic perfection, and a rare combination of the qualities of both heart and intellect " Unlike Tolstoi s, his works have since become rather obscure period pieces

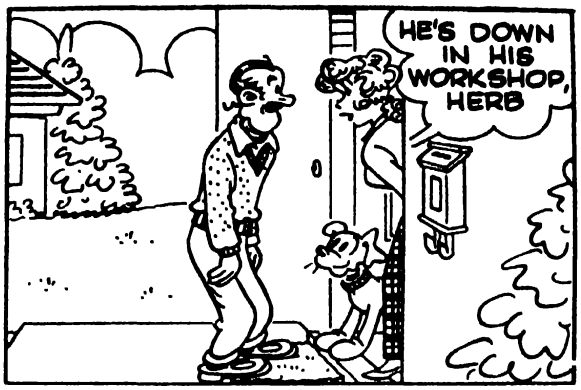
QUESTIONS

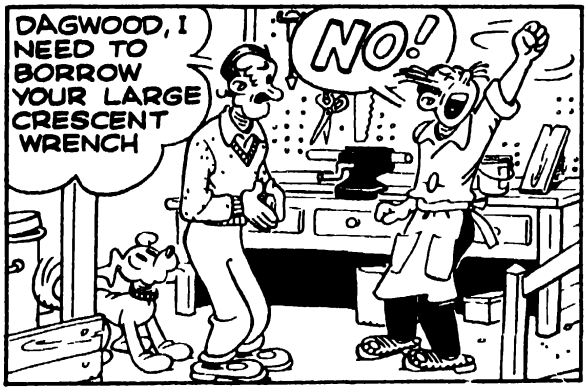
1. Who was the Greek god of sleep? (Richa Pandey, Jamshedpur)
2. In which Latin American country is the "Senderoso Luminose" ('Shining Path'), an underground guerrilla group? (Subrata Haldar, Triberi 3)
3. Which was the first country V.P. Singh visted as Prime Minister? (Asit Kr Panigrahi, Jharsuguda 2)
4. What is a "creeper" in cricket? (Ismat Afrin, Burdwan 51)
5. What is Theophobia? (Dr Nayan Ganguly, Calcutta 85)
6. Who said, "The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them."? (Baban Naidu, Jharsuguda 1)
7. A history of cricket in the West Indies, titled *Cricket in the Sun* was edited by J. S. Barker and which famous cricketer? (Bibhas Basumatary, Kokrajhar 70)
8. Who painted the portrait of Zail Singh now kept in the presidential portrait gallery? (Lalitendu Pradhan, Bhubaneswar 4)
9. Which is a mixed number? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral)
10. What is the 'seven year itch'? (Jiju Mathew, Rourkela 7)

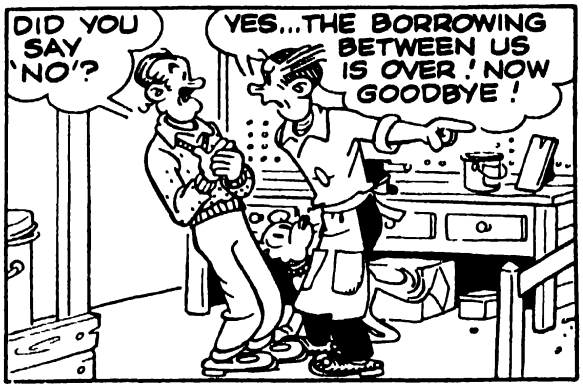
ANSWERS

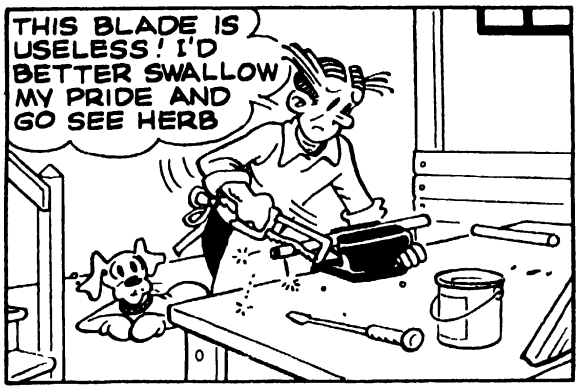
1. Hypnos.
2. Peru.
3. Namibia.
4. A ball that shoots along the ground.
5. Abnormal fear of the wrath of God.
6. Mark Twain.
7. Sir Garfield Sobers.
8. N. S. Subbakrishna.
9. A number consisting of a whole number and a fraction, as 4½ or 4.5.
10. According to Western belief every happily married life runs into trouble in its seventh year. This crucial period is termed the seven year itch', if the married couple succeed in getting past this crucial phase, their lives are happy thereafter.

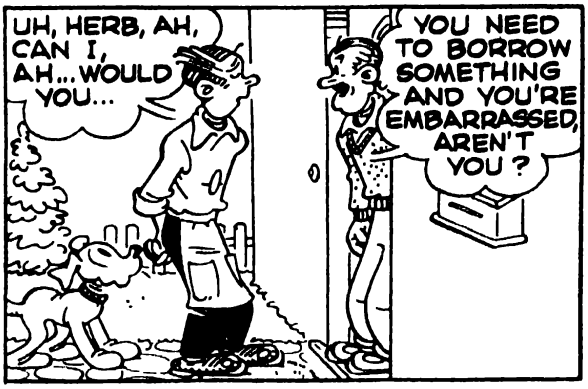








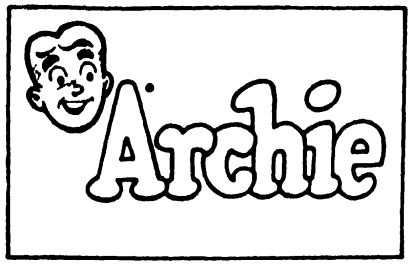






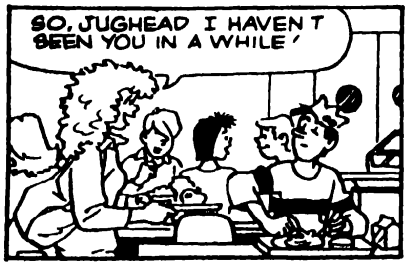
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Archie


OH NO, THAT NEW GIRL IS COMING THIS WAY! SHE TALKS SO MUCH! I HOPE SHE DOESN T WANT TO SIT WITH ME! OH NO SHE'S GETTING CLOSER OH, NO NO, NO.


MIND IF I SIT WITH YOU?
I'D BE DELIGHTED!


SO, JUGHEAD I HAVEN T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE!

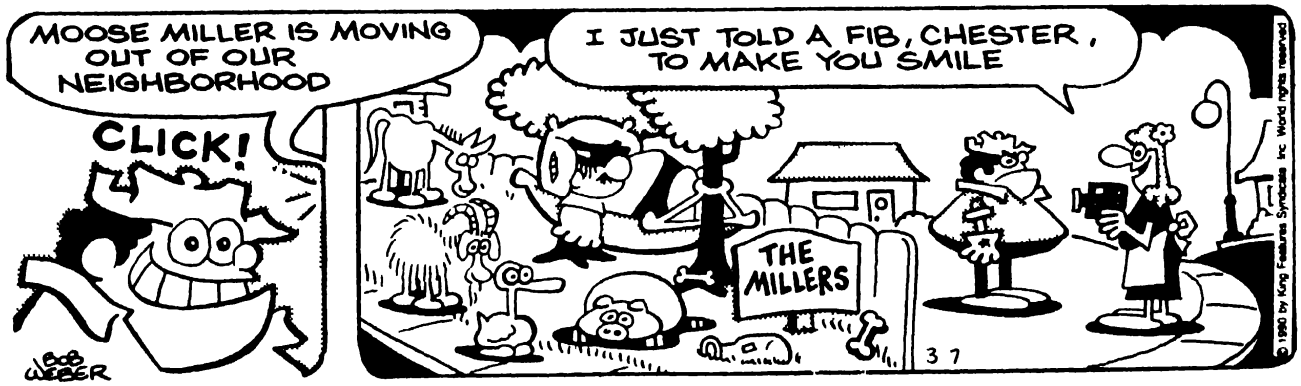

I HAVE BEEN SO BUSY AND I'VE GOT SO MUCH HOMEWORK TO DO TONIGHT!

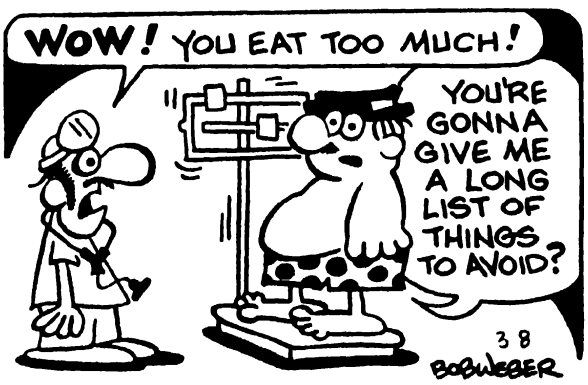

I NOTICED THEY PAINTED THE HALLWAY! I LIKED THE OLD COLOR MUCH BETTER! BUT I DO LIKE THE NEW COLOR TOO!


AFTER SCHOOL I'VE GOT CHEERLEADING PRACTICE! THEN I'VE GOT TO SHOP FOR A NEW DRESS!


MY BOYFRIEND AND I ARE GOING OUT THIS WEEKEND!
AREN T YOU GOING TO BE LATE FOR CLASS OR SOMETHING?


NOT AT ALL! BESIDES I'M ENJOYING THIS CONVERSATION!
2/8


MOOSE MILLER IS MOVING OUT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
CLICK!
BOB WEBBER
I JUST TOLD A FIB, CHESTER, TO MAKE YOU SMILE
THE MILLERS
3 7
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WOW! YOU EAT TOO MUCH!
YOU'RE GONNA GIVE ME A LONG LIST OF THINGS TO AVOID?
3 8
BOB WEBBER
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NO! ONLY ONE


FOOD



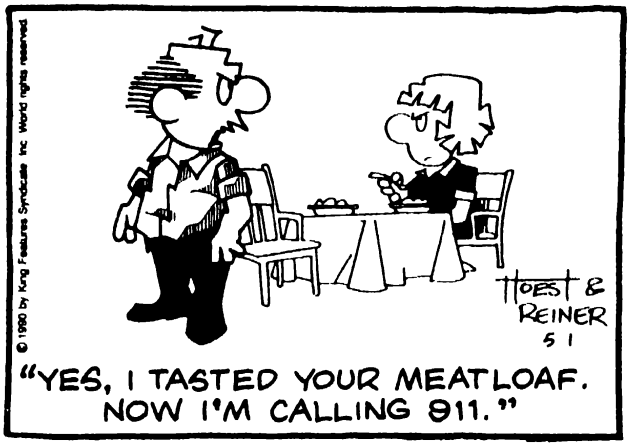
"OH, THAT PETER! WHAT A CARD!"



"YOU'D BETTER HAVE A DRINK BEFORE DINNER...THE COOKBOOK HAD A TYPO."

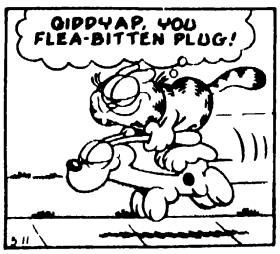


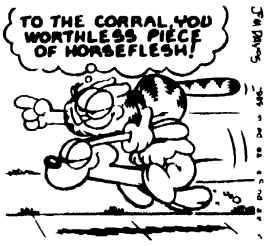
"LEROY ENTERED A FIVE-KILOMETER RACE ONCE...HE STILL OWES THEM FOUR-AND-A-HALF KILOMETERS."

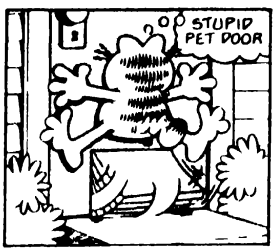


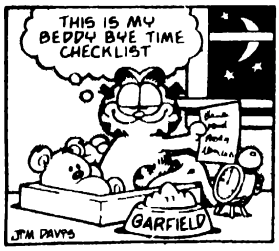
"YES, I TASTED YOUR MEATLOAF. NOW I'M CALLING 911."

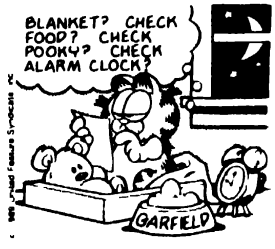
GARFIELD By Jim Davis

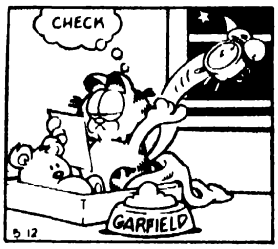


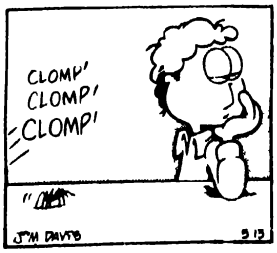


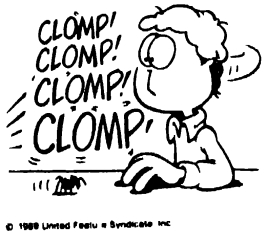


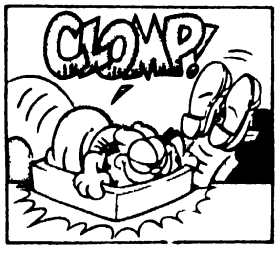






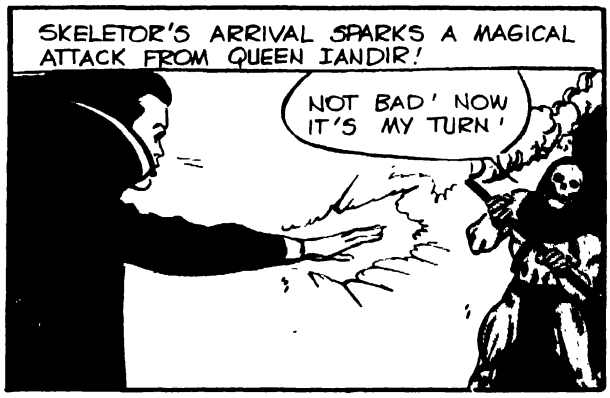







COME ON, THEN WHAT'S YOUR MUM SENT YOU FOR CHRISTMAS ?
IT'S AN EASTER EGG! HOW STUPID CAN YOU GET!
SHE KNOWS I DON'T LIKE THEM
OO! I'VE GOT A SHOCKING HANGOVER!
SERVES YOU RIGHT FOR BEING SO SNEAKY
DON'T THINK WE DIDN'T SPOT YOU NIPPING OUT OF THE ROOM AND COMING BACK IN THAT LITTLE BIT MERRIER
I DARE SAY IF WE HADN'T STOPPED YOU, THE WHOLE PACKET OF WINE GUMS WOULD HAVE GONE
ANOTHER YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE
LET ME THINK— WHAT WAS MY GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT DURING THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS ?
I KNOW! GETTING ALL FOUR STATIONS AT MONOPOLY!
CLICK!
I MUST MAKE A RESOLUTION FOR THE COMING YEAR
"I WILL ENDEAVOUR TO WALK THE PATH OF LIFE IN AN HONEST, UPRIGHT AND UNDERSTANDING MANNER."
"I'LL TRY AND GIVE UP SWEETIES"
I MUST APPROACH THE COMING YEAR, NOT WITH TREPIDATION, BUT WITH EXPECTATION!
A GREAT STEP FORWARD INTO BETTER THINGS! INTO A NEW LIFE! INTO A WONDROUS FUTURE!
LEAP!
INTO FRESH CAMEL DUNG


HE-MAN™
AND THE
MASTERS
OF THE UNIVERSE™
AT MADAKA'S DIPLOMATIC VILLA...


SKELETOR'S ARRIVAL SPARKS A MAGICAL ATTACK FROM QUEEN IANDIR!
NOT BAD! NOW IT'S MY TURN!




THE ONE CALLED DUNCAN ESCAPED MY IRE. WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED THIS PALTRY DISPLAY -- YOU WILL NOT BE SO LUCKY!
© 1989 Marvel Inc DIST EDITORS PRESS SERVICE INC






ENOUGH! WHY FIGHT? WE SHARE A COMMON GOAL. YOU WANT TO RULE THIS PLANET -- I WANT TO SEE ITS RULERS OVERTHROWN!



It was no imaginary fan that made things a little too hot for **Meenakshi Seshadri** when he went in for the closed-eye clinch. She was out shooting at Juhu, Bombay, when this ardent admirer broke through the security cordon to catch his star. He succeeded—before he was grabbed by the collar himself and handed over to the cops. Such passionate displays would cut no ice with any maiden. Photograph by KALYAN CHAKRABORTY



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that s a situation none of us would like to get into But then one can never tell can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for With Mediclaim from New India A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits Including cover for hospitalisation at home under special circumstances For a premium as low as Rs 200 per annum (at the minimum) It also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate

Show how much you love and care for your family Get New India s Mediclaim Policy It offers you so much for so little!

Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Rs	Rs
200	10 500	3 100
250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

Age limit 5 70 years * Personal Accident cover available on payment of additional premium

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Milton's Paradise

Calcutta deserves to be called 'the city of the downtrodden'. But it also has personalities like Mother Teresa and Milton McCann ('Friend in Deed', May 6) to rescue it.

It is, after all, only in Calcutta that you can see rickshaws pulled by man, tramcars and the Metro Rail all together.

M.S. Haider,
Calcutta

■ It is nice to know that there still are people who delight in helping others. May the good Lord bless Milton McCann. Nowadays running a social welfare association is not a matter of joke and McCann has done well.

I would like to introduce another service society: the Citizens' Educational Social and Welfare Association (CESWA). It was inaugurated in the presence of about 500 people on November 4, 1989 and its aims are to establish and maintain schools, libraries, and charitable hospitals; to help the needy students of all communities, the sick, the aged and the handicapped; to provide shelter to orphans and widows and provide marriage expenses to deserving and orphan girls. It will also provide aid to the victims of natural calamities, epidemics and riots and help drug addicts fight the evil.

The society has 25 members in the governing body and includes nearly 100 who are working selflessly to make this dream a reality.

Md. Masoom Akhtar,
Secretary, CESWA,
Calcutta.

■ You deserve applause for focusing on Milton McCann who has devoted his life to the destitute people. I bow before this great humanitarian for his positive views on secularism. As he says, "The biggest temple is where man works for the good of mankind."

Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

Dream Photo

The Candid Camera photograph of Yasser Arafat and Mother Teresa had a dreamlike quality about it. A billion thanks to Aloke Mitra for this shot.

Sk. Ekramul Haque,
Midnapore (W.B.)

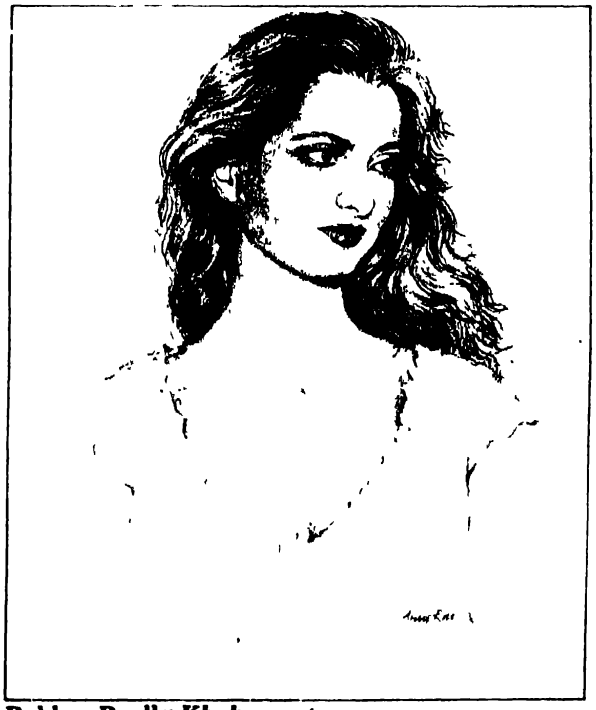
'Hotline Rekha'

After a long time, *Khubsoorat* Rekha (March 18) decided to set up her *Sansar* with Mukesh 'Hotline' Agarwal. It was just a two-month-old *Silsila*, followed by a quiet *Utsav* and then came the *Suhaag*. *Madame X* became the *Bahurani* of Mukesh, their marriage proving to be a *Pyar Ki Jeet*. The two are now set to start on a sweet *Ghar*.

Sada Suhagan raho, Rekhaji, but please don't take *Ijazaat* from films; that *Judaai* will be unbearable.

Tere bina jeeya jaaye na...

R. Sengupta,
Calcutta



Rekha: Really *Khubsoorat*

On Top

Arnab Neil Sengupta's statement that engineers remain poor cousins of scientists (April 1), is not acceptable at all. Engineers are definitely engaged in a wider range of activities such as engineering, management, marketing, finance, design, operations, construction. And the present industrial and scientific fields are dominated by engineers in top positions.

Chirantan Chakrabarti,
Calcutta

■ If memory serves me right, no such article has been published before in the Colour Magazine highlighting the plight of engineers. This should have been the cover story instead of the one on the Pamella film.

R. Ramanathan,
Calcutta

The Telegraph
3 JUNE 1990



Amya Tarafdar

13 The World Cup **frenzy begins** to take over everything now that the kick-off arrives in another five days. Chima Okerie writes on the superstars and what's in store this time.

4 The monarch of the **silver screen**, Amitabh Bachchan, had to finally bow to public pressure and re-dub for *Agneepath*. But whose defeat was it?

18 Migration all over **the world has** created a new set of problems. A report.

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Cover: Newsmen Features

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE



Amitabh Bachchan's experiment with his vocal chords in *Agneepath* failed and the monarch of moviedom had to re-dub for the film. An artiste bowing before public pressure like this is perhaps without parallel, but in effect, whose defeat was it?



■ *Amitabh and I worked towards creating a special voice quality for the character. In this film you will hear a different Amitabh. People told me that I was mad because Amitabh has a voice which has been appreciated by all and here I was trying to change it, make it sound different. .*— Director Mukul S. Anand, before the release of the film, quoted in *Screen.*

■ *This film has taught me one thing. You can make Amitabh Bachchan thin. You can make him fat. You can even make him a girl. The audience will accept that But you cannot change his voice The audience will never accept that.*—Producer Yash Johar four weeks later when Amitabh completed the re-dubbing of the film, quoted in *Sunday.*

So, the worst has happened *Agneepath,* too, has sunk. Returning to the boxoffice from the soapbox, Amitabh Bachchan despite every effort and achievement has not really been able to step into the vacuum zone up there, a zone he left vacant when he went to Allahabad in his khadi kurta Amitabh hasn't been able to usurp Amitabh

With a trail of *Shahenshah, Gangaa Jamunaa Saraswathi, Toofan, Jaadugar* and *Main Azad Hoon,* behind him, it needed the guts of a true artiste to put his biggest asset as a star on the chopping block and try to do something only an actor would dare. Amitabh experimented heavily with *Main Azad Hoon,* but his star status still got in the way In any case, the audience wants him larger than life, so the much touted film had as much impact on the turnstiles as Madhuri Dixit's fist on Mike Tyson's jaw

In *Agneepath,* again, he tried to present himself differently For one, he plays his age, there are no 'songs' that he sings He was aware that "in Hindi films (one) cannot digress too much", yet he was "trying not to do what I have been doing in the past " As he said in a pre-release interview "There has been a lot of effort on detailing on mannerisms, and in my approach to the role, and discerning cinegoers will perhaps notice that. ."

Unfortunately, they didn't The rich Bachchan baritone had been 'gruffed up' and laced with a quaint Bombaiya-south Indian mix. The character, Vijay Dinanath Chavan, is a Maharashtrian brought up on Harivansh Rai Bachchan's poem, *Agneepath,* but who is given shelter by a south Indian don. So, his language takes on a peculiar hue, his manner, voice and vocabulary are equally uncouth and harsh. A daring experiment, if any

Mukul S. Anand, the director of the film, was to lament later "When experienced trade people saw the trials everyone appreciated the change of voice as an excellent idea. But after the release, people changed their opinion and blamed me " Trade advice need not always be right, he was to start the film with the scene of Amitabh being riddled with bullets and Mithun Chakraborty getting into the rescue act, but it was changed to accommodate the advisors.

And talking of "discerning cinegoers", one was shocked at the reaction of the learned film critics most had noticed the change, how clever of them, but most thought there was some "recording defect"; others couldn't understand how an *Agneepath*-reciting lad grew up to speak the way the man does, and some even thought that Amitabh had played hookey and the filmmakers had got his portion dubbed by someone else! What do you expect the average filmgoer to discern?

The mass audience decided that it didn't like what it heard *Agneepath,* which opened to a 100 per cent collection in advance, all over the country, on February 16, began sagging very soon. The word was abuzz: what have they done to Amitabh's voice! In a gesture which was a bit of a slap in the audience's face, an 'explanatory' clip had to be prefixed to the film in the third week where the actor tells the audience that the voice change was to suit the character and, as an example, Amitabh delivers a dialogue in his normal tone and then in the changed style

The people were still not buying the idea Another week or so, and the *shahenshah,* much against his wishes, had to lay down arms He completed the redubbing of his entire portion by March 17, some 6,000 feet, and the initially ordered 54 revised prints were ready for release by March 24.

"The experiment with his voice is a controversial factor," editorialised *Box Office,* the leading trade journal (editor Vinod Mirani). "Amitabh's voice has always been his asset, the need to change it has not been justified " That seems to have been the logic that worked Here was a star whose larger-than-life image swallowed him up; and all his astounding assets gobbled up by one single quality his voice

Is that fair to the artiste? At one level, he is accused of superstarring superstar dom itself At another, the man is given no chance to show what he is really worth as arguably the finest actor Indian cinema has ever seen. The experiment might not be successful, but does it mean that the actor cannot even attempt a change without the mass audience and discerning cinegoers jumping at his throat?

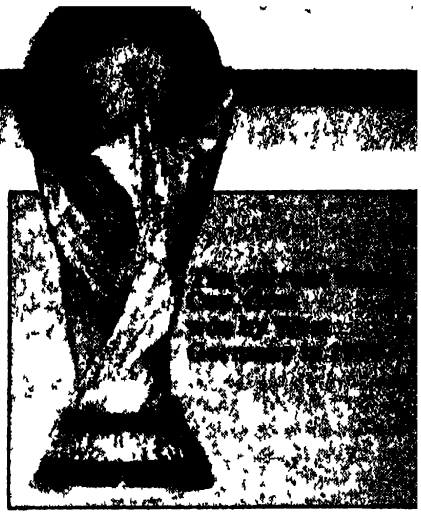
Agreed, Amitabh was playing with fire when he experimented with his vocal chords But did not Ashok Kumar 'uglify' himself in *Mero Soorat Teri Ankhen* when he played the brilliantly talented, but grotesque looking singer? That film was a miserable failure, too, but one thought it was much ahead of its time Much later, was Raj Kapoor, and Zeenat Aman, wrong in 'burning' her face in *Satyam Shivam Sundaram?* Of course, Raj was cunning enough to compensate the viewers with assets other than Zeenat's face, but it was a daring attempt, anyway Why is Kamala hasan applauded for doing a 'silent film' *(Pushpak)* or the role of a dwarf *(Appu Raja)* even before the films, or their original versions, are released? His voice could be muffled in *Nayakan,* in a brazen copy of Marlon Brando in *Godfather,* but both Kamalahasan and Brando could have the discerning cinegoers eating out of their hands

Sanjeev Kumar's voice was a self-confessed liability and so were his 'looks' (speaking as a star) But precisely because of that he could easily do 'serious acting' and get away with the mantle of being an *actor,* not being a star always makes it easier to be accepted as an actor Ask Naseeruddin Shah or Shabana Azmi Or even Amitabh Bachchan in his *Reshma Aur Shera* and *Anand* days

But the whole thing boils down to one simple question. Will Amitabh ever dare to, and will the audience ever dare to let him dare to, do a mute role as Sanjeev and Jaya Bhaduri did in *Koshish*? Or do only Sanjeev Kumar and Alan Arkin (The Heart is a Lonely Hunter) have the right to experiment?

Maybe, the stakes were too high this time for you, Mr Bachchan But your time will come Because the minority is always right

Anil Grover

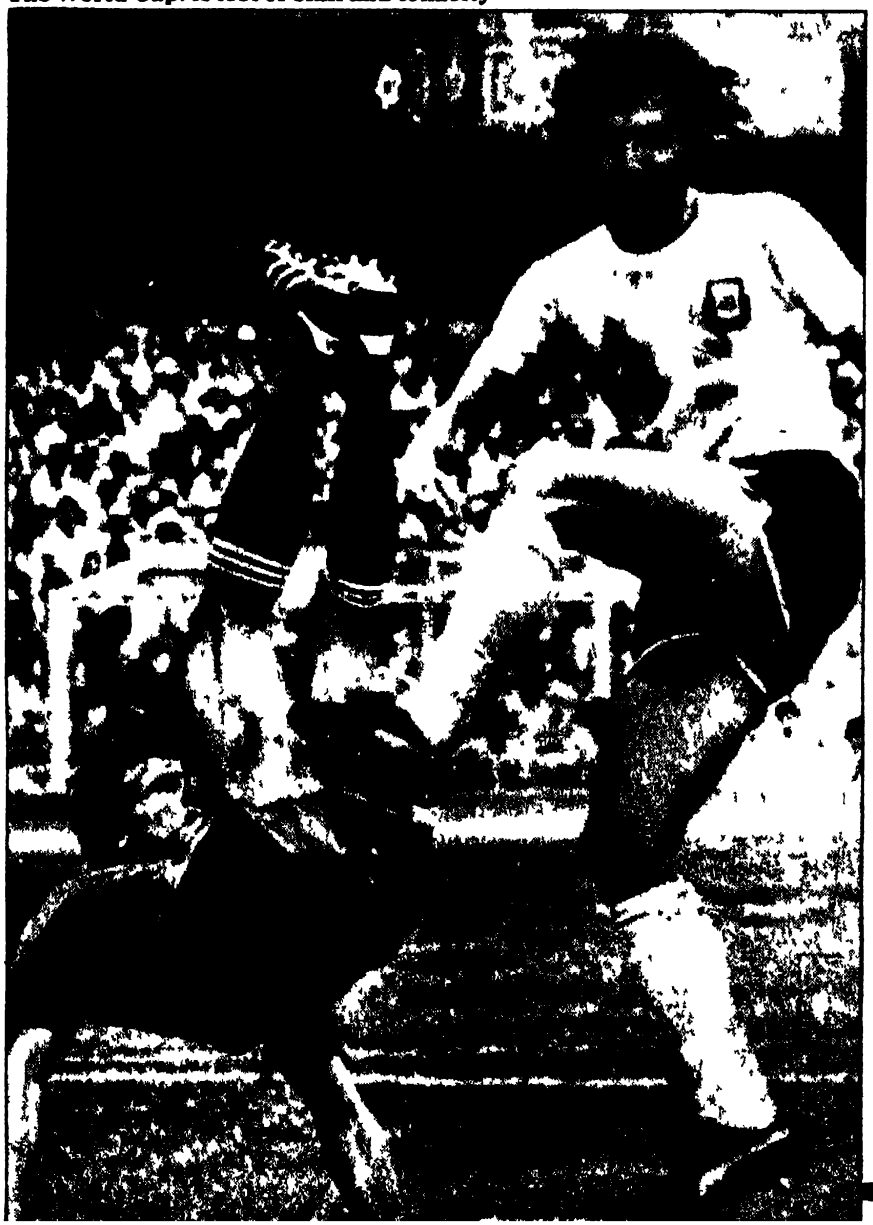


TIME FOR THI

It's war, no less And so often it has spilled over from the turf There are no allies in this war, no common enemy—a fresh battle every outing and the survival of the fittest in the end The soccer World Cup finals each time come after two years of regional skirmishes Only the best from the zones line up for the ultimate sports showdown A month-long orgy of unbridled passion, shameless jingoism and the most demanding test of human skill and endurance kicks off on Friday and the world will stay up for its share of vicarious pleasure and pain.

The game is easily the most popular sport the world over. Fifa, the world soccer governing body, has more member countries than the United Nations Playing alongside soccer over the next month in Italy will be big money of mindboggling proportions But you don't count the dollars—more aptly, lire or cruzeiros—at the World Cup finals. Life is measured in goals there From the wild idea that it started as three score years ago to the computerised mass organisation of today,

The World Cup: A test of skill and tenacity

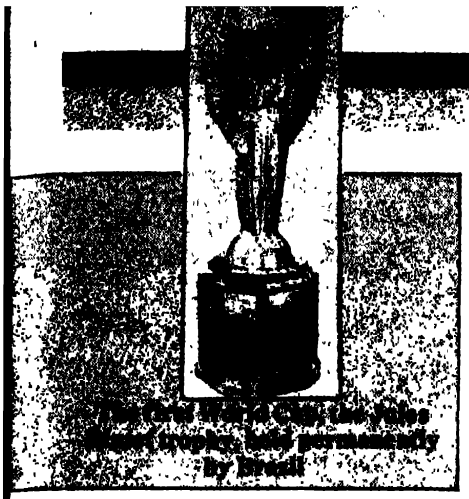


Will life be the same for anyone this Friday onwards? With a month-long orgy of passion play in Italia '90, the world's most popular sport will dictate everything you do. Sanjib Banerjee on what makes the World Cup go round

it has remained the same ball game throughout

For every team in Italy now, more than five teams have been left out. It didn't start like that in 1930 Europe, disdainful of the world beyond their seas, saw only four of their teams sail for Uruguay The Uruguyans won that one at home and declined to defend the Cup in Italy after four years Mussolini set standards for Hitler to better at the Berlin Olympics two years later and these were the days when they had good footballers but no real stars of the Pele and Maradona class

The game has so far shown a cyclical pattern From the early World Cups when it was the team game that it ought to be, through success based on individual flair to the present emphasis on teamplay once again. In Italy a team is more likely to win, the pundits say, than a Maradona's Argentina or a Gullit's Holland. But from after the War, down the years the World Cup finals have been stories built around some individuals. You might forget the venue,



but you'd remember it was Pele's World Cup in 1958. Just as it was Rossi's in '82 and Maradona's in '86. And Carlos Bilardo describes his '90 lot of Argentines as "Maradona and ten others." Stars have seldom been sent to the World Cup finals, they have more often been made there.

Yet, the first real star that was sent to a World Cup could not quite make it. And there were so many others after him on the list that will have eminent entries at the end of Italia '90. Ferenc Puskas wove around him the team of Magyar Magic in



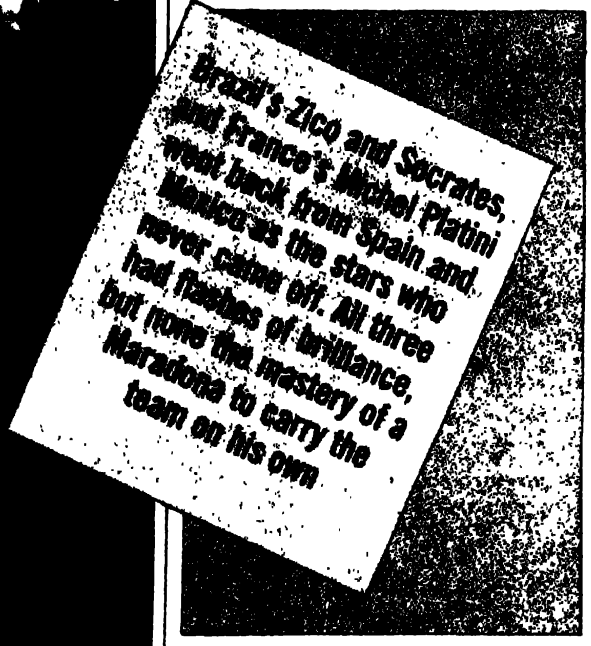
West Germany's Beckenbauer: A living legend

THUNDER

France's Platini: The star who failed to shine in Mexico



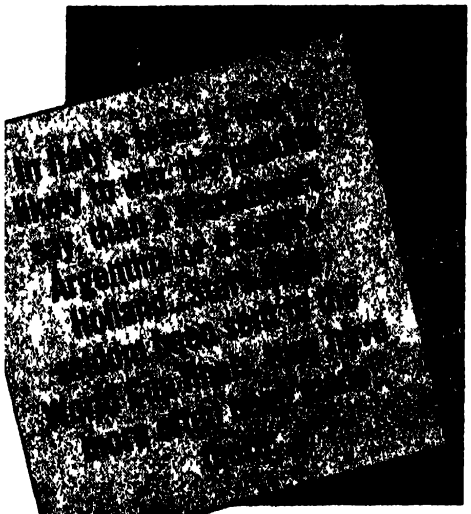
1954 and he was the first pre-tournament star (if Uruguay's Andrade can be discounted because of the limited participation in 1930). Few had looked beyond Puskas' Hungary in Switzerland that year. But it was Puskas' frontline partner Sandor Kocsis who took the lights ahead of the star with seven goals in the early rounds, before West Germany burst the Magyar bubble in the final. Four years later 17-year-old Pele established himself as the first genuine star with scintillating performances in the semi-finals and the final. With Pele and Brazil, for a time ball jugglery became the ultimate art. But successive World Cups after Sweden demanded a painful price from its greatest star. Pele was left bruised and insulted and he had to return 12 years after his first World Cup to prove himself all over again in the most distinguished company.



Then there have been the greats who have not been able to corner any World



Brazil's Careca: An awesome reputation



Italy's Vialli: The one man who could make all the difference

Cup glory. Alfredo di Stefano and George Best were probably as good as any other in their times, but they could not show themselves off in the showpiece event. Holland's Johan Cryuff, Europe's reply to Pele, was a very limited success at the World Cup. He fine-tuned the Dutch total football of 1974, but missed superstardom by the thin line between success and failure. That '74 final was more Cryuff versus Beckenbauer than Holland versus West Germany, though there were so many other very good footballers on both teams. Cryuff scored the first point by setting up Holland's goal (a penalty that Neeskens converted) before the West Germans had even got their first feel of the ball. It wasn't enough though, the Germans won in the end and Beckenbauer and Gerd Muller were the heroes. Muller sealed the game with his 14th World Cup final goal, a record till today. Cryuff did not travel on the Dutch team to Argentina in 1978 and Holland again lost to the hosts in the final.

Brazil have been sentimental favourites every World Cup since the Pele and Garrincha days, yet each time they had some individuals who would hold the key to success, like Zico and Socrates at the last two World Cups. But both of them and France's Michel Platini went back from Spain and Mexico as the stars who never came off. All three had flashes of brilliance, but none the mastery of a Maradona to carry the team on his own.

And even at Italia 90 Brazil are co-favourites with the hosts, but there could be a difference in this Brazilian team. Outside of Careca there is no one with an awesome reputation and even Careca does not carry the tags that Zico or Socrates did. Brazil may at last have found a team, rather than an assortment of brilliant individuals.

Now it's Holland's turn to do a Brazil. Authors of the nameless, position-less style of play, Holland's fate in Italy will be tied to the showing of three men, more Ruud Gullit in that than Marco van Basten or Frank Rijkaard. Van Basten knows the way to the goal, but if he is to replace Maradona as the king come July 8, he'd need support. And the question is whether the Dutch can stand on Gullit's bad knee.

The other most likely supremo could be Italy's own Gianluca Vialli. He showed just how in Sampdoria's European Cup Winners Cup triumph. Vialli has ideal back-up men to take Italy to the title in midfielder Roberto Baggio (for whom Juventus paid $ 13 million to Fiorentina in May) and defender Franco Baresi.

For Italian spectators, the charm of getting to see new stars will not be there as all the best in the world play in the Italian league. This neutralises a lot of the hosts' advantage as the Germans—key men Lother Matthaeus and Jeurgen Klinsmann among them—have made Italy their home for sometime now like the leading Dutchmen.

Individuals apart, the last few World Cups have not thrown the kind of upsets of the fifties and sixties. The US win over England in Brazil in 1950 and North Korea's over Italy in 1966 have been the most unexpected of results at the World Cup finals yet. There have been other anomalies, like Brazil's return from Argentina in 1978 without a loss, but without the Cup either. And the opener on Friday should see one record go—Cameroon's unbeaten sequence in the World Cup finals. They left Spain in 1982 having lost out on goal difference to eventual champions Italy in the qualification for the second round. That incidentally, was Cameroon's only appearance in the World Cup finals. ■

Chima Okerie's lead story appears on page 13.

Summer of '90

Although, thanks to a kindly dispensation, its advent was deferred by some weeks this year, the long hot summer is again upon us with its usual asperity And again thousands of imprecations arise from the throats of thousands of irate householders

But why? People never used to worry about the weather in the old days They just took it in their stride They didn't have air-conditioners or refrigerators or any of today's diverse gadgetry, but they kept their cool Some of them didn't even have electricity

In our family, the worst time was when grandfather got his annual bout of prickly heat Suddenly, from a kindly old gentleman he'd become a cantankerous, growling monster It wasn't any good telling him he ate too many mangoes, so to keep him quiet my brother and I took turns to scratch his back He gave us a rupee for each day's chore A rupee was a lot of money in those days

Just before we left for college, grandfather got the carpenter to make him a sort of spatula, made out of sandalwood, with a claw at one end This worked wonders as a back-scratcher and grandfather took it everywhere, even to the Samaj when he went to preside over its weekly meetings I still have it somewhere amongst my other mementoes, and it is one of my prized possessions

Grandmother had one of the rooms close to the kitchen—I suppose you'd call it the pantry—filled with bottles containing juices and squashes she'd laboriously distilled over the year from the baskets of fruit that used to come in from our garden in the city outskirts. She also stored for the winter a variety of jars containing pickles and *achars*. People would come from far and near to ask for her recipes

She had earthenware pitchers placed at strategic positions all over the house, these filled with pre-boiled water, and alongside a stool with a long-handled cup, so that anyone could quench himself whenever he was thirsty The cup was never allowed to touch the lips, but kept some inches away from the mouth, and as I recall those days I can't remember drinking anything more utterly waterly delicious

We had a fellow named Babloo who was the pankah-puller and Ramu, his cousin, whose job it was to sprinkle the khas-tatties from time to time and water the various courtyards Between the two of them, Babloo and Ramu managed to keep the temperature reasonably under control

...and when things were not so hot

One day, while getting his back scratched grandfather asked my brother what he planned to do when he passed out of college My brother thought for a moment and then replied "I want to be an inventor'

Grandfather exploded "An inventor? he asked "What the hell kind of profession is that?"

My brother, who was the dreamer type gave some kind of vague answer, saying that he wanted to fabricate things to make life easier for the common man "To control temperatures", he said pointedly, "and make machines do the work of human beings" He was a little ahead of his time, and grandfather didn't press him In the end, he became a ship's captain, but that's another story

As for myself, I never invented anything better than finding ways to avoid overwork But I can't complain I've been around, sailed the seven seas, seen service in coldest Canada and hottest Africa. Thus I've become fairly adaptable, weather-wise

Curiously, the hot weather gets me down most of all in Western cities, where one normally expects to escape its rigours, and I remember a recent summer we spent in London at the time of the Wimbledon Championship. We were staying at a little hotel behind the Marble Arch where we had enjoyed hospitality on previous occasions unblemished by even the smallest complaint But this time it was stifling, close to a furnace as only a London June can be, and we prayed for the day when we could leave There was no air-conditioning, not even a table fan, an amenity available only in more expensive establishments, and we spent much of our time in nearby Hyde Park

Years earlier, in Washington, where I had been appointed Press and Public Relations Officer to the Embassy, at a party Mrs Pandit gave to introduce me to the media, one of the guests fainted on arrival whereupon Walter Lippmann, always a model of decorum, asked permission of his hostess to take off his jacket He was quickly followed by Marquis Childs, Robert Reston Alfred Friendly and a dozen others, all the creme-de-la-creme of American journalism After her guests had gone Mrs Pandit curled up in a sofa and twitted me "Wherever did you manage to get this weather from?"

Much more recently, stranded in a snowstorm some miles out of Montreal and waiting to be rescued, I vowed to myself I'd never want to see a snowflake again

Now, I take it all back In the kind of weather we re having, I'd welcome a blizzard in my backyard, whatever the damage.

P.L. Bhandari



FACTS & FANCIES

Of Queues

Only the British queue properly In fact, says Hungarian writer George Nikesan, an Englishman even if he is alone forms an orderly queue of one.

In Calcutta as in Rome, normal bus stop behaviour is to crowd around the stop and when the bus comes,to elbow your way on board. If you are British about it chances are that you will be waiting forever.

In the US, life is worked out to keep waiting in a line to a minimum. No wonder Americans will not stand in a straight line. They just march up to the front and demand to be served which makes the ordinary British very angry indeed.

Britons live on a small over-crowded island. On crowded beaches as in bus queues they space themselves apart with mathematical exactitude. Unlike sheep which panic when they are forced into pens or made to pass through a small gate, the British deal with any sort of congestion by queueing.

Even though computerised voice systems have been installed in some banks which tell the person at the front which counter he should go to, the British still seem to prefer the old single file system. It is never going to be expedited out of existence. After all queueing is not only a national characteristic, it is also a passion of an otherwise passionless race.

Pet Subject

HERE LIES SASHA
Time does not heal the heart-ache/
or stop a silent tear,/or take away the
longing/for the one we loved so dear.
Rest in peace, sweetheart.

These letters are inscribed in gold-leaf on a highly polished granite tombstone, costing thousands of rupees.

Very touching, indeed. But, what is so unusual is the fact that lying buried under the stone is Sasha, a much loved dog who died four years ago.

At a conference in Monaco, on the relationship of man and beast, it was argued that bereaved owners need to mourn their departed pets in the same manner as they mourn deaths of family or friends.

In America, pet owners often spend thousands of rupees getting very fancy coffins, and tombstones made for the family pet. An elaborate tombstone for a horse can cost Rs 36,000 or more!



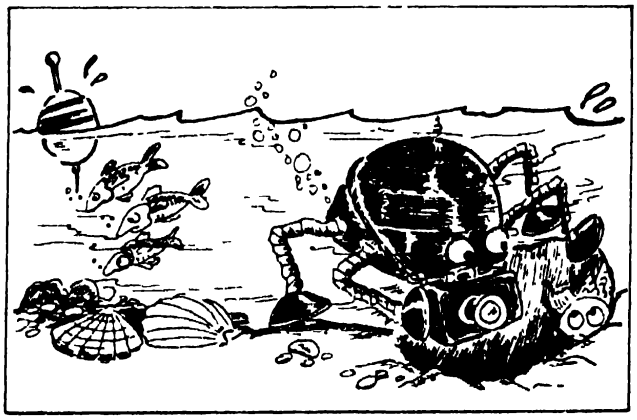
In France, the French visit their pets' tombs on All Saints Day. In Japan, modern Japanese place tins of dog food with their pooch's ashes in memorial lockers!

In Britain, of course, pets are a pet subject. The rich Victorians often had epitaphs like this 'BORN A DOG, DIED A GENTLEMAN!' for their pets. Royalty have always buried their pet corgis in various Royal homes.

Now, pet cemetries abound in Britain. The one with the greatest number of facilities is Rossendale Pet Crematorium in Lancashire. With its perfectly manicured lawns and flower beds, it has a budgie corner, a wall of remembrance to lodge ashes, and a chapel of rest where the pet's coffin can rest a while. They also arrange for a funeral service.

Why do people increasingly favour pet cemetries? With shifts in residence becoming more rampant, and old houses being razed to the ground for new high-rises, the backyard is not a safe place for a pooch any more. A cemetry offers a permanent resting place where people can go and visit their four-legged friends whenever they want to.

I Spied a Spider



It is not an insect. It has only four legs, not eight. It weighs about 20 kg. It can clamber up vertical glass walls, without slipping. What is it? It is a spider, a robot spider, called ROBUG.

Each of its pneumatically controlled legs has been fitted with a powerful vacuum sucker. The four suckers help the Robug climb up smooth, vertical walls, and reach areas where humans would dread to tread. The Robug can go inside oil tanks, and carry out inspections; it can scan underwater scenario with the help of a computerised camera, and, fitted with special tools, a Robug can decontaminate nuclear power stations.

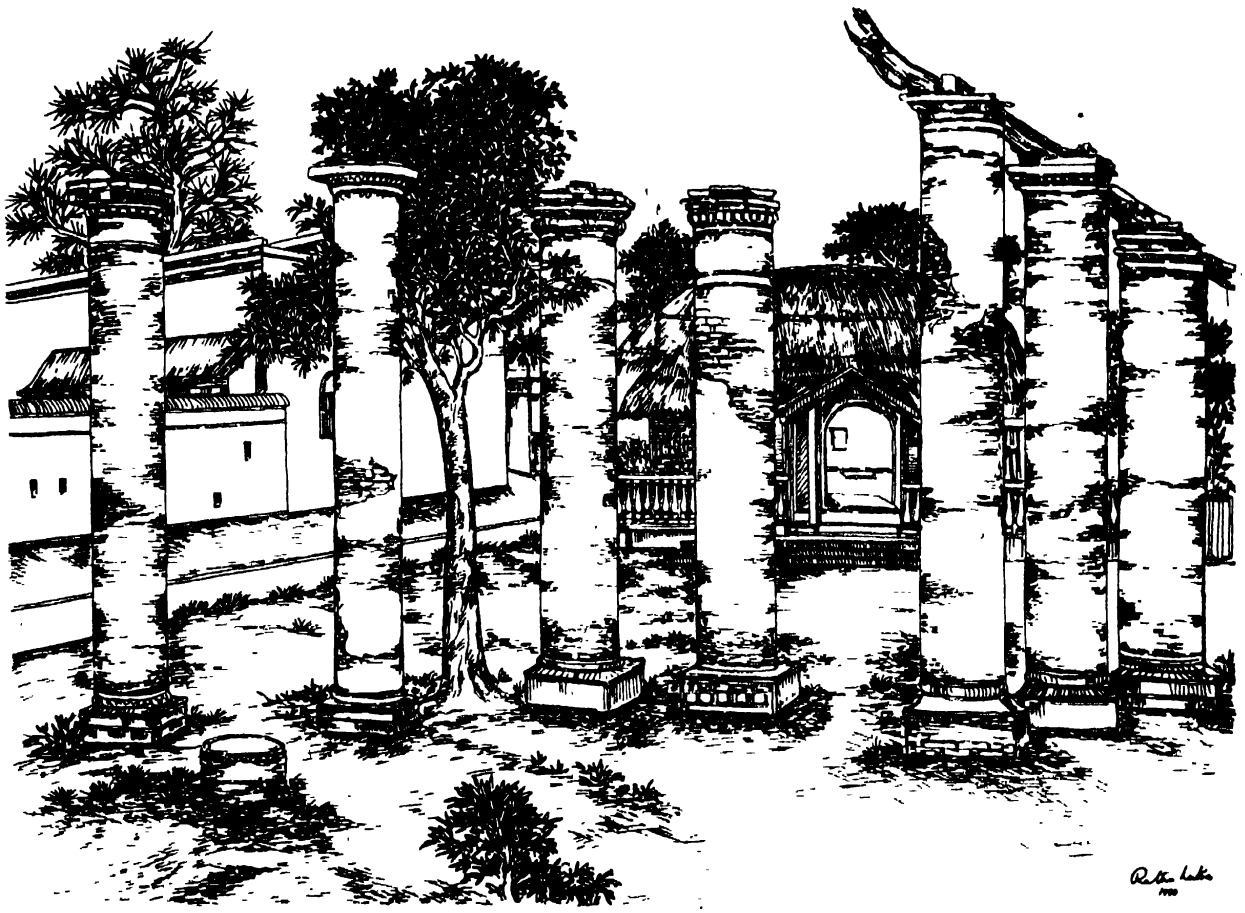
The Robug has little competition from the Japanese markets. The Japanese have already developed a "Gecko" (which can inspect bridges), and a Hitachi-device which can move over smooth, spherical, gas tanks. Where the Robug scores over these two is: one, each leg is individually controlled by a computer; so it can negotiate obstacles and changes in level or inclination; and two, it has built-in intelligence.

"Like a man walking on unfamiliar ground in the dark, the Robug puts its foot down to check whether it has a good grip, and then takes a step,"explains Mr Arthur Collie, who, along with Professor Billingsley of Portsmouth,has developed this "Big Bug".

Illustrations. Katie Dalal

Shamlu Dudeja and Nalini Sitlani

SABARNO ROYCHOWDHURYS OF BARISHA



The historic remains of the *aatchala* (a thatched roof with eight sections supported by pillars and having no walls; sketched above) at Barisha on the southern fringes of Calcutta belongs to the Roychowdhurys of Barisha, the oldest zamindars of Bengal. The legend goes that it was here, on June 10, 1698, that the three villages of Gobindapur, Sutanuti and Kalikata were sold for Rs 1,300 to the East India Company. A sense of history also clings to the more-than-250-year-old ruins of the *barabari* across the road. Descendants of the family still live in and around Barisha.

The Sabarno Roychowdhurys, who were originally Majumdars, trace their descent to a Kanauj Brahmin called Vedagarva. They inherited the title 'Roychowdhury' from one of the earliest figures of the family, Lakshmikant Majumdar, who was conferred the title by Raja Mansingh in 1626 along with the *zamindari* of Magurah, Khaspur, Paikan, Kalikata and Hetegarh.

The title of Roychowdhury began to be used from the time of Keshabram (1650-1726), grandson of Lakshmikant. In 1722, Murshid Quli Khan divided Bengal into a number of districts. Keshabram collected taxes from some southern districts and had the largest area under his jurisdiction. Consequently he was paid the highest commission (*borohusha*) and hence came the name Barisha. He also built a ghat for pilgrims on the Adi Ganga which came to be known as Kalighat. It is also said that Keshabram's fourth son, Santosh Roychowdhury (1710-99) built the Kalighat temple. He donated 595 bighas, four kathas and three chhataks of land and the temple was completed around 1809 by his son, Ramlal Roy, and the latter's nephew, Rajiblochan Roy.

Although the transaction with East India Company is doubted, the supposedly historic spot still remains the scene of the oldest Durga Puja in Bengal. It was first held in 1610 and the structure of the image has since remained unchanged. Another puja for which the Roychowdhurys are known is the almost 200-year-old Chandipuja accompanied by the Chandimela which is held beside Shokherbazar at Barisha.

Some of the illustrious members of the family are journalist Amita Malik, film music director Pranab Roychowdhury, attorney Abhaya Kumar Roychowdhury and Khirak Roychowdhury who was a principal of Cuttack's Ravenshaw College.

INNER EYE □ Bejan Daruwalla

ARIES
March 21—April 20

You must safeguard your health Wealth and happiness are your birthright Your sweetheart or mate will play difficult But you will finally get what you want Investments, buying selling, loans and funds are favourably signified Travel for work or personal reasons is an important feature of June and July

TAURUS
April 21—May 20

Health job and partnerships are the trio that could cause you some anxiety Romance and passion are paradoxically destined for you Financial pressures are indicated because promises might not be kept by others In matters of health a medical checkup is advisable Travel is a strong feature in June

GEMINI
May 21—June 20

You will put in long hours at your job and reap rich rewards But your health needs proper attention In matters of romance you will work hard and play hard Your efforts in matters of finance will be appreciated though colleagues and subordinates will be jealous You will be shifting, commuting or thinking of long-distance connections

CANCER
June 21—July 20

You will wine and dine, and go in for business deals and expansion Romance will hum in your heart Buying selling investment, renovation and decoration are the right directions of the week On the health front you should not have any major problem Unless absolutely essential for business reasons it is better to avoid any journey Devote some time to the affairs of children, home and pastime

LEO
July 21—August 21

The full moon makes you active and extremely determined This in turn paves the way to success The conditions and setting are ideal for romance Once again expenses will sky rocket But your earnings will be encouraging as well Minor health problems are likely Towards mid-week, you will have to travel

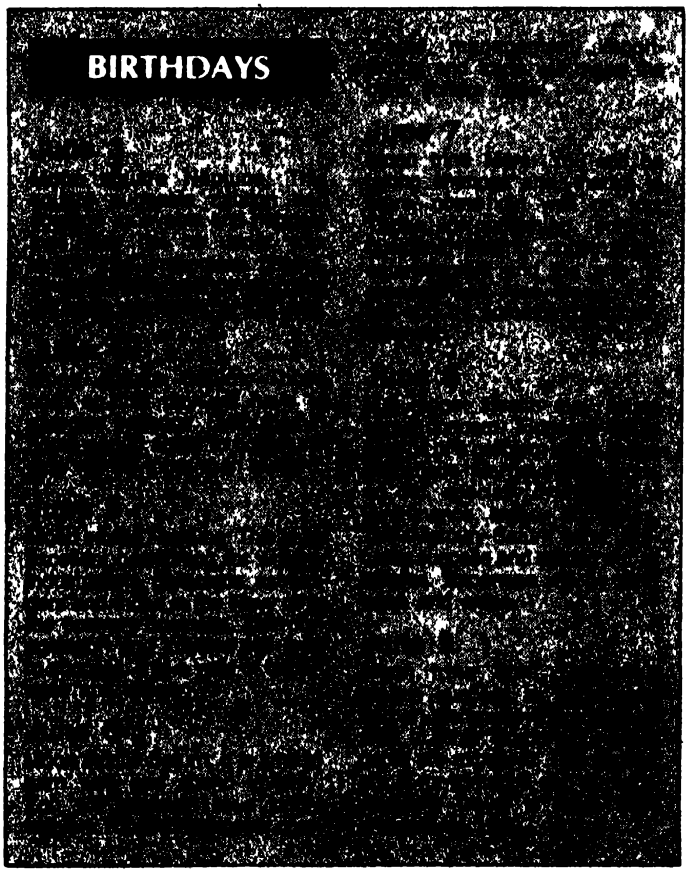


VIRGO
August 22—Sept 22

You will be quite introspective Travel becomes one of the main trends now Health could be a bit of a problem Secret affairs as well as strong open ties are the hallmark this week You will earn from more than one source and thus meet your financial commitments

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22

Focus sharp and clear on house home, renovation, decoration, land elders, parents and in-laws This trend sways everything else for the next 21 days Love will have a Mona Lisa smile and Cupid will do the rest Though you will earn well do not be extravagant



SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 22

Journey, communication, celebration, rites and signing of deeds and documents are the week's main trends Finance is a strong point as by July money pours in. The Jupiter-Uranus opposition means strong romantic ties, though they may not be permanent The next 15 days are ideal for travel Health improves but not hypertension Yoga, meditation and sports will definitely help Devote more time to the affairs of children

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23—Dec 20

Romance, children and property give tremendous thrill However, the health of elders may cause some anxiety Romance is your beautiful destiny You will have the money to buy, sell or invest A slight emotional or physical upset should be taken in your stride It is travel time Children will be the joy of your life

CAPRICORN
Dec 21—Jan 19

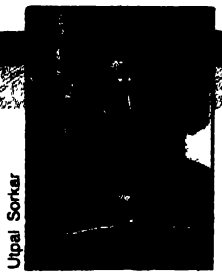
A home away from home, renovation, decoration, buying and selling are the highlights of the week An important journey awaits you In romance expect sun and shadow, light and shade Important financial transactions are certain in June Take time off from your busy work schedules to relax

AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18

News, views, messages, correspondence, travel and communications will be the life blood Romance for the eligible and fancyfree Expect financial gains by the end of July Health shows considerable improvement and therefore you will be able to work better In June, you will combine profit and pleasure in a handsome manner

PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

Do not neglect the personal and emotional sides of your life now Religious impulses and psychic doors will open out It is just the right time for romance Seize the chances to augment your income and build resources Health problems will not impede your progress Visits and meetings are foretold



Utpal Sorkar

Amiya Tarafdar



Diego Maradona: Looking for the ultimate goal

The countdown to the greatest shootout on earth has begun. For exactly one month, everything will come to a standstill as soccer frenzy takes over. Reputations worth millions of dollars will be made or marred. For a man like Maradona the stakes are even higher. If he can make his magic work this time, too, his place among the Argentine pantheon of gods is assured.

Chima Okerie looks into the crystal ball

THE WORLD CUP WAR

The images of the 1986 World Cup in Mexico are still vivid in my mind: Emilio Butragueno bursting the Denmark bubble with four goals, Gary Lineker guiding England to the second round with a hattrick against Poland, Uruguayan Battista setting a dubious record by being sent off 54 seconds into their match against Scotland, France coming a cropper against West Germany after overcoming World Cup holders, Italy, and Brazil, the unpretentious Belgians ousting the fancied Soviets in a seven-goal thriller en route to the last four.

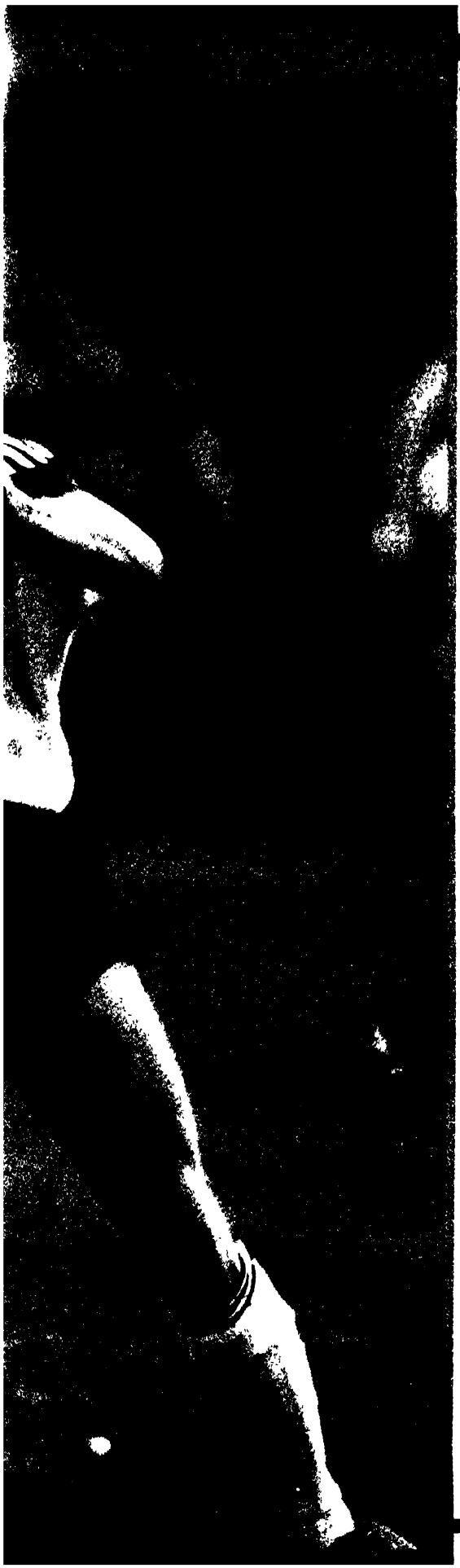
But the most lasting impression is that of a stocky little man working his way majestically through the wall of defenders, the ball magnetically stuck to his left foot. Diego Armando Maradona is his name, and it was his World Cup all right. It was almost as if he was guided by supernatural powers. No one could stop him from doing whatever he liked. The entire ground was his domain; he defended his citadel, snatched the ball in midfield, foxed anyone who came in his way and scored goals at will.

The second goal against England was particularly memorable not only for its execution, but also in terms of timing. Maradona's first goal in that match was the most controversial in the entire tournament. England goalkeeper Peter Shilton knew, and so did Maradona himself, that it was the Argentine's hand rather than his head which had deflected the ball into the net. The referee thought otherwise, and Maradona did not seem to mind. The entire English team was convinced that it was an illegal goal and made no effort to hide their feelings. That was enough provocation for the little master to try and get a 'clean' goal. And soon enough he was cruising down the middle from his own half, leaving a trail of bewildered Englishmen hot on his heels, but unable to catch up with the Argentine captain. Shilton this time had no scope to complain as Maradona put the finishing touches with his lethal left foot. Every footballer dreams of scoring a goal like this.

When I say Maradona was aided by supernatural powers in Mexico I'm in no way trying to undermine his consistently superb performances. I just want to drive home the point that Maradona's brilliance was truly enviable, even by his own standards. He had gone to Mexico with a reputation that was difficult to live up to. Eventually he managed to surpass all expectations and carved out a place for himself among the very best in the game ever.

Geniuses are born, not made. Anyone can become a good footballer or even rise to above-average if he works sincerely. But to attain the standards of Pele or Maradona you need something more,





something that cannot be acquired by any amount of practice. It is nothing but a gift of God. In Maradona's case it is his left foot with which he makes the ball and the opposition dance to his tune.

Any left-footed gamemaker or striker is immensely more dangerous than a predominantly right-footed player with the same amount of skill. I have often wondered about the rationale behind this phenomenon, but failed to come up with a satisfying explanation.

A sound temperament is another quality of Maradona. He has been the target of defenders ever since he shot into the limelight. Stop him by hook or by crook, don't let him go anywhere near the goal: that's been the motto. Instances of Maradona writhing in pain after being felled by a defender are as common as Maradona scoring beautiful goals. Eight years ago in Spain, he had to leave the field after being literally struck by his opponents. In Mexico, too, the opposition tried the same tactic only to see it boomerang. Maradona's theory was simple: whatever be the provocation, he would keep his cool and not retaliate. True, he would suffer, but then he could continue with his natural game. The defenders would be made to realise that there was no way this man could be disturbed or thwarted, and they would start looking at him in awe—mesmerised by his incredible abilities. They could no longer play their normal game because of their obsession with stopping one man.

In Mexico, a fully mature Maradona led his team. Not that a captain has a terribly important role to play in football, but if ever there was an instance of a skipper inspiring his companions it was he. Without belittling the performances of Jorge Burruchaga, Valdano, Brown and Pumpido, it would be fair to say that the Argentine team owes 60 to 70 per cent of their last World Cup success to their captain.

Four years after the momentous triumph, Argentina is again looking up to Maradona to earn them a third World Cup title. The million-dollar question is: Can Maradona reproduce the '86 magic?

I feel Argentina will be hard pressed to progress beyond the second or third round, leave alone reach the final. No matter how good his form is, one Maradona is not enough for Argentina to retain the title. In 1986 the team relied greatly on Maradona's ability to outsmart the rivals, but not as much as it is doing this time. I don't like the way even their coach is announcing the team's dependence on Maradona. He is almost made out to be one super human who just has to take the field alone.

Football is out and out a team game in which an individual's contribution occa-



Spanish 'Vulture' Emilio Butragueno

Soviet star Vasily Rats



Newman Features



Can the Brazilians break the post-Pele jinx?

Top scorer of the '86 World Cup, England's Gary Lineker



sionally stands out. But that does not mean others are mere puppets. This attitude is often detrimental to the cause of the team. It only invests the others with an inferiority complex and thereby affects the side's morale.

Maradona himself will find the going tougher. He will definitely be marked more closely than ever before. I can also foresee that he will be at the receiving end of the nastiest of fouls designed to put him out of the game. It won't be anything new to him, but it remains to be seen how he tackles those situations at the age of 29 when he is already past his prime.

There will be a number of aspirants seeking to dethrone the Argentine. Marco van Basten, Ruud Gullit, Romario, Careca, Gianluca Vialli, Juergen Klinsmann are the ones who will be vying for the top spot. The ones with exceptional skill are going to be under close scrutiny thereby making it difficult for them to display their real prowess. Nevertheless, there will be one or two who can overcome all odds—just like Maradona did in Mexico—and stand above the rest.

I am personally pinning my hopes on the Dutch duo of Van Basten and Gullit. Whatever I have gathered about them from the media, I rate Van Basten as one of the most skilful goalgetters in recent times. Gullit can be as effective as Maradona. Once he has fully recovered from his injury, his combination with Van Basten can destroy the rival defence.

I do not want to predict the winners. But if I were to name four teams from whom the championship is likely to be decided, my choice would be the Netherlands, Italy, Brazil and West Germany. One basic advantage these teams enjoy is that they have a more balanced side than the defending champions. Each has four or five potential stars in their ranks.

Three-time champions Brazil last won the Cup in 1970 and has never reached the finals since then. In each of the last four championships they have flattered to deceive. Their present side does not have a Zico or a Socrates. But the Taffarels, the Bebetos, the Romarios and the Carecas can turn the clock back and reestablish Brazil where they once belonged.

West Germany are an unpredictable side. Over the years, they have been unimpressive in the early stages, but have somehow managed to progress well beyond expectations. They have played three of the last four finals and it would not surprise me at all if they are one of the two teams in Rome on the big day, July 8.

I doubt that we will see a flood of goals in Italy. Most of the matches will be tough and hard-fought producing draws or margins of 1-0, 2-1, 2-0. Most of the teams



have become defence oriented Their psychology is to defend their own citadel first and, if chance permits, look for a goal through a swift counter attack This used to be the trademark of European teams till recently But now even the Latin Americans have a similar approach to the game The Brazilians, once the symbol of entertainment in football, are reportedly chalking a balanced strategy rather than the traditional all out approach

You can't really blame either the coaches or the players for adopting the safety-first tactic There is so much at stake these days for the professionals If your team loses early, your exposure becomes limited and you do not get much scope to impress the talent hunters all over the world If you belong to the champion side, you are flooded with all kinds of incentives, bonuses and maybe, a prize contract with a crack club

So, why should a team play aggressive football right from the kick off and risk conceding a goal? Soccer fans do not seem to mind the lack of a great number of goals as long as their team wins And as long as the crowds flock to see their favourite stars in action, football will remain the number one spectator sport

As D Day draws nearer, the excitement



Flying Dutchmen Ruud Gullit (left) and Marco van Basten (above, in white)

grows I am sure that this World Cup will not disappoint the followers of the game Maybe there will be personal feelings of anguish at the failure of a particular idol or a team But the sheer thrill of seeing the action live, is sure to overwhelm every enthusiast of the game I am no exception But deep in my heart, I am praying to God that this World Cup turns out to be a trendsetter

Let the game be played the hard but fair way There should be no contrived matches with two teams conspiring to eliminate a third Let the footballers get a chance to prove themselves ■



Out Of

Migration all over the world has reached a new high. The displaced have dilemmas of their own. And no one can say where the next refugee crisis will erupt

Tens of thousands of Eastern Europeans led by East Germans have headed west. More than 300,000 ethnic Turks, forced by Bulgaria to give up their Islamic names and Turkish language, have fled east to Turkey.

At least 20,000 ethnic Hungarians persecuted under the repressive regime of deposed and executed Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu have escaped across the border to Hungary. The exodus of Jews from the Soviet Union in 1989 broke a record.

Fifty-seven thousand Vietnamese boat people who have sought refuge in Hong Kong—one family living in a tree—face forced repatriation. In a controversial decision the government of the British colony claimed that many of the people are not legally refugees and airlifted the first group of 51 to Hanoi just before dawn December 12.



More than 700,000 Mozambicans fleeing a long, savage civil war have overwhelmed tiny Malawi, one of Africa's poorest countries; in some regions refugees greatly outnumber Malawians. Even the number of people risking the perilous 90-mile boat trip from Cuba to Florida rose in 1989.

All these refugees dominating recent headlines are caught in international, political, economic and humanitarian dilemmas as the migration of the world's people reaches its highest level since World War II era.

And the masses of people adrift continue to swell. From 1984 to 1989, the number of refugees worldwide increased 67 per cent, from 9.1 million to 15.2 million, according to Roger P. Winter, director of the US Committee for Refugees, a non-profit organisation based in Washington, D.C.

Another 14 million to 20 million people are "internally displaced." They include Sudanese uprooted by civil war or Panamanians by the US invasion. Because they have not crossed an international border, they are not officially counted as refugees.

Despite the easing of many of the regional conflicts that produce most of the world's refugees, the upward trend hasn't peaked yet, according to Winter. Superpower intervention frequently prolongs local battles.

"One-third of all refugees are Afghans. The hope was that when the Soviets left Afghanistan you'd get massive repatriation, but that hasn't happened yet," he explains. Nearly all the more than five million Afghan refugees are encamped in neighbouring Pakistan and Iran. More than half the world's refugees live in South Asia and the Middle East. The two million



Their Depths ?

Palestinians, recognised as refugees by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, have been displaced for more than four decades, longer than any other group.

With at least 4.2 million refugees, the continent of Africa, especially the eastern Horn, accounts for the second largest group of refugees, followed by Europe with more than 700,000, East Asia with about 650,000 and Latin America and the Caribbean with nearly 300,000.



"In Europe there are quick solutions. European refugees are not kept in camps for 10 years," Winter says. "East Germans are generally not counted as refugees once they get to West Germany, because they are offered citizenship."

Most of the world's refugees come from the Third World and end up staying there, says geographer William B. Wood of the US State Department. Refugees generally have three options, he explains: safe return to their homeland, assimilation into the country of first asylum, usually a neighbouring country that most often serves as a temporary refuge, or resettlement in a third country.



The prime places for resettlement are the United States, Canada, Western Europe and Australia. But these doors are closed to many Third World refugees. "Almost no refugees from the biggest refugee-producing areas, South Asia and Africa, get resettled in the United States," Winter says.

Most of the US quota of 125,000 refugees for the current fiscal year is assigned to two regions: Eastern Europe, 50,000 of its 56,500 allotted to Soviets; and East Asia, most of the 51,500 set aside for Southeast Asians.

European countries, banding together for their 1992 economic union, are expected to get tougher on Third World refugees. If mutual policies are agreed upon, a person denied asylum by one European country will automatically be denied asylum in every European country.

As the world's refugees swell in number and conditions in camps deteriorate, financial aid is drying up. Contributions to both the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross have dropped drastically.

And "no one can predict when and where the next refugee crisis will erupt," Wood says. "A year ago who would have thought of Eastern Europe."

(National Geographic News Service)

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Awaaz De Kahan Hai** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266)—4 shows

Directed by Sibte Hasan Rizvi and with music by Naushad the film stars newfinds Avinesh Wadhwan and Shikha Swarup along with Bindu A K Hangal Anjan Srivastav, Shubha Khote Dev Kumar, Satyen Kappu Jamuna and Annu Kapoor

• **Awwal Number:** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442)

A film by Dev Anand, who also stars along with Aamir Khan Aditya Pancholi and debutante Ektaa The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Ghar Ho To Aisa.** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138)—4 shows

Directed by Kalptaru and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the film stars Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Raj Kiran, Bindu Om Prakash and Kader Khan

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383)—10 45, 2 15, 5 30 9 Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows

Well on its way to being an all time hit, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman

• **Naaka Bandi:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 272473), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808)

Dharmendra and Sridevi are the lead pair Also in the cast are Chunkey Panday Sonam Anupam Kher and Amrish Puri The film is directed by Shibu Mittra and the music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Pati Patni Aur Tawaif:** Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road 391090) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554033), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road, 474403)—4 shows, Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808)—noon

A film by Rajkumar Kohli, starring Mithun Chakraborty, Salma Agha, Farha and Amjad Khan

• **Police Public:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street 552270), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522)

Raaj Kumar, Naseeruddin Shah, Kabir Bedi and Poonam Dhillon are the chief attractions The film is directed by Esmayeel Shroff and the music is by Raam Laxman

• **Swarg:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141), Malancha (Regent Park), Jaya (Lake Town, 573936)

Directed by David Dhawan the film stars Rajesh Khanna, Govinda, Juhi Chawla and Madhavi



Prasenjit and Neelam in *Badnaam*



Sridevi in *Naaka Bandi*



Farooque Shaikh and Rupa Ganguli in *Agnikanya*

Bengali Films

• **Aabishkar:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 485593)—1, 4, 7

A film by Sahi Dutta, starring Tapas Paul, Satabdi Roy, Manoj Mitra, Biplab Chatterjee, Master Rintu and Indrani. The music is by Mrinal Banerjee

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Mina (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—2 45, 5 30, 8 15

Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Indrani Dutta, Sanghamitra Banerjee and Anup Kumar star in this Tarun Majumdar film whose music is by R D Burman

• **Agnikanya:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani, 553045), Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—3 shows

Farooque Shaikh makes his debut in Bengali films, Also starring are Rupa Ganguli, Utpal Dutt, Anil Chatterjee and newcomer Chinpal. The film is directed by Gopal Gupta and the music is by Dilip Mondal

• **Badnaam:** Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 271282), Mini Jaya (Lake Town, 573936)—3 shows

Shibu Mittra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit, Shakti Kapoor, Shakuntala Barua, Subhendu Chatterjee, Bankim Ghosh and Soumitra The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Mandira:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515)—3, 6, 9, Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—2.30, 5 30, 8 30

Prasenjit, Sonam, Chunkey Panday, Indrani, Shakuntala Barua and Pradeep Kumar comprise the main

cast of this Sujit Guha film. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Hum Se Na Takrana:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Malancha (Regent Park).

Directed by Deepak Bahry and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Dharmendra, Shatrughan Sinha, Mithun Chakraborty, Anita Raaj and Kimi Katkar.

• **Tum Mere Ho:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108).

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla are the lead pair in this film, directed by Tahir Husain.

Special Events

3-6 June: 3 pm – 8 pm (except Monday)

An exhibition of the works of eminent artists.

At Galerie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

3 June: 5.30 pm

Calcutta Journalists' Club felicitates noted Rabindrasangeet exponent Shantidev Ghosh. Other participants in the evening's musical programme are Pradip Ghosh (recitation) and Agnibha Bandyopadhyay, Srinanda Mukhopadhyay and Ashis Bhattacharya in Rabindrasangeet

At Ashutosh Birth Centenary Hall (Indian Museum complex, Sudder Street)

3 June: 6.30 pm

Theatre Arts Workshop presents the play, *The Oresteia*, a modern adaptation of Aeschylus' Greek tragedy. Direction. Amitava Roy.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani: 449086/432197)

3 June: 9.30 am & 6.30 pm: 4-7 June: 6.30 pm

Rabindra Janmotsav '90, organised by West Bengal government's information and cultural department, features a Rabindrasangeet session on 3rd morning and dance-drama *Mayar Khela*, presented by Indian Cultural Troupe, on 3rd evening, two Rabindrasangeet sessions on 4th and 5th; play, *Bicharak*, presented by Bhaash, on 6th; and a musical feature, *Bangla Gaaner Patobhumikay Rabindrasangeet*, presented by Indira, on the concluding evening.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

4 & 5 June: 6.30 pm

Indian Council for Cultural Relations presents The Arts of Africa 1990, featuring a 15-member theatre group from Uganda.

At Vidya Mandir (1, Moira Street; 446420).

9 June: 5.30 pm

Surdas Sangeet Sammelan presents an evening of ghazals featuring Naim Ali, Alauddin Khan, Manjoor Hossain, Sova Kabra, Reshmi Palit, and Neha Jain Also, dances by Uma Kabra

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road, 289978).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5) AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6). AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1060, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6): IC-843 at 0755, Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1620, Dep. (5) : BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (2, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1340.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (2, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1540.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2): KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily). IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845, Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily) IC-265 at 1640; Arr. (daily) IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-271 at 1400; Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6) IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6). IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400, Arr (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4). IC-244 at 1230, Arr (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7). PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly) PF 706 at 1615
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi:
Dep (1 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600
Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-716 at 1025
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo. Dep (2 4 6) PF 721 at 0930 Arr (2 4 6) PF 722 at 1805
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along:
Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-723 at 1045, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF 724 at 1950
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna:
Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF 726 at 1040
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta
Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-737 at 0600
Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-738 at 1100

Trains

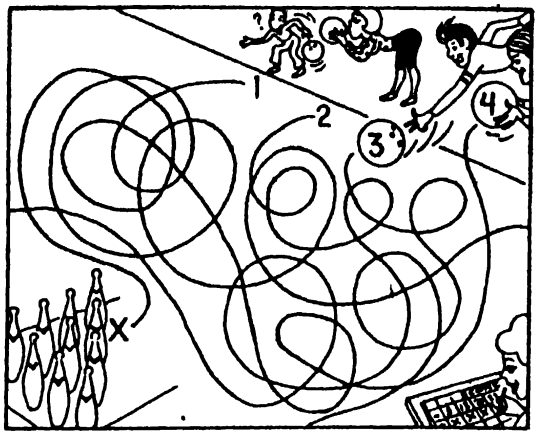
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	2312
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep Tues Thurs & Sat Arri Wed Fri & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	2304
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri — Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20 45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21 10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11 10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr - Mon & Fr	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3114
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16 30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12 50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

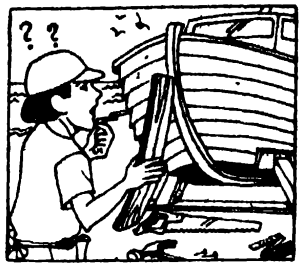
Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21 20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep -Except Saturday Arri Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati Howrah Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep — Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays)



ALLEY OOPS! Just one of four tosses strikes the bowling pins in the contest above. Which one is for you to decide.

• NAME DROPS! Drop T from Ted and you have Ed Drop S from Sandy and you have Andy Drop V from Vanna and you have Anna Drop C from Calvin and you have Alvin Can you think of some more?



EVERYTHING SHIPSHAPE?
How long will it take you to "sea" through this amusing verse-riddle? Its subject is something that is an important part of a ship, and is spelled with four letters

Two parallels a straight line meet
Two upright angles on their feet.
Then don't forget when doing thus,
Between the three place half of us.
And there it rides upon the tide,
Front to rear, and side to side.
What part of a ship is that?

The hull described letter by letter

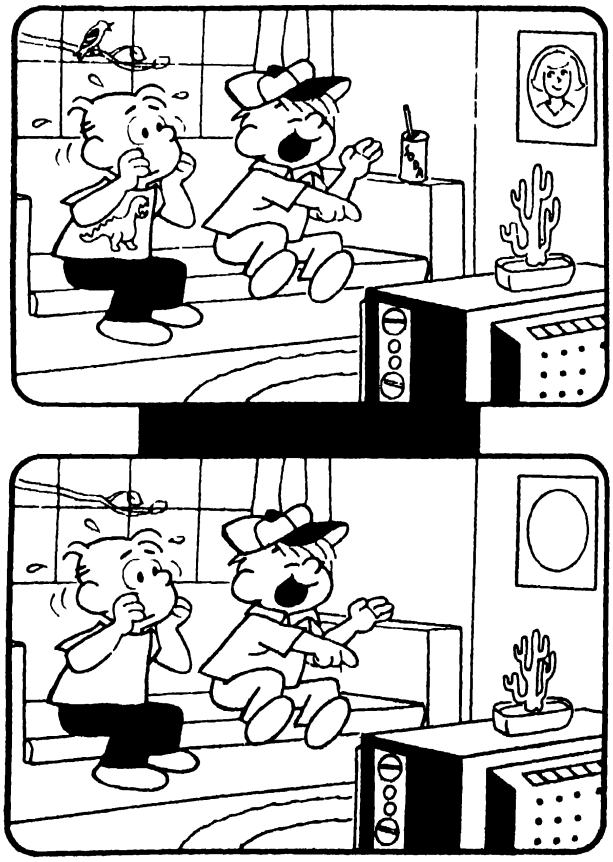
•AGE SPREAD! Letters, A, B, C and D stand for ages of four different persons in the chart, below, with one letter missing from each line. Sums represent a total of the ages of three persons indicated.

You are asked to determine the age of each of the four persons by studying totals in the chart.

Ages A—56 B—34 C—22 D—57

	B	C	D	=113
A		C	D	=134
A	B		D	=146
A	B	C		=111

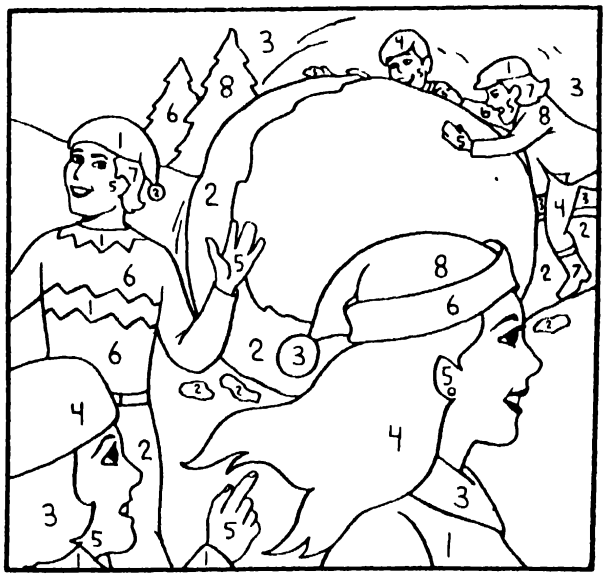
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Bird is missing 2 Dinosaur is missing 3 Arm is moved 4 Soda can is missing 5 Portrait is missing 6 Plant is different

FUNSPOT



PLAY BALL! Comin' atcha — a big ball of snow! Use crayons or colored pencils neatly Code: 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk green

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

PARASITE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Sara pair



An interesting letter has come in from Smwarajit Lahiri Chakravarty, Calcutta-63.

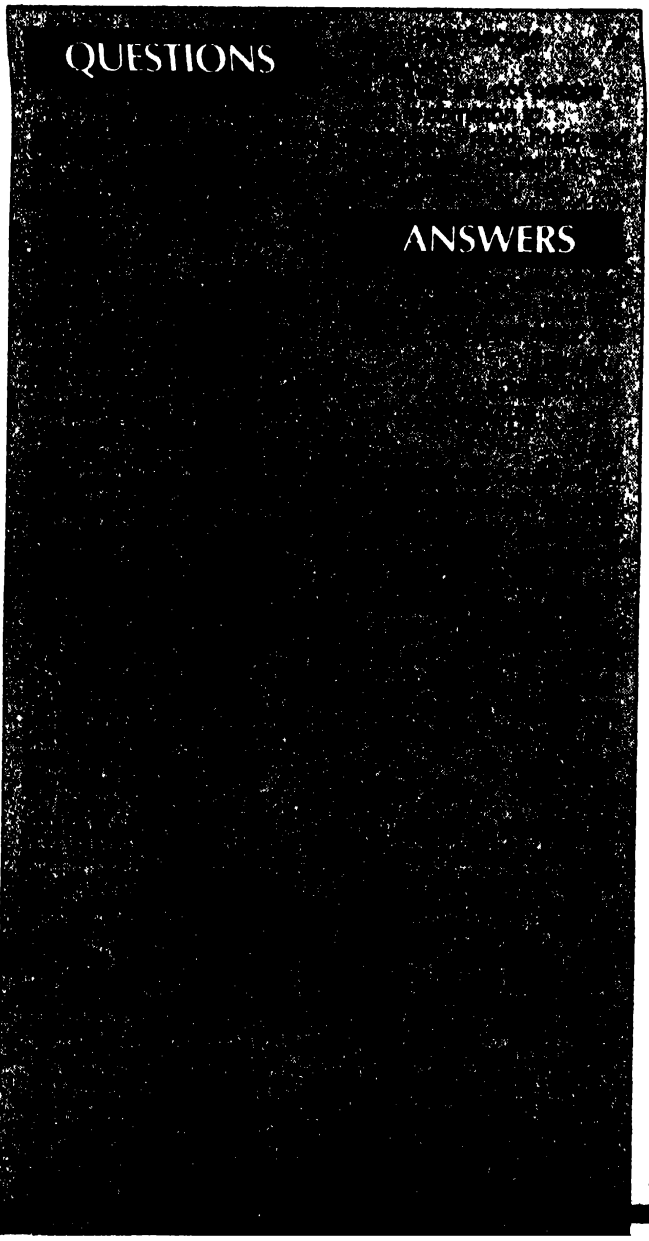
"About the quotation 'Fool-of-the-People' of Lincoln, I would like to draw your attention. The 25th March 1990's publication said that it was doubtful whether Lincoln actually said, "You can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time." The 'Cooper Union' speech that was delivered by Lincoln, in New York city, before he became President, was not jotted down by any, as all were eager to listen to it. As no proof of its existence stays, we cannot, with limited knowledge, say that Lincoln never produced it. Evidently, it became the 'Lost Speech'. The real copy of his best letter, written to Mrs Bisby, on the death of her five sons, is not traceable. But we cannot say that Lincoln never wrote it. According to Satyabrata Mahapatra, Lincoln never said the quotation (sic) of 'Fool of the People' and he got the idea from a book *They Never Said It*. We must remember that these books, with striking labels and headings, are written for quick sale only and to confuse us with our existing knowledge. Lincoln actually said it in his senatorial campaign in 1858. But I must thank my friend for letting all of us know that Lincoln probably did not say it. I am also amazed to find that one can, if he so desires, become a Lincoln authority by reading a book only. *The Telegraph Colour Magazine* did a great job by putting the interesting issue before readers."

Thanks for your views Smwarajit, but please read the issue in question again. Why accuse Satyabrata Mahapatra who only sent us a list of phobias which we published. He never said anything about Lincoln's speech. It was, in fact, I who gave the story as a sample entry (with comment) from an interesting book I had just read—*They Never Said It*.

The Oxford University Press is not in the habit of publishing books 'with striking labels for quick sale'. The authors Paul Boller, Jr. and John George are professor of history and professor of political science and sociology at US Universities and the authors of several books. All the book says, and so do you, is that there is no record of tis quotation being from Lincoln. *The Oxford Book of Quotations* gives the source as "Attributed words in a speech at Clinton, Sept. 8, 1858. N.W. Stephenson, *Autobiography of A. Lincoln* (1927). Attributed also to Phineas Barnum, 1810-91."

CBS

11th Question: **What is the "lighthouse sign"? (Rajat Bhargava, c/o H. K. Bhargava, 92 Jodhpur Park, Calcutta-700 068)**
Ans: **In acute otitis media (disease of the middle ear), the pulsating discharge when examined by otoscopy, reflects light intermittently. This is called the "lighthouse sign".**



Abhijit Ganguly writes from Burnpur:

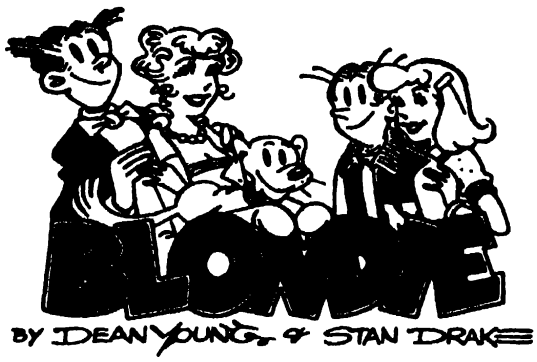
"The sixth Annual Foundation Day Quiz was organised by the Graduates' Association on April 8, 1990. About 140 teams participated in the School Quiz and the Open-to-all Quiz. Quizmasters were Biswajit Basu, OJM, SBI and Rajib Ray conducted the Quiz admirably in the presence of a huge crowd. In the School Quiz, the team comprising A. Ghose and J. Mukherjee emerged victorious while in the Open Quiz, P. Chatterjee and A. Roy were the winners of the coveted Shyamal Gandhi Memorial Trophy. Several dignitaries attended the function."

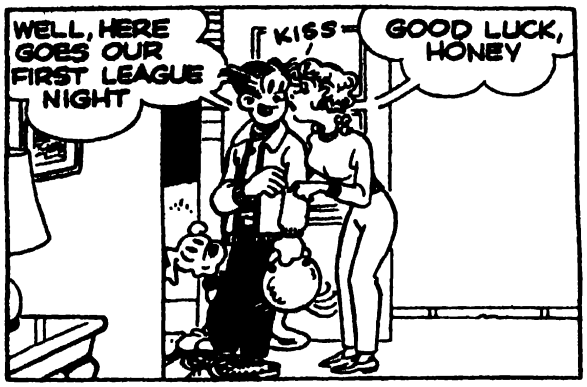
Ehtesham Anjum has listed official government publications named after their colours:

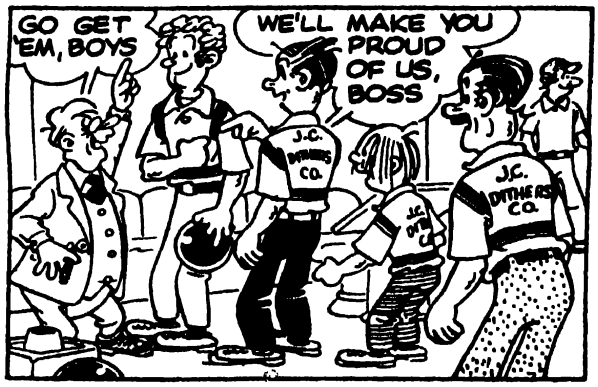
"White Books: Portugal and China;
Blue Books: Official reports of the British government;
Yellow Books: French official books;
Grey Books: Official reports of the Japanese and Belgium governments;
Green Books: Official Italian and Persian publications;
Orange Books: Official Netherlands publications".

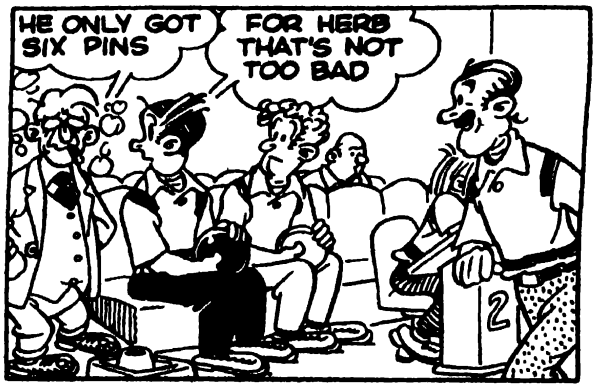
"Which horse won the first Derby?" asks Chittaranjan Pal, Calcutta-5.

Sir Charles Bunbury's horse Diomed won the first Derby at Epsom Downs in England in 1780. The racing classic was named for Edward Stanley, 12th Earl of Derby, who, together with Bunbury, promoted the event. The story goes that a coin was tossed to see which of them the race would be named after. But for that coin toss, there might have been the "Epsom Bunbury" at Epsom each summer, not to speak of the Kentucky Bunbury and the Calcutta Bunbury!

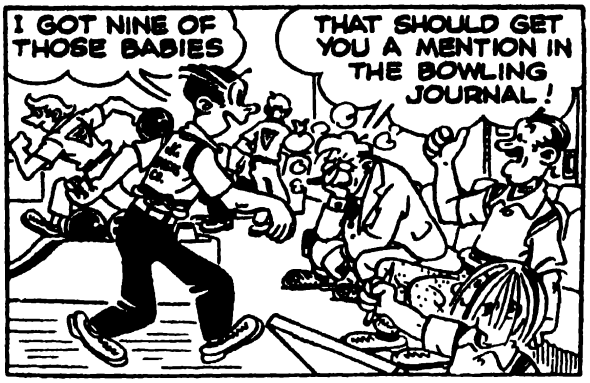






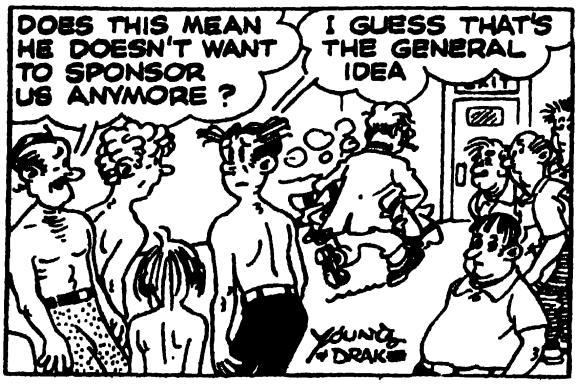






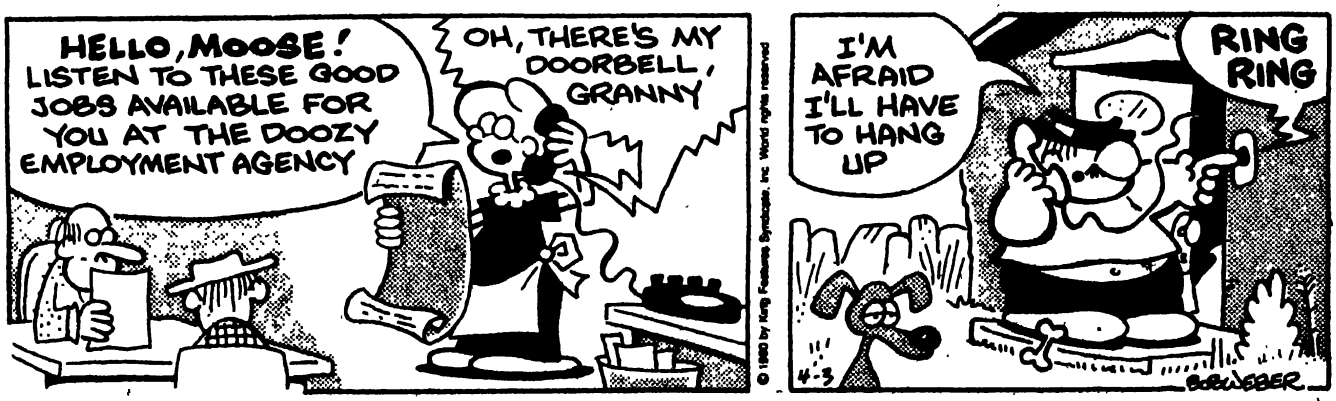


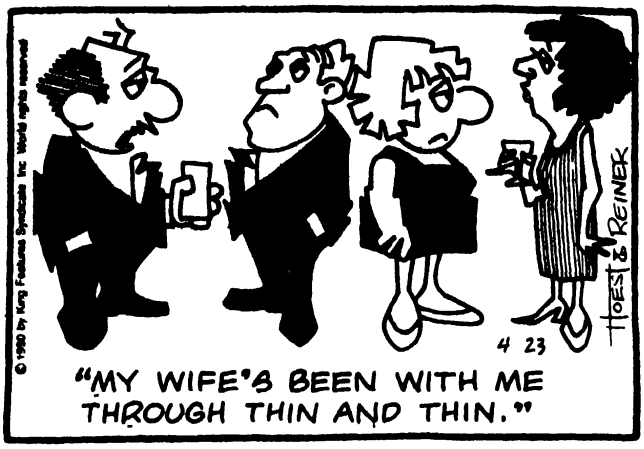
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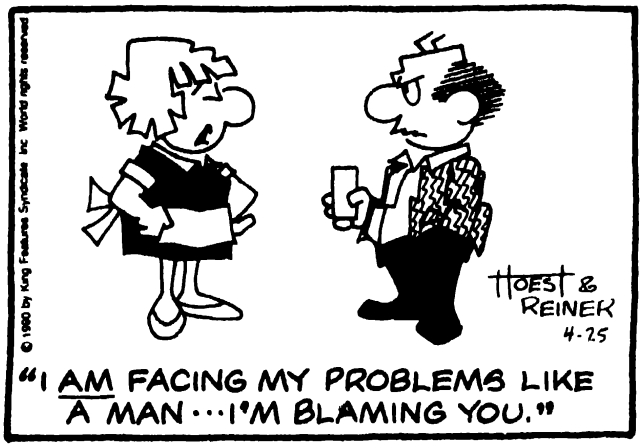

Archie
A FRIEND IN NEED IS A FRIEND INDEED!
I GUESS THAT MAKES YOU MY BEST FRIEND!
HEY, REG, CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?
THE ANSWER'S NO!
DIST BY ASIA FEATURES
I DIDN'T EVEN--
I CAN ALWAYS TELL WHEN YOU WANT TO BORROW SOMETHING... LIKE MY CAR OR MONEY!
HOW DO YOU KNOW I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU THAT? I MAY HAVE ASKED YOU WHAT YOU'RE DOING TONIGHT!
I MAY HAVE ASKED YOU HOW YOU'RE DOING! I MAY HAVE ASKED YOU IF YOU WANT TO GO ON A DOUBLE DATE TONIGHT!
6-10
O.K., O.K. I'M SORRY... WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO ASK ME?
CAN I BORROW YOUR CAR?

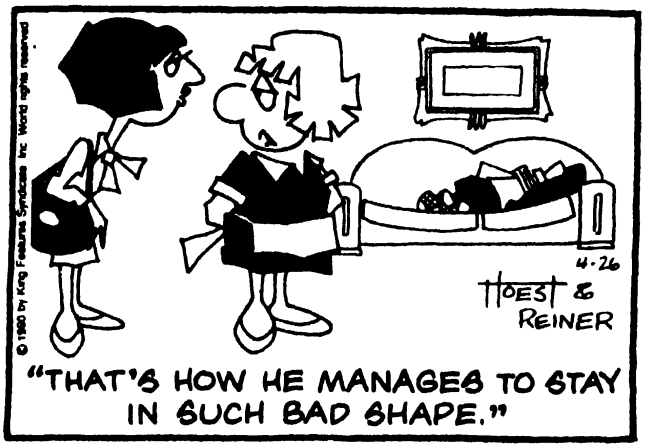

YOU'RE A REAL SWEETHEART FOR DOING THE SHOPPING
MOOSE! YOU FORGOT THE PET FOOD
FLOUR
4-2
BOB WEBER
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HELLO, MOOSE! LISTEN TO THESE GOOD JOBS AVAILABLE FOR YOU AT THE DOOZY EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
OH, THERE'S MY DOORBELL, GRANNY
© 1990 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved
I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO HANG UP
RING RING
4-3
BOB WEBER





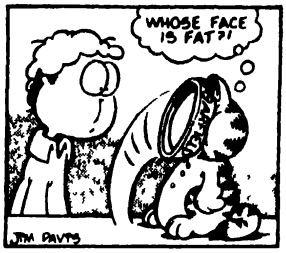


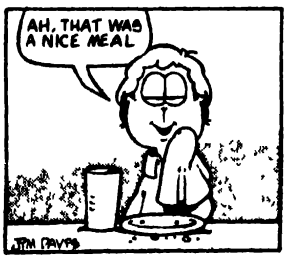


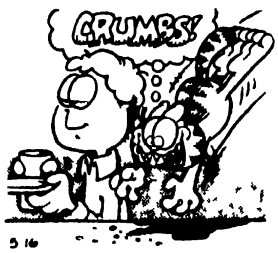
GARFIELD By Jim Davis

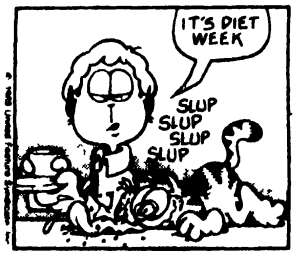






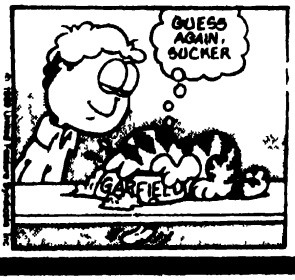






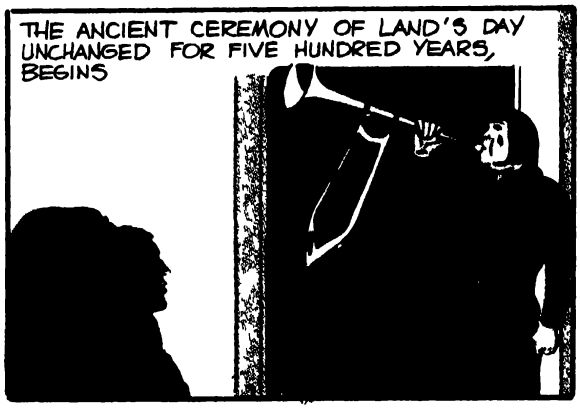






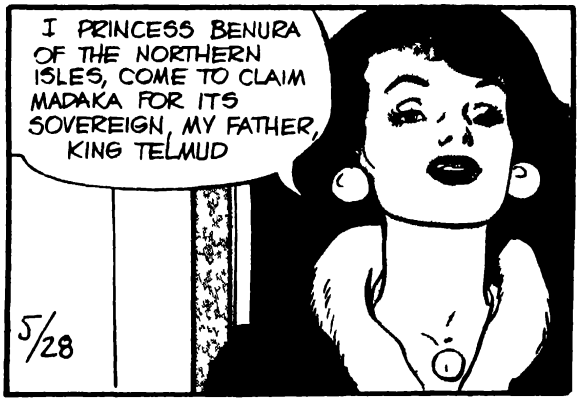

IT IS TIME TO WELCOME THE DAWN OF A NEW YEAR.
I WILL CHANGE INTO THE ANCIENT CEREMONIAL COSTUME OF THE OCCASION.
BANG!
DAMN!
I HOPE IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH ONLY TWO BALLOONS.
RESOLUTION— I WILL TRY TO GIVE UP SWEETIES
WAIT A MINUTE— I DIDN'T SIGN IT!
I DIDN'T SIGN IT!
click
ALWAYS LEAVE A LOOPHOLE.
CHOMP! CHOMP!
MEN, I HAVE A VITAL JOB FOR TWO OF YOU...
...TWO FEARLESS BUT CUNNING HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTERS WHO WILL THRIVE ON A DIET OF DANGER AND EXCITEMENT!
PHEW! THAT'S A RELIEF — I WAS SURE IT WAS GOING TO BE US AGAIN!
US?!
BUT YOU SAID FOR THIS JOB, YOU WANTED FEARLESS HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTERS WHO THRIVE ON DANGER ETC.!
OH, I SEE! IT'S A JOKE! THE SERGEANT IS PULLING OUR LEGS! OH, HA-HA! WHAT A THIGH-SLAPPER, EH, DENNIS?
PLEASE TELL ME THE SERGEANT IS LAUGHING DENNIS
HERE, BEAU— THIS MISSION WE'RE GOING ON — WE'RE GOING TO GET LOTS OF MONEY FOR IT!
WE ARE?
I JUST HEARD THE SERGEANT SAY SOMETHING ABOUT US BEING VERY DEAR OR ON EXPENSES OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
OH, WHAT WAS THE WORD HE USED?
EXPENDABLE
THAT'S IT! WE'RE EXPENDABLE!
CLICK!













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CANDID CAMERA



Political dramas can often become boring and **S.R. Bommai** doesn't pretend to close the yawning gap between politics and drama. His being elected as the interim president of the Janata Dal 'uncontested' was preceded by hectic lobbying and the withdrawal of the other contestants. Another propped up victory for the Devi Lal faction? Or just another crazy spectacle? Photograph by RAJ SETHI



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that s a situation none of us would like to get into But then one can never tell can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

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250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
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POST MORTEM

What a Tour!

This summer I had made a programme with my grandchildren to visit some tourist spots. The estimated cost was Rs 22,000. Miraculously, we enjoyed being to Simlipal, Goa, Khajuraho, Sandakphu, Dzongri, Nepal and many more places by spending just Rs 2.20, thanks to the Colour Magazine (April 29).
P.C. Dasgupta,
Calcutta

■ I wish to warn your readers about visiting McCluskieguni during summer. The mercury there touches, and even crosses, 40°C. in May-June. The Pujas are the best time to go there.
Tibar Banerjee,
Calcutta

■ It was one of the best issues you have published in recent times: excellent pictures and useful travel tips.
Saugata Basu,
Calcutta

'Sir Pran'

Prabhat Kumar writes that Pran was probably the first actor who specialised as a villain ('The Good Bad Man', April 15). But there was Ishwarlal before him in the thirties, specialising in Wadia Movietone's derring-do pictures with E. Billimoria and Madhuri invariably playing the lead pair.
A.P. Sinha,
Deoghar (Bihar)

■ It is difficult to find a versatile actor like Pran and equally difficult to find a gentleman like him in the film industry. He would have been 'Sir Pran' if he had been in Hollywood instead of Bombay.
Harekrushna Mahanta,
Bokaro (Bihar)

■ Pran did his gallery act with a touch of class. After the super success of *Ziddi* and *Grahasti*, which ran for 60 weeks in those days, followed by *Apradh*, there was no looking back for Pran. We salute the great actor.
Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

Great Occasion

It was a handsome tribute that you paid to the sitar supremo, Ravi Shankar, on his 70th birthday ('Sweet Seventy', May 6). The photofeature projected the great occasion beautifully.
Md. Nasim Ansari,
Howrah



Alpke Mitra

Sukanya and Ravi Shankar: In tune

Not So Gross

I find nothing objectionable in the pictures of lingerie-clad sirens in the Colour Magazine ('Our Pamella', April 1). At the same time, I do not wish this coveted publication turn into a girlie booklet.

But the photographs you have published so far have not been as gross as some of your shocked readers would have us believe.
Sudip Basu,
Chandannagore (W.B.)

■ I was shocked to see that the latest issue of the Colour Magazine did not carry any sexciting photographs. We are youths and need such relief badly. Those who are not interested can skip over those pages.
Feroz Ahmed,
Guwahati

■ What was so important about Asha doing the role of Pamella so as to deserve a cover story? It seems you have launched 'Operation Nudity' so that there is a rush of sex-starved readers to the hawkers.
Gautam Bhattacharjee,
Agartala

■ A final request: please don't publish such photographs in future.
Jamaluddin Khan,
Jamshedpur

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10 JUNE 1990

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Cover Subhajit Pal

There is a new rage in town. More and more people seem to be convinced that their illnesses are being cured by the Tibetan's touch. A treatment where the study of the pulse is all-important and the medicine men strike at the roots



A 17th century silver icon of Thang-ston rGyal-po, the wellknown yogic who, between his thumb and index finger, holds the *Grub-thob Ril-dkar*, a pill he formulated for *Bad-kan*, a general cold disorder due primarily to lack of digestive heat

Dr S. Wangdu Changbhar dispensing herbal medicine



Miracle Men

Tibet, best described as Roof of the World, still conjures up a feeling of magic, mystery and mysticism. Perhaps this was why Tibetan medicine was mumbo jumbo to the first Western travellers in the 16th and 17th centuries.

It is said that the first lady doctor in Tibet came from India in the 2nd century. Her companion married a princess and became royal physician in the Tibetan court where doctors were held in highest esteem. The profession is still a hereditary one and even today, a 'born' doctor is considered sometimes more qualified than one holding a piece of paper.

High on a hill near the capital Lhasa, the first Tibetan Medical College was established by Dese Sangay Gyatso, regent of the fifth Dalai Lama in the 17th century. *I Chokepure,* the medical course was not a five or 10 year one. Here 300 monks devoted their lives learning the art of healing. The medico monks walked through meadows and forests identifying and collecting plants—roots, leaves, flowers, seeds and bark, and all the while chanting *mantras.*

In 1916, during the time of the 13th Dalai Lama, the Lhasa Astro-Medical Centre was founded. For the first time, lay people including women were admitted.

Return to nature is the last call for survival in the last decade of the 20th century. The pendulum has already swung towards nature cures and therapies and the ancient indigenous medical systems of the East. In the West, Grandma's simples and Aunt's potions have reappeared in medicine chests and on toilet tables, patented and packed in eye-catching containers. Tibetan medicine is the latest entrant in the field of systems other than allopathy in Calcutta.

What is Tibetan medicine? A "dynamic and integral aspect of Tibetan culture is its traditional system of natural medicine." Similar in many respects to the ancient Ayurvedic system of medicine which, most agree, travelled to Tibet from India with Buddhism, it has been influenced by the native Tibetan Bon, the Chinese, Unani, Turkish and Greek systems. Tibetan medicine has been slow to catch on. Other systems of alternative medicines have received recognition from time to time. Perhaps one of the reasons for its exclusion to date is that very little is really known about Tibet. The system is still shrouded in mysticism.

Tibetan medical theory holds that the cause of disease is in the mind and the essence of Buddhism is to develop the mind over matter. The three poisons of anger, attachment and ignorance disturb the delicate balance of the human mind and body causing sickness. The Buddhist way of healing is to eliminate these poisons and create a positive mental approach Like

By **Bunny Gupta** and **Jaya Chaliha**

Photographs: Subhajit Pal

Ayurveda and Unani, the treatment is of 'opposites'. For example, if the body is overheated (solar), a cooling (lunar) medicine is given. The doctor treating his 'unbalanced' patient must be a man of compassion. For those doctors who practice Dharma, the medicine is a practical application of their religion.

Diagnosis is first and foremost in any system of treatment. In Tibetan medicine, the doctor 'watches' and 'feels'—he observes his patients and feels the pulse in 13 different ways. In some disorders, he analyses the urine by the use of his senses of sight, smell and taste. In serious cases, pulse diagnosis is done at twilight when the beat is supposed to reflect the body's performance best.



Jigme Tsarong: Medicine man from the mountains



Tibetan Medical and Astro Institute, Jadavpur

Gautam Buddha taught that all things are composed of the five cosmic energies—earth, water, fire, air and ether. He left the comforts of his palatial home to relieve suffering on earth. Therefore, for the Buddhist, medicine is one of the necessities of life. During the Bhopal gas leak tragedy in 1984, it was reported that some Tibetans were noticed distributing medicines to the affected. Relief and even cures are said to have been effected.

Buddha's personal teachings in the Kanjur contain analogies on medicine and the later Tanjur by the masters hits the medic-



Dr Changbhar's Tibetan Herbal Medic

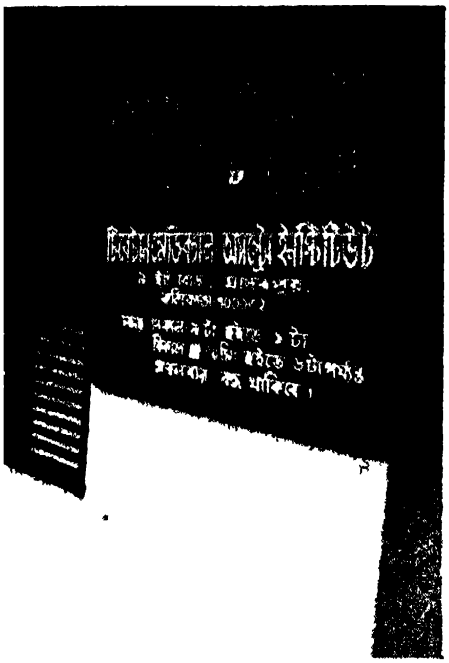
al texts. These are in Pali and Sanskrit and are preserved in India and other parts of the world outside Tibet.

Many medicinal Buddhas have been reincarnated in the two and a half millenniums. Yu-Thog-yon-tan mGon-po (708-833AD) is the Father of Tibetan Medicine. He synthesised the best of Central Asian medicinal traditions of the time and developed Tibetan medicine on the Ayurvedic system. A later Buddha, Tharg-ston rGyal-po (1385-1510) formulated the first aspirin and is seen holding the panacea in the fingers of his right hand.

In India, the first modern centre for Tibetan medicine was established in Dharamsala by the present Dalai Lama in 1960-61. One of its early directors was T. Jigme Tsarong, the man partly responsible for the emergence of the Tibetan system from the cloud of superstition and mystery. After graduating from the Valparaiso University in the USA, he worked on Wall Street— "Portfolio Management," he adds with a twinkle in his eye. Yes, he earned a quick buck, but was not happy.

He returned to Dharamsala and offered his services to the Dalai Lama. During the eight years that he was director, besides his administrative functions which were many, he became deeply involved in the study of the medical system.

When he relinquished the post, Tsarong started a crusade to preserve the sources of medicine and to propagate the system. "Tibetan medicine is Buddhist medicine," he says, and claims that Tibet is the only one among the Buddhist countries where the system was preserved and developed in its purest form. He feels very strongly



tre, Lake Gardens

that a patient has the right to know about the medicines given him. This, Tsarong believes will help him respond positively to the medication.

At his home in Durpin, Kalimpong, he spends his time studying and translating Tibetan texts. He is compiling a medical dictionary, and is the author of two books, of which the *Handbook of Traditional Tibetan Drugs* contains 175 medicines with their cures and actions. The book is available at the Nizamuddin Clinic in Delhi and at Oxford Bookshop in Darjeeling.

Tsarong's hobbies include golf—he is a member of the 'Groovy Squares,' a popular foursome at the annual Wills' Tournament at the Tollygunge Club. Far removed from golf is his other hobby, the manufacture of Nirvana joss sticks whose aroma claims to purify the air, increase concentration and has other therapeutic qualities.

The basic ingredients of Tibetan medicine are mainly herbal as those used in the Ayurvedic system. Methods of preparation and application differ. The old tradition of ritual and prayers during the stages of preparation is continued at the factory in Dharamsala where the pills are made now. Precious stones, metals and animal extracts are ingredients of some of the medicines. We read in T.J. Tsarong's *Handbook of Traditional Tibetan Drugs* that elephant's gallstones, bear's bile and rhinoceros horn form three of the ingredients of Gi-Wang 13 used for the cure of internal haemorrhages. More easily available substitutes are taken from domestic animals.

The medicines are relatively cheap—no pathological fees! Two weeks supply of medicines at the Tibetan Astro-Medical Institute is around Rs 40.

Calcutta had its first taste of Tibetan *golis* a few years ago when a medical camp was organised at the Institute of Jute Technology, Ballygunge, by an industrial house. The team of doctors was led by the Dalai Lama's personal physician. Hundreds of Calcuttans arrived for pulse diagnosis. Pills were prescribed and dispensed for a month's course. The prescriptions carried the address of the Dharamsala Centre where the patient could follow up the treatment through correspondence.

Almost two years old, Tibetan medicine is available at two permanent centres in the city The third turning on the left behind the 8B bus stop terminus at Jadavpur and turn left again at the *paan* shop which looks as if it is in the middle of the road but isn't, and there is 9, East Road, Calcutta 700 032, the Tibetan Medical & Astro Institute. Dr Pema Dorjee and his wife, also a doctor are both representatives of the Dalai Lama's medical centre in Dharamsala from where they graduated.

The shelves in the waiting room-cum-dispensary are lined with large plastic jars full of pills of different colours and sizes. Young Tibetans from Dharamsala man the counter and dispense the pills according to prescriptions written in Tibetan by the doctors.

The consultation hours from 9 am to 12 noon and 2.30 pm to 6 pm are crowded. Tuesday is a holiday. Mosquitoes from the small tree-shaded garden descend like bombers while you wait, but it is worth it. The gentle caring manner of the young couple win the patient's confidence and provide a strong psychological support which, as one patient says, "always makes me feel good, not just well, but good."

A young woman executive of LIC has a history of allergic asthma. A year ago she was suddenly incapacitated and as a last resort visited the newly opened centre. The Dalai Lama's physician, Dr Wangyal not only relieved her agony but she has not had another attack and is a firm convert to Tibetan medicine. The doctor pulse-diagnosed depression in a middle-aged woman and his medicines have helped her overcome her condition and with no side effects. Mr Hutt, a seaman who suffered a severe heart attack is now fit enough to go back to sea. Mrs Hutt has had the cataract removed from one eye and prefers to try Tibetan treatment for the other. She waits, a little apprehensively, for 'Serkheb', the Golden Needle Therapy.

Dr Dorjee patiently explains, "There are four important things—diet, behaviour, medicine and therapy. Abuse of either diet or behaviour causes an imba-



Dr Changbhar looks into the problem

lance in the body For example, too little food intake or over-exercise. "Minor diseases can be corrected by regulation of diet and behaviour," says the doctor. "Then there are mild and strong medicines " Tibetan medicine has a number of therapies—'Targo' or bloodletting, 'Moxa' or heat treatment by friction of wood or metal, for example, a piece of 'Aguru' wood rubbed briskly and applied to the painful arthritic point, medicinal baths and oil massage for the aged

Observing diet restrictions during medication give maximum benefit. These depend on the nature of the disease. Coffee is taboo for most afflictions specially nervous disorders and arthritic conditions, but not so alcohol in moderation. 'Foreign' beer is not recommended probably because it is fizzy Like the Ayurvedic 'anupams', the pills should ideally be crushed in a mortar and pestle and swallowed with warm water, milk or Chang (millet beer).



Dr Pema comes over loud and clear regarding the use of steroids in Tibetan medicine. He is emphatic that the system which has come to spread Buddhism, does not contain cortizone or any chemicals for that matter. He spoke of the abundance of medicinal herbs in Tibet. Now these ar collected from Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh Sikkim and the Himalayan region.

He made a point that herbs must b grown in their natural geo-climatic condi tion if they are to retain their properties All the medicines at this centre are com pounded in the Astro Medical complex i Dharamsala. With the growing demand supply may become a problem in future Dr Pema observed that when he joined th Jadavpur clinic in October 1989, then were 700 patients. Today his register ha 2,800 cases and he daily administers t between 40-90 people.

Dr S. Wangdu Changbhar is in charge o the older centre of Tibetan herbal medi cine at 164/45/1, Prince Anwar Shah Road Calcutta -700 045. The landmark is th Syndicate Bank at Lake Gardens. D Changbhar left his home in southern Tibe as a small boy with his family. His father now 86 years old is a 'hereditary' docto practising in Nepal and his son is a 13t generation doctor who is also a Menramp degree holder from the Tibetan Medica College, Dharamsala. When he was prac tising at Delhi, he agreed to the request o his patients from Calcutta to start a centr in their city. His patients found him the fla he lives and works in since 1988. Hi charming wife, Yangcheu Lhamo, is recep tionist, dispenser and instruction-giver Soft-spoken, Dr Changbhar said, "Th natural system of Tibetan medicine give wonderful results and permanent cures fo prolonged chronic diseases like jaundice diabetes, rheumatoid-arthritis, spondyli tis, hypertension, hepatitis, gastric prob lem, insomnia, piles, asthma, fits, hear disease, neuritis problem and many othe ailments which cannot be cured by othe systems. Even the primary cases of can cer can be treated successfully."

A few letters were reluctantly pulled ou of his drawer. An advocate at the Supreme Court writes that he had insomnia, suf fered "greatly from sinus" and had a his tory of dysentry from childhood. He fel much better after seven days of Tibetan medication. Another patient writes that he had anaemia as a result of second and third degree Haemorroids and had to be given blood transfusions. Seven days of Tibetan medicine showed remarkable results. One of his Calcutta patients is a young girl who had been bed-ridden with arthritis for three years. Under Dr Changbhar's treatment she is able to go shopping and enjoys an occasional movie.

The 'feel and watch' technique of diagnosis detects any imbalance in the three humours—rLung, Triba and Bhakan which the doctor found difficult to translate but which correspond to the *tridoshas* of Ayurveda. He says that the imbalance has a "close relationship with the mind." There are no consultation fees. Again, the medi-

CURES THAT HAVE ENDURED

The group names are many: traditional, alternative, unorthodox and fringe medicines as opposed to orthodox allopathy. Some have stood the test of time like Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy while others are yet to be taken seriously.

AYURVEDA:

The laws for a long life are among the most ancient and scientific medical systems of the world. It is the base of other systems. Its content was so vital that Ayurveda become the Pancham or fifth Veda of the Hindus. Ayurveda treats the patient and not the disease, has a holistic approach and treats the three humours or 'Tridoshas'—Kaf, Pith and Vayu which constitute the human body with mainly herbal remedies. Diagnosis is done by feeling the pulse and the treatment is one of opposites. Among the *aushadhalayas*, Sadhana, Dabur and Baidyanath have cut short the Kaviraj's work by bottling patented Ayurvedic medicines.

YOGA:

Yoga centres in the city hold early morning classes. Meditation, pranayam and yogasanas combine to keep the body healthy and the mind alert.

UNANI:

Unani came to India from the near East through Arabia with the Islamic invaders. Learned hakims attend the *dawakhanas* at Colootola, opposite the Nakhoda Moeque and at Park Circus. They listen patiently before feeling the pulse and inspecting the tongue. The potions are prepared with mortar and pestle or home distilled *arq*. Hamdard (Ghaziabad) has patented a number of Unani medicines under a trade name like Safi and Cinkara.

HOMOEOPATHY:

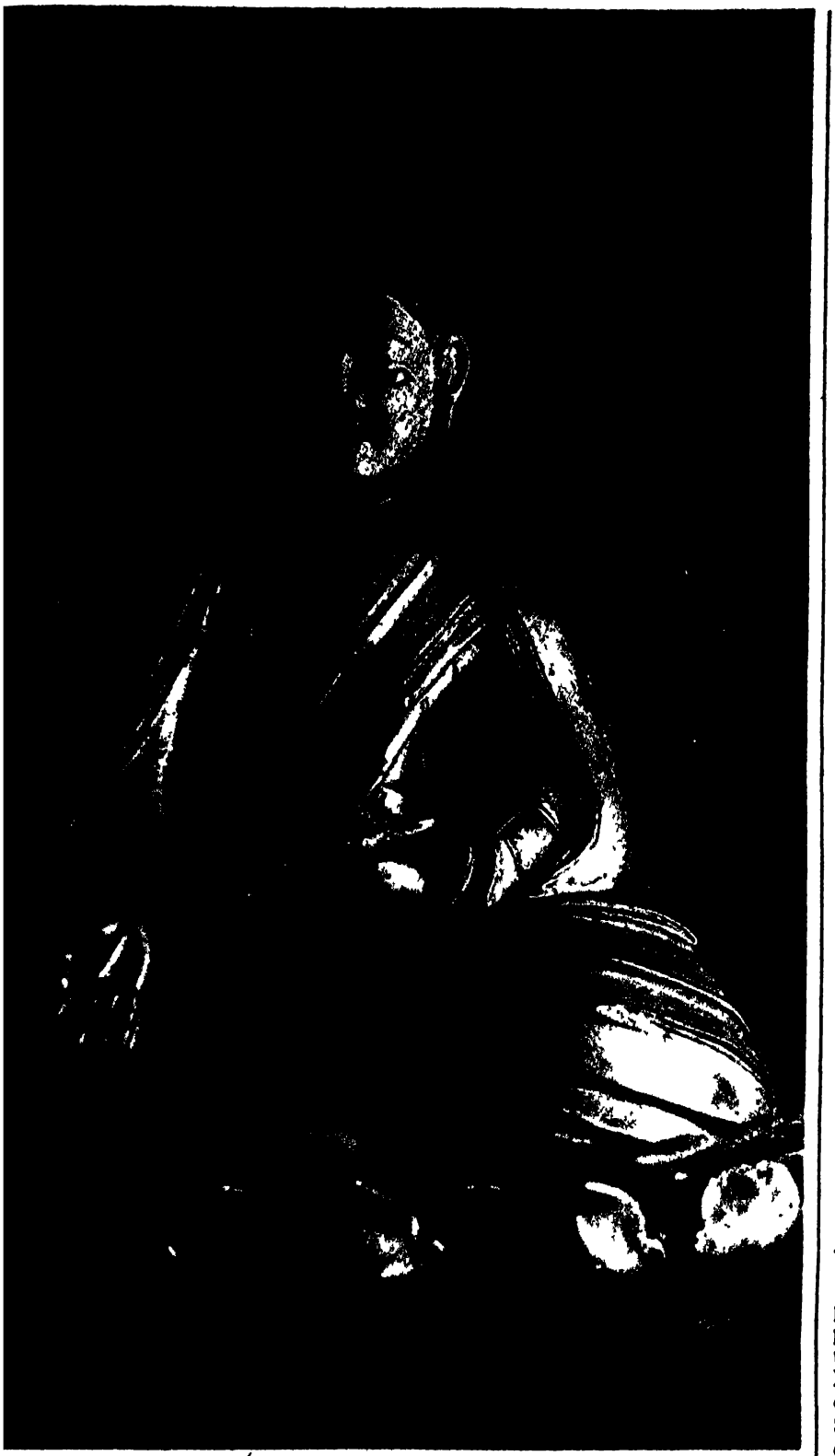
Just two centuries ago, Hahnemann began his *Materia Medica* on the theory of like cures like. In Calcutta, interest in the tiny white globule was aroused by the arrival of Rajendra Lal Dutt's first homoeopathy box abroad an American sailing vessel. In the city, homoeopaths are second in number and practice to only allopaths. The medicine is the cheapest and the pills can be popped into the mouth without much ado. There are many restrictions during medication. Homoeopathic medicine shops can be found in all the parts of the city.

ACUPUNCTURE:

In the 1970s, acupuncture brought from China by Dr Bose was popular in Calcutta. Needles are used to puncture the skin at particular points. The idea is to restore the *chi* or energy essential for good health. Acupuncturists are not easy to find in the city.

ACUPRESSURE:

At an acupressure centre on Park Street, finger pressure is used at nodal points to restore the energy according to the Japanese and Chinese therapies. The patient can help himself once he knows the points. Asthma and migraine are cure/ailments relieved.



gYu-thog Yon-tan mGon-po (*rNying-ma*) (708-833 CE) is the Father of Tibetan medicine who synthesised the best of central Asian medical traditions of his time and based and developed Tibetan medicine upon the ancient Buddhist system of medicine that prevailed in India from the time of Sakyamuni (ca. 500 BCE)

cines are relatively cheap and his clientele mainly well-to-do. He treats some poor patients free.

The doctor makes some of the medicines at his clinic from herbs from Arunachal. Both Drs Pema and Changbhar have 'precious pills' containing rare ingredients such as gold dust, emerald and horn of mountain goat. Two such ar Rinchin Tso-Tru Dhushal and Rinchin Ratna Samphel.

It was 4 pm and the waiting room was already full. The hours of consultation are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm Sunday is half day and Monday is a holiday.

What is the orthodox medical practitioner's reaction to Tibetan medicine? Many allopathic doctors are not aware of the system. However, they have varied view on alternative medicines. Some actually prescribe the standardised Ayurvedic and Unani remedies for chronic diseases. As Dr Mihir Mitter, a prominent radiologist of the Chittaranjan Cancer Hospital, says, "There is definitely a scientific base to these methods of healing and the end result is what really matters. The same ingredients are often common to both indigenous and allopathic drugs such as Raulfia Serpentina, Belladonna and Aconite, but the concentration in alternative medicines is much lower. Hence the healing process is a slow one.

When asked about Tibetan medicine, Dr Adi Gazdar, a well known pediatrician said he knew nothing about it except that there was now a treatment centre in Calcutta. "If my patients were having some prolonged or maintenance therapy for some chronic conditions I have no objection to their trying alternative medicine as long as they do not stop their maintenance allopathic drugs and keep me informed."

An eminent eye surgeon confessed that she had had no exposure to Tibetan medicine. According to the medical discipline she belongs to, positive proofs are required at every stage. For example, if an arm is said to be broken and then mended, X'Rays showing the break and the joining are required. Sonya Noor, a medical student, has very positive feelings about alternative medicine. She considers it her job to heal and the end she feels justifies the means what ever they are.

The revival of traditional and complementary medicines has opened up new paths to healing. The Dalai Lama's Institute has opened 35 centres in India. Medical camps are held in different parts of the world—England, Bulgaria, France, Spain and Holland. Dr Pema was well received in Holland last year and leaves for England shortly.

In a troubled and cruel world, the gentle approach of Tibetan medicine reaches beyond the scope of modern hi-tech medical science. ■

VOICE

'Veiled' Revelations

According to a UNDP report, women in Third World nations are among the most ill-treated. Nothing illustrates the magnitude of female deprivation more than statistics for maternal mortality, the report, authored by Mr Mahbub-ul-Haq, says. And, as if this were not enough, the latest World Bank report has alleged that of the suffering female multitude, Pakistani women are the most deprived. With the lowest sex ratio in the world, Pakistan also has the fifth lowest life expectancy among women. This despite there being a female Prime Minister at its helm.

But the statistics are hardly surprising, with Ms Benazir treading a careful line to keep traditionalists at bay and save her chair. The report has, therefore, called for a repeal of discriminatory laws and induction of women in key posts relating to women. But in their "purdah society", the report says it is imperative that women organise and equip themselves to meet male service providers. It would be significant if the government does get around to initiating such mobility of expression and opportunities.



Pamella II

The scandal has resurrected! And sizzling as ever. If one were to go by the latest gossip in Patna, the 16-year-old daughter of a petty criminal, Rajni Agarwal, has several politicians quaking in their boots. For after her recent arrest in Arrah, the "Pamella Bordes of Bihar" has come out with "hot confessions" of her life as a call girl. The police had to disguise themselves as prospective clients before the chubby teenager, supposedly used as a "bait" by a politician, was rounded up. And now, video cassettes showing Rajni in erotic poses are selling like hot cakes in the state. And although the police is reticent about the identity of her "politician clients," the films have apparently been shot in Patna bungalows, including the residence of an MLA. For a girl who was trained by her father to be a pick-pocket, Rajni has certainly picked a great deal more.



What Price, Aphrodite?

There has been a spate in dowry deaths in the country of late. Several days back in Bombay, 18-year-old Noorja strangled herself to death after her husband, Abdullah, harassed her over dowry. Another woman, Lata Varte, poisoned herself after being ill-treated by her husband for fetching "inadequate" dowry. And there are countless others whose cries have gone unheeded in a world where crime is but commonplace.

Ironically, the term "dowry" originated as "bride price"—the amount paid by the prospective groom to the bride's family. In time, the male-dominated society amended this to suit its purpose and interests, adding to the woes of women and those who gave birth to them. And this, in turn, dictated an entirely new pattern of values and morals.

The Dowry Act is incomprehensible to many, while others are in complete ignorance of its existence. Efforts to implement the law and spread legal literacy are hardly visible, and while some social service organisations do take up the cudgel to battle the evil at times, they can, at best, cater to only a few. In Khurja near Delhi for instance, members of a certain community recently protested because the groom had demanded a scooter as dowry and boycotted the *baraat* when it arrived.



In West Bengal, countless young mothers flock to the city to earn a livelihood as domestic help after being "thrown out" by their husbands, seemingly because the dowry they had brought was insufficient to feed them any longer. Their input in looking after the home is airily dismissed when it comes to national economics: if you are a housewife, you do nothing, is the unspoken but accepted implication. It is this misconceived notion, harboured by many women themselves, that gives credence to the demand for dowry, the substitute for the income that a man brings home in terms of material goods.

The concept has also prodded the feeling of insubordination among women. To take a point nearer home, last week, markets overflowed with fond, jostling mothers-in-law who sought to appease the sons-in-law on *Jamai sashti*, a day dedicated entirely to the latter. Prices soared sky-high, but who cared? The *jamai* must be given his annual treat. No one stopped to wonder why a day on the calendar is never dedicated to the hard working (and certainly more deserving of treats) daughters-in-law. The general impression one gathered was that in pleasing the son-in-law, the girl's parents were simply ensuring that she was treated well by her husband, a bribe to keep the unwanted commodity alive.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee



CALCUTTA DEAF AND DUMB SCHOOL



In April 1893, Srinath Sinha started a class for the deaf and dumb in a small room in City College at 13, Mirzapur Street in central Calcutta. Later it became the Calcutta Deaf and Dumb School. The same year in May, Jamini Nath Banerji and Mohini Mohan Mazumdar joined hands with Sinha for the school's development. In 1896, Banerjee went to the UK and US for a thorough training in the art of teaching the deaf. He became the first principal of the school and held the position till his death.

The present building (sketched above) of the school, situated at 293, Upper Circular Road (now Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road), was built in 1903. Those who guided the school through its infancy included C.W. Bolton, CSI ICS, the school's president, Nobin Chandra Boral, one of its vice-presidents, Umes Chandra Dutt, its first secretary, and F.J. Row who was the principal of Presidency College. Amongst the benefactors of the school, Raja Sarat Chandra Rai Chaudhuri Bahadur of Chanchal, Malda, figures prominently. He gave to the school an endowment of Rs 2 lakhs and donated Rs 20,000 towards the cost of extending the building. The school also receives regular grants from the government and the Calcutta Corporation.

The oral method of instruction helps the students to speak and follow what others are saying by watching the movement of the lips. The use of signs and finger-spelling is not permitted. The school's industrial wing trains the students in arts and crafts like drawing, painting, papier mache work, clay modelling, printing, tailoring and carpentry. The school also provides a teachers' training course.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

The main trends of the week are rendezvous, travel, secret negotiations and deals, surreptitious and mysterious relationships, and glimpses of God Romance promises unusual and subtle ties and plenty of excitement too On the financial side, expenses, buying, selling, negotiating, trading, commission and brokerage are indicated

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Friendship, socialising, gains and gaiety are the highlights of the week Romance will be thrilling and titillating Deals can be closed and transactions prove lucky June and July are travel time, a stopover time as well Avoid phobias and fixations, and everything goes fine Both home and children figure prominently, say around June 15

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Get set for a head-start during the first three days Finish chores then launch a venture if so interested Work pressures and business deals keep you busy on June 15 and 16 Romance will be hot and cold, so be bold Buying, selling, trading, shopping, sales and distribution are definitely highlighted Health poses slight problems during June 19-21 Work could prod you into a journey or pilgrimage

CANCER

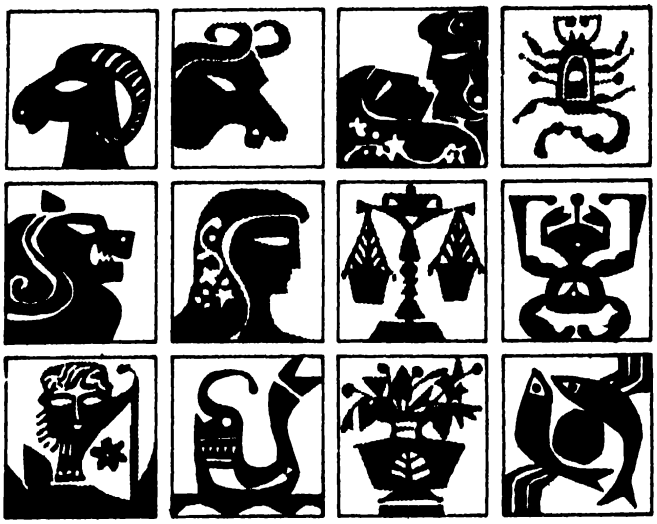
June 21—July 20

Contracts, new schemes, publicity boost, communication, correspondence and success are indicated around June 15-17 In romance, there is much to look forward to In financial matters you are fairly comfortable, but you'd better count your money Do not fret over minor health problems It is the right time to undertake a journey Home and children bring joy and happiness

LEO

July 21—August 20

Money is the name of the game, be it earned income, shares, stocks, dividends, investments, loans, funds and public trusts A family get-together is foretold Romance will be bitter-sweet, but never a damp squib Travel is a distinct possibility As far as health is concerned, you are still on a shaky wicket



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The full moon indicates a radical change in your lifestyle Strong attachments and reactions are absolutely certain It is just the right time for romance, engagement and wedlock Financial opportunities for those employed will be available The mid-week is ideal for trips and ties A nagging health ailment may still worry you

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

It is time to move mentally, physically emotionally, spiritually and psychologically, and adapt to circumstances In romance, keep your options open as in and after August you will have a choice Employed Librans and those in profession rake in money Renovation to child bearing is the range on the home front

BIRTHDAYS

June 10

Moon trine Venus. This trine means success in journey, collaboration, enterprise, joy through children, home and creative pursuits, and a great burst of self-confidence.

June 11

Moon trine Mercury; it is time to achieve and thus get ample satisfaction. Your enemies will bite the dust, your friends will rejoice and you will be on cloud nine.

June 12

Venus sextile Jupiter: Health remains suspect, speculation will not be rewarding and you are advised to keep away from family squabbles and financial muddles. Take proper advice before you buy or sell something.

June 13

Moon trine Sun: Those in profession and business do well. Artists, filmmakers, musicians, painters, editors, photographers and actors steal the thunder. A birthyear of spectacular success.

June 14

Moon sextile Uranus: There lies a danger of accidents and deceit. But those in the media, transport, communication, wholesale business, chemicals and printing do well. Insure your house, office, factory and goods as a safety measure Expenses will rise and hospitalisation is possible.

June 15

Moon trine Jupiter: Do not trust others implicitly. Safeguard your health. In matters of the heart, be cautious and discreet. Business, job and career offer excellent prospects.

June 16

Good fortune, honours and rewards constitute this birthday. Marriage for the eligible and for the married, a deeper understanding. Travel will delight you. Relationships will be complicated and intense.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Children, hobbies, research, studies, house move, and transfer make an exciting week In romance, your heart pulsates to a jingle beat Finances will be available when you are in real need, so stop worrying Fuse a little leisure with travel and happiness will slide into your heart

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

The week's main trends are hard work and success, but you will be taxed to the outer limit Romance will be a much-needed safety-valve Finance shows an upward swing Contacts will pay Immigration, transfer, shift and change of scenery are not ruled out Take time off to relax Renovation, decoration, buying, selling and children clamour for attention and care

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

It is best to launch a campaign, take a study course, start an enterprise, plan expansion, undertake a journey and organise a meet On June 15 and 16, romance will be immensely satisfying On the financial front, you swing a deal, bag an assignment and go in for important transactions or takeover of a company Health will remain perfect Home and children are strong pointers of the week

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

It is time to invest, buy and sell, and have a ball of a time Financial gains are likely You will have your fill of romance A journey is indicated, a change of scenery too Health shows gradual improvement Childbirth or conception, getting essentials as well as fancy objects and accesories, and furniture/gadgets for the house are foretold

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Romance, marriage, business link-up, partnerships, travel and expenses constitute the week Romance is where you do excel Investing, purchasing, capital raising, joint-finance and amalgamation are indicated on the financial front Travel is a marked feature, actually contacts and communications hold the key It is best to stay happy as mind over matter applies to you very specially

FOCUS

THE HUNT



The hunt begins

The picturesque Ayodhya hills in Purulia reverberate with hunters' cries during the Baisakh full moon every year. Tribals armed with spears, tangis and knives converge on the nearly brown and barren slopes—fast losing their verdure—to observe their annual hunting rituals. This year was no exception and trainloads of tribals alighted at Purulia station to board buses and then undertake the tortuous climb from either Bagmundi or Shirkabad. They came from all over West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

Hunters guzzled their ration of *mahua* before they carefully laid their hand-woven nets in the interiors of the jungle. Experienced elders directed the entire operation. Soon, the drummers moved away and began beating their *madals* from afar. As the pitch reached a crescendo, frightened animals—usually deer, boar and rabbits—ran for their lives, unmindful of the path they were treading. Pursued by a mob of red-eyed men they led themselves into the traps. Huntsmen roared as they speared the victims. While shadows lengthened across the forest, twigs were kindled and the game was roasted for supper.



The song and dance as part of the festivities

On the second afternoon, traditional songs were sung as the hunting draws to a close. These songs are pregnant with sexual allusions and their purpose is to teach the young men the meaning and powers of sex, and women are not allowed to participate in this two-day festival. ■

The annual ritual in Purulia's Ayodhya hills continues to attract thousands. Deepak Bhattacharya followed the trail this year





AN AESTHETIC

Baked clay has been used for pottery and architecture since the beginning of civilisation. The term terracotta is generally used for all kinds of fired clay but chiefly refers to a fairly coarse, porous type which when baked assumes a colour ranging from dull ochre to red and is most frequently left unglazed. The art of terracotta is ancient—it was a feature of even the Indus Valley Civilisation of the third millenium B.C. and was subsequently practised in almost all the periods in this country. Even temples were built with such clay, many of which can still be seen all over Bengal.

Today, however, terracotta craftsmen have all but died out. Besides the small toys found at village fairs and the ubiquitous Bankura horse, terracotta "creations" are few and far between. This is where Terra-Cottal comes in. Made up of artists, designers and architects, it is trying to revive the old art form blending aesthetics with utility, tradition with unconventionality.

Terracotta creations are limited to small toys at village fairs or the famous Bankura horse. But Terra-Cottal is an organisation that is trying to create a new taste for an old art, says Shampa Dhar-Kamath

Photographs: Subhajit Pal

The organisation creates and sells exclusive murals, wall mural tiles, bas relief sculptures, engravings, plaques, masks, you name it. Terra-Cottal started in 1987-88 as a common dream of three friends. They were none of them artists or designers, but they were artistic and could design. They decided to resurrect the art of clay modelling without pottering about the beaten track. Pravesh Sen of Santiniketan acted as mentor (he remains Terra-Cottal's art advisor). A forum was set up and artists were invited to contribute ideas. The designing even today is done by the original trio but if they find any design they like they buy it and employ artisans to implement it.

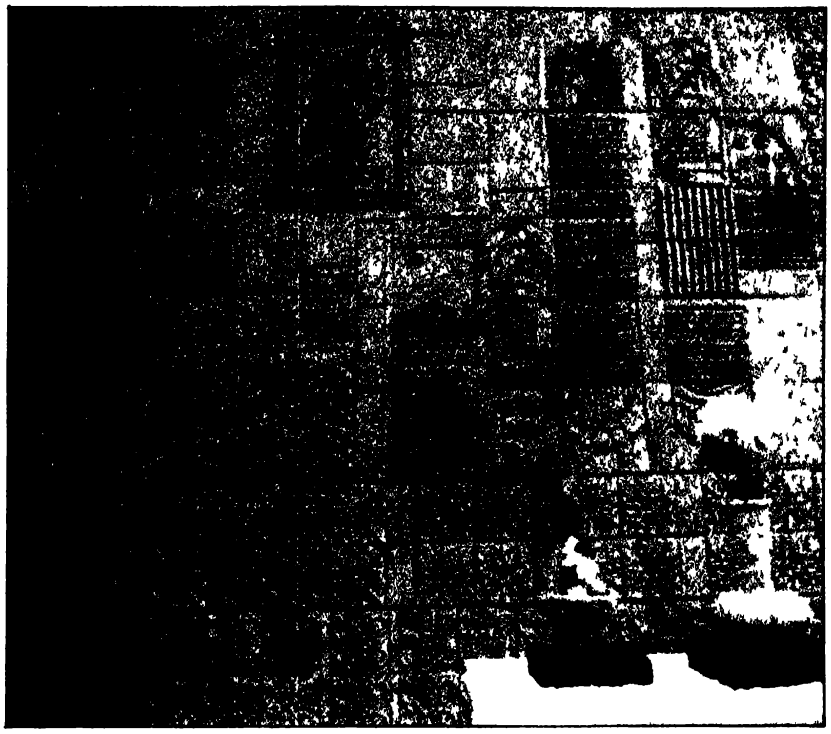


Ganesh in an armchair

The organisation now has about 25 people, some of them working only part time. But all of them are very very proud of Terra-Cottal and its work. "We use only the best clay and our products are far superior to the others available in the market," says Kalpana Basu Mazumdar, the group's marketing person.

The clay is first kept under water for

SENSE OF UTILITY



A large wall mural depicts women in different poses

three to four days, then strained twice and chemicals added to it. Terra-Cottal believes that it is its chemicals which make its products superior. The clay is then moulded and air-dried before being fired at temperatures of up to 900°C. It is then washed again and ready for sale.

This constant washing and drying make the entire process totally dependent on the vagaries of nature During the monsoons, production obviously goes down as it takes the clay a lot longer to dry "Sometimes people come to us asking for thousands of tiles But we can't provide that many. We can at the most produce 300 to 400 of a type," says Kalpana To maintain the exclusivity of the designs, Terra-Cottal changes its moulds every now and then A design is phased out after six months

Masks which can be used as ashtrays or even pen stands

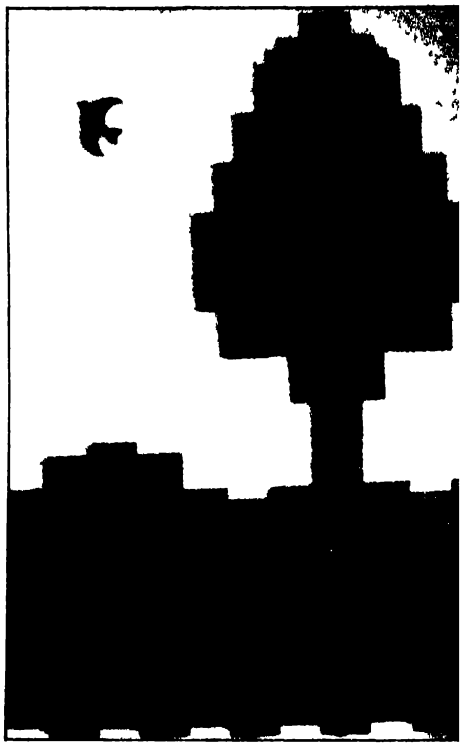


Some things are of course eternal like Ganesh which is very popular with Terra-Cottal's designers and artisans In fact a very attractive mural and a Ganesh welcome visitors to its office on Prince Anwar Shah Road The rest of the place, an office-cum-showroom really, is equally charming, displaying all the wares to their best advantage. Mural tiles are fixed all over the place These come in many sizes and designs and range from Rs 7 to Rs 26

The designs of the tiles are such that they do not have to cover a full wall. "A person can even buy only four tiles and make his own design. In fact we encourage our customers to buy the tiles from us and then set them up according to their personal tastes. That way something new is constantly created," says Kalpana.

The tiles can be either fixed directly on the wall with cement mortar, or they can be stuck to plywood with glue and then screwed on to the wall. For exteriors, however, it is necessary to use cement mortar and a lacquer is applied to protect the tiles

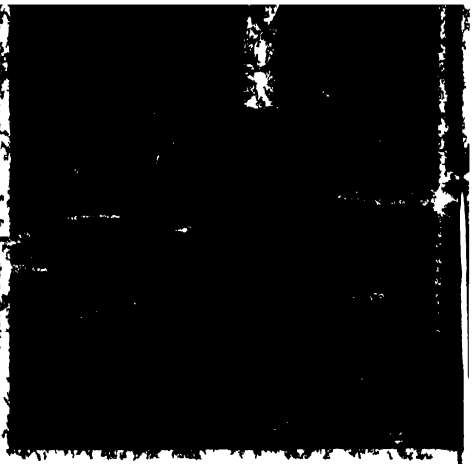
Terra-Cottal's most famous sculpture piece is probably the Ganesh reclining in a deckchair But in the exhibition currently on in the Terra-Cottal showroom till June 24, two other Ganeshes are likely to overshadow it One Ganesh is sitting tight on an armchair, the other at a low babu's table, studying Two other exceptional statuettes are the bull and the elephant which come in 13 pieces Then there are flower pots of various shapes. These are expensive, costing from Rs 45 to Rs 400. But, according to Kalpana, one can plant in them directly and they will not



The sea, fish, tree and bird

flake off or lose colour like other cheaper planters.

Kalpana says, "People should get rid of the notion that terracotta only goes with huts or durries and low stools It does merge well with ethnic houses and settings but it looks equally good with silverware and crystal." And Terra-Cottal is going to prove that. ■



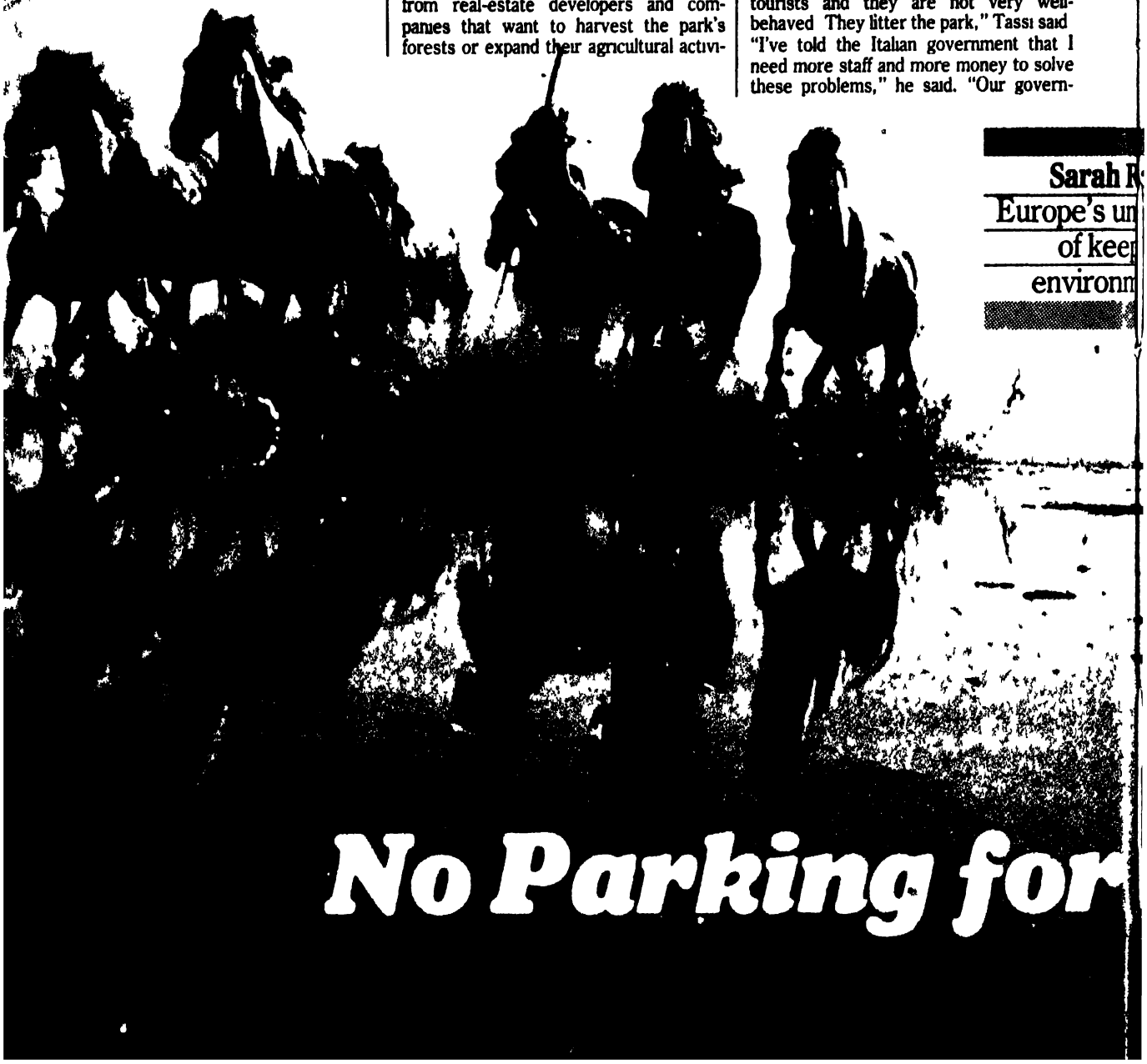
Accompanied by his two Border terriers, this Englishman hikes along the Pennine Way, a 270-mile trail along the spine of his country, in Peak District National Park

created the ... Nature Conservation ... with the goal of developing ... system of nature reserves and parks. As Europe aims for ... integration in 1992, the diploma ... which includes 32 parks in 13 countries, provides an example of successful cooperation.

For most of the participants the diploma, which carries no monetary award, recognizes a job well done. Member parks must pass rigorous inspections every five ... chief administrator for the council's environmental division.

On the first day of the investigation, Abruzzi superintendent Franco Tassi said he was happy the inspectors had been sent. "I hope they will make a report that is very honest and frank and that says the park has many problems," he said.

The park, about 30,000 hectares (74,100 acres) in the Apennine range of central Italy, encompasses 17 villages. Local officials are susceptible to pressures from real-estate developers and companies that want to harvest the park's forests or expand their agricultural activities, despite strict regulations governing land use. "Besides, there are too many tourists and they are not very well-behaved They litter the park," Tassi said "I've told the Italian government that I need more staff and more money to solve these problems," he said. "Our govern-



Sarah R
Europe's un
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No Parking for

ment is always telling the Council of Europe that everything is OK. The diploma is just a flower on the jacket. This time I hope the inspectors will tell the government that it will lose the diploma if it does not face the problems at the park. That would be very shameful internationally for them."

The report on the inspection at the Abruzzi park will be released later this year. The experts are expected to make recommendations with which the park must promptly comply or risk losing its diploma.

Despite the problems at Abruzzi, Hacourt says the council has been successful in creating a network of well-kept parks and reserves considered to be of exceptional interest to Europe because of their natural sites or their wildlife and plant populations.

"With most of our 32 parks averaging 50,000 hectares (123,500 acres), we're certainly not the biggest park system," says Hacourt. The US National Park Service boasts 354 park areas, 56 of which are larger than 123,000 acres. Wrangell-St Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska is the largest in the US system with just over 5 million hectares (13 million acres).

"What we are protecting and how well we protect what we have are what make this system so important," he says. "The Camargue park is only 10,000 hectares (24,700 acres), but it is unique in the world." The nature reserve, on the French Mediterranean, has vast saltwater steppes called "sansouires".

Camargue, the Peak District National Park in England and the Hautes Fagnes Nature Reserve in Belgium were the first parks to receive the diploma. Spain's National Park of Tiede is the newest recipient.

Over the years the council has turned down applications from some 20 parks, says Jean-Pierre Ribaud, chief of the council's environmental division. Some of these candidates eventually were accepted after making recommended changes such as limiting tourist access or enforcing regulations to protect the forests and wildlife.

Once the diploma is in hand other park managers agree it can be a useful tool for beating back developers and attracting more support at the national level.

At the Pyrenees National Park in France, where the population of the endangered brown bear has dwindled to ten, assistant director Michel Sinoir says he hopes the threat of losing the diploma will persuade the village councils to limit hunting and access to cars in the periphery of the park.

In the French Alps, local developers seeking to build ski runs on a glacier at Vanoise National Park tried to have an 18-year-old ban on such activity lifted. Director Claude Pairaudeau says a local prefect ruled against the developers in June.

"The threat of losing the diploma certainly wasn't the only thing that influenced the local officials, but it had an important psychological effect on the decision-making," he says.

Even the participating nature reserves, which are off-limits to tourists and therefore generally less vulnerable to pressure from developers, have used the diploma to protect themselves, says Hacourt.

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Like a vision from a vanished world, horses in the wild, watery Camargue region of southern France splash across a flooded saltwater plain. The white breed has flourished there since Roman times





Fallow deer gather at dawn under an oak on the estate of the Duke of Devonshire near Bakewell, England, not far from the southern end of the Peaks. The Peak District National Park

Litterbugs

DREAMS ARE MADE OF SUCH STUFF...

Director-actor Clint Eastwood with co-star on the sets of *White Hunter Black Heart* (USA)



The Palm D'Or for best film, *Wild at Heart* (USA)







Akira Kurosawa's Dreams, the opening film at Cannes 90

The Cannes film festival saw the patent mix of glamour and high art. A glimpse at the films screened at the world's most coveted cine gathering



Night Sun (Italy) by the Taviani Brothers

A shot from Fellini's *The Voice of the Moon*

Cannes paid tribute to the 81-year-old Japanese genius, Akira Kurosawa, at the 43rd Festival International Du Film on May 10. Kurosawa got a standing ovation before the screening of his film appropriatley titled, *Akira Kurosawa's Dreams*. Exquisitely crafted with enchanting visuals, the master's 28th film will remain a treasure piece for ages to come.

The first few days set a crackling pace that could sweep even a veteran viewer off his feet: if it was physically possible, one could see as many as 50 films a day! At Cannes, it is usual to get a perfect mix of excellent cinema and glamorous stars. The grand assembly of film-crazy buffs and startlingly dressed starlets and models trying to catch the all-important eye outside the campus makes it a pulsating experience.

Apart from Kurosawa, at Cannes 90, one saw the latest works of other masters like Federico Fellini's *The Voice of the Moon*, Paolo and Vittorio Taviani's *Night Sun*, Andrej Wajda's *Korzcak*, Paul Schrader's *The Comfort of Strangers* and Manuel de Olivera's *Vain is the Glory*. Even in the competition section, Cannes this year depended heavily on the works of established filmmakers.

From the very inception of this festival, the buying and selling of films has played a prominent part, thanks to the patronage of American filmmakers. The importance of the Americans is still evident—naturally, the awards this year, too, were controversial, specially the Palm D'Or (Golden Palm) which was won by the USA entry, *Wild at Heart*. It is a violent, wicked and erotic rollercoaster ride through America's world of entertainment. Not particularly sensitive, it was at best a visual treat and a clever exercise in using sex and violence to gain commercial success. David Lynch's film winning the highest award came as a surprise to many.

Cannes 90 marked the presence of India through Buddhadeb Dasgupta's *Bagh Bahadur* which was screened in the Director's Fortnight. The response to the film was elating. The two other Indian films, Goutam Ghose's docu-feature on Bismillah Khan and Mrinal Sen's 22-minute documentary on Calcutta, were shown in the special section and market section, respectively.

Swapan Kumar Ghosh

7 DAYS

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Awaaz De Kahan Hai:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266)—12, 3, 6, 9.

Directed by Sibte Hasan Rizvi and with music by Naushad, the film stars new finds Avinesh Wadhwan and Shikha Swarup along with Bindu, A.K. Hangal, Anjan Srivastav, Shubha Khote, Dev Kumar, Satyen Kappu, Jamuna and Annu Kapoor.

• **C.I.D.:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849)—4 shows.

Vinod Khanna, Amrita Singh, Juhi Chawla, Suresh Oberoi and Kiran Kumar comprise the main cast of this film, directed by Ajay Goel. The music is by Kalyanji Anandji.

• **Ghar Ho To Aisa:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

Directed by Kalptaru and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the chief attractions of this film are Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Raj Kiran, Bindu, Om Prakash and Kader Khan.

• **Hum Se Na Takrana:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Gem (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Malancha (Regent Park).



A scene from *Aag Lagi Barsat Mein*



Salman Khan and Bhagyashree in *Maine Pyar Kiya*

The star attractions of this film, directed by Deepak Bahry, are Dharmendra, Shatrughan Sinha, Mithun Chakraborty, Anita Raaj and Kimi Katkar. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383)—10.45, 2.15, 5.30, 9.

On its way to a silver jubilee, a rare achievement these days, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree. The film is directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya and the music is by Raam Laxman.

• **Pati Patni Aur Tawaif:** Lotus (S. N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033)—12, 3, 6, 9.

A film by Rajkumar Kohli, starring Mithun Chakraborty, Salma Agha, Farha and Amjad Khan. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Swarg:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141) —4 shows.

Directed by David Dhawan and with music by Anand Milind, the main cast includes Rajesh Khanna, Govinda, Juhi Chawla and Madhavi.

• **Tum Mere Ho:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133).

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla are the lead pair in this Tahir Husain film whose music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

• **Aabhishkar:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 485593)—1, 4, 7.

A film by Salil Dutta, starring

Tapas Paul, Satabdi Roy, Manoj Mitra, Biplab Chatterjee, Master Rintu and Indrani. The music is by Mrinal Banerjee.

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S. P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Special Events

10 June: 5 pm

A cultural programme, in memory of Natyacharya Sisir Bhaduri, features Sarajubala Devi, Dr Rama Choudhury, Debnarayan Gupta, Madhabi Chakraborty, Nirmal Kumar, Dulendra Bhowmick, Tarun Kumar, Satya Bandopadhyay, Partha and Gouri Ghosh, Niladri Sekhar and Subhra Bose, Jagannath and Urmimala Bose, Rajat Banerjee, Bratati Banerjee, Sarmistha Chatterjee, V. Balsara, Pankaj Saha, Amal Mukherjee, Pala Banick, Goutam Sen and others.

At Rabindra Bhaban (Baranagar Municipality Campus).

10 June onwards

Bikash Mukherjee will hold his exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery till June 12.

• An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Animesh Sen Gupta in the Central Gallery till June 20.

• West Bengal Artists' Federation will hold an exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery till June 13.

• The students of Sri Sangitanyan will hold an exhibition of paintings in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

11-13 June: 6.30 pm

Theatre Arts Workshop presents the English play, *The Oresteia*, a modern adaptation of Aeschylus' Greek tragedy. Direction: Amitava Roy.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086/432197).

12 June: 6 pm

Proma's cultural evening features Soumitra Chatterjee, Aparna Sen, Mamata Shankar, Pradip Mukherjee, Dwijen Mukherjee, Haimanti Sukla, Banani Ghosh, Partha and Gouri Ghosh, Bani Tagore, Praggaparamita Roy and V. Balsara.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

13 June onwards

A week-long exhibition of Manju Sarma's paintings in the New South Gallery.

14 June onwards

Tooshar Sinha will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

15 June: 6 pm

Geetanjali celebrates Hemanta Mukhopadhyay's 70th birth anniversary through a programme of songs, recitation and play-reading. The participants include Tarun Majumdar, Subhas Mukhopadhyay, Bela Mukhopadhyay, Subhas Chakraborty, B.K. Saha, Sanjib Chattopadhyay, Dulendra Bhowmick, Tarun Kumar, Anup Kumar, Subhendu Chatterjee, Ranjit Mullick, Satinath Mukherjee, Utpala Sen, Arundhati Holme Chowdhury, Banasree Sen Gupta, Haimanti Sukla, Dhanonjoy Bhattacharya, Pradip Ghosh and others.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1915; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta-Amman: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730; Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7): BG-094 at 1620, Dep. (5) : BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (2, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-223 at 1340.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (2, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-224 at 1540.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (3, 6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (3, 6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2): KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0250; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1910.

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1340.; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0700 and IC-402 at 1710; Arr. (daily): IC-264 at 2225 and IC-401 at 1205.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920, Dep. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr. (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1640; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1400; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): OC-272 at 1945.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 0945.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1320; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1610.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569341/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1110; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1550.

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1030, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7); IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900 Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1230, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1420.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

ly): PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

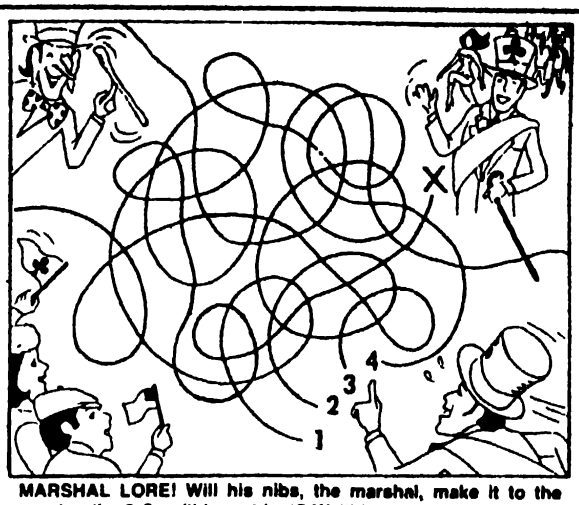
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	2-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



MARSHAL LORE! Will his nibs, the marshal, make it to the starting line? Or will he get lost? We'll let you decide

• JET SET! Challenge Rearrange letters of the five letter word PLANE to form the name of 1 A country 2 A discussion group 3 A kind of code

1 Nepal 2 Panel 3 Penal



PADDY'S DAY BIRDSPEAK! This Paddy's Day saga is for the birds in more ways than one. How many birds are mentioned?

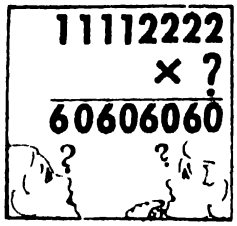
"'Tis the lark of the Irish," said Paddy, taking stock of the day.

"'Twas a fine parade, from start to finch. But on the way home, we had a mynah accident with a gull who made a wrong tern. A couple of tanagers butted in, robin us the wrong way, and we had to duck to avoid a fight.

"Nevertheless, begorah, we'll be raven about the parade. Grouse events will happen—who knows where and wren?"

Twelve different birds.

• **MURKY MATH!** Alas, we have the product, 60606060, of a simple problem in mulplication, below, but the amount to be mulpled, 11112222, is hopelessly scrambled. Other than the fact that it's a single digit, we are in the dark as to how much we are to multiply by. See if you can work it out.



Multiply 12121212 by 5 to get 60606060

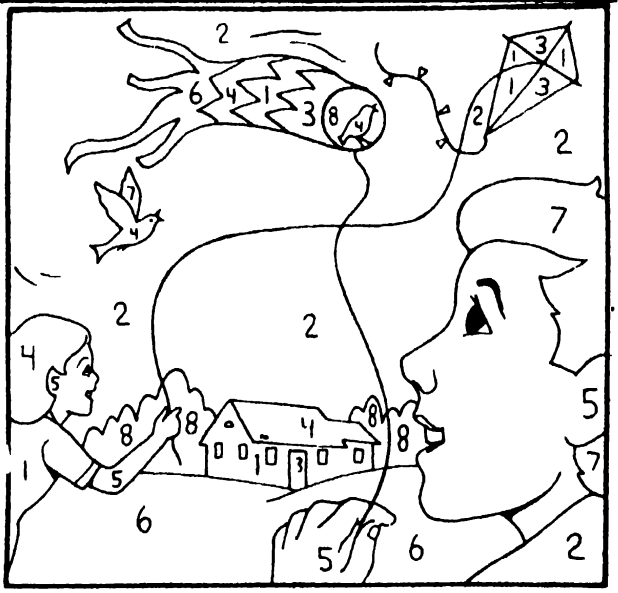
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Light is missing 2 Dish is missing 3 Fence is different 4 Blouse is different 5 Cat's tail is moved 6 Carved heart is missing

FUNSPOT



SOAR SPOT! Watch out above! Crossed kite strings often spell trouble Add these colors 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow. 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Lt purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

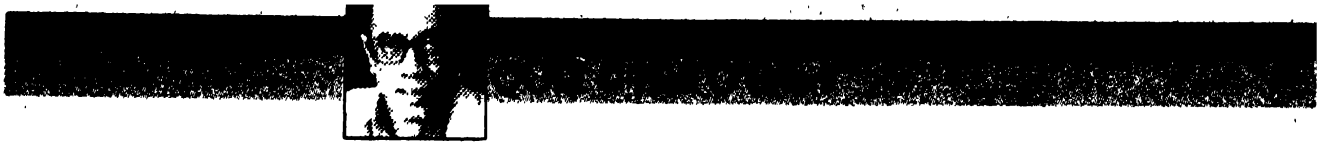
LANKIEST

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible twosome: Lins Ilask



The first of the city's open quizzes on the AQUO circuit is the Dalhousie Institute Invitation Quiz for the Errol Cowper Trophy. This, the 18th year of the competition, drew fewer entries than usual—perhaps because of the summer vacation, university examinations and two afternoons of very heavy rain and traffic jams. Still the final number was around 60. There were two seeded teams in each of the preliminaries most of whom fared badly.

In the opening round seeded St Xavier's Blues failed to show up, but the other seed, the veteran SOUP, came through after some initial problems. There was quite a tussle with some of the others—Pointers, Quiz Kids and one or two others, with Quiz Kids qualifying on the very last question.

In the second round both seeds—Magnum and Syzzgy—bit the dust. It was Ivy League derived from Don Bosco and the Alekhine Chess Club—along with HCLV 4 which came through relatively comfortably.

The second day was again a day of rain and traffic jams but fortunately the weather cleared to bring on the best competition of the three days. Voe Victis and Octette were the two seeds. Both had to struggle but eventually Voe Victis prevailed along wih Nameless Four—a team of pretty well-known quizzards. The last round was a crackerjacker—DI 'A' galloped away from the rest but four other teams battled it out for the last qualifying spot. In fact three teams went into a tie-breaker which DI 'B' won comfortably.

CBS

11th Question: **With reference to cricket, what is a 'Wagon Wheel'? (Abhik Majumdar, Flat A1, DB-28, Salt Lake, Calcutta 700 064)**

Ans: **It is the oval diagram shown on TV to indicate the regions where a batsman got his runs.**



A.C. Chakravorti (right) receives a farewell gift from R.M. Sen

And so to the final—good weather, good quizzing and an appreciative audience.

Voe Victis broke into a big lead, as they picked up their directs and bonus after bonus, with most of the others bunched together. However, at the interval it looked like a two-team race—Voe Victis and DI 'A' with just two points separating them. The third team was nearly 6 points further back.

But the competition really hotted up in the second half with everyone scoring—particularly DI 'B' and Ivy League.

It was in the last two rounds that hosts DI 'A' pulled away to eventually lift the trophy. DI 'B' just failed by a point to catch Voe Victis for the runner-up berth. Ivy League was a good fourth.

It was a new look, but very experienced, DI 'A' team (regular Stanley David, Francis Grosh (ex-Octave), Shivaji Roy (ex-Cream) and Neil Wesley). The quizmaster as in all the previous 17 years was Neil O'Brien, ever-green and ever-entertaining.

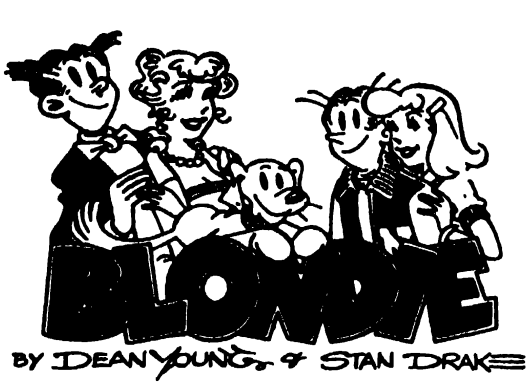
At the end of the quiz, Argus Quiz Club honoured Mr A.C. Chakravorti, founder president of the club for his support and interest to quizzing. Mr Chakravorti leaves the country to join Unilever. It was through him that the association got its last open quiz, the Argus Close-Up, which is now a feature in the city. AQUO thanks Mr Chakravorti and wishes him well in his new assignment.

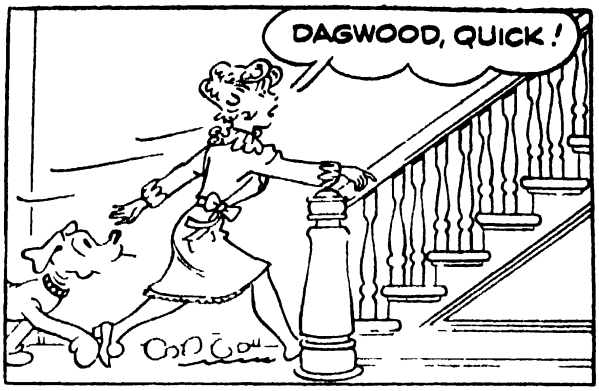
AQUO also welcomes Argus' new president. M.A. Lahiri, general manager (east) of Hindustan Lever Limited.

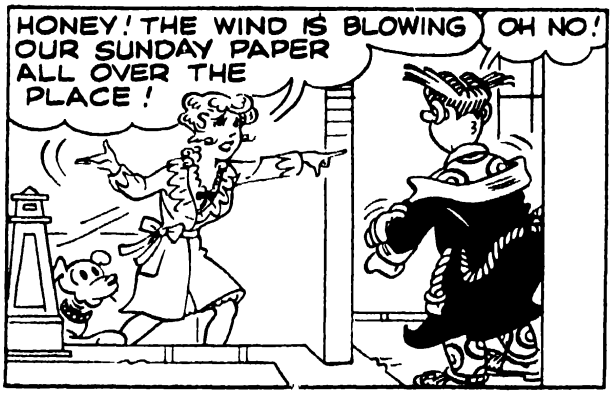
QUESTIONS

1. Which country was known as "the sick man of Europe"? (Pradip Kumar Das, Calcutta 65)
2. Who beat Milkha Singh to take the bronze medal in the 1960 Olympics? (Sukhdeep Khorana, Jharsuguda)
3. *Cattle Queen of Montana, The Badman, Station West* and *She's Working Her Way Through College* all have starring an actor who has achieved fame in another profession. Name him. (Sudhendu Pradhan, Rourkela)
4. Which veteran Indian actor said, "One day I sat down to make a list of words that we use in our film dialogues and found that there are not more than 700 words."? (Mohan Kumar Agrawal, Bargarh 28)
5. What is Christina Weiss' contribution to cricket? (Subrata Dey, Calcutta 82)
6. Who said, "Civilisation is a movement and not a condition, a voyage not a harbour."? (Nabarun Guha, Calcutta 84)
7. Other than in China, where can we find the 'Great Wall'? (Anil Kumar Sahu, Bargarh 28)
8. What is an aerolith? (J. Om Prakash Rao, Jharsuguda 2)
9. Who's the youngest person to have a no. one Single? (Pradeep Roy, Rourkela)
10. Two modern techniques, PET and CAT are useful in obtaining information of pathological changes in brains of schizophrenics. What do these acronyms stand for? (Rahul Kr Gupta, Calcutta 29)

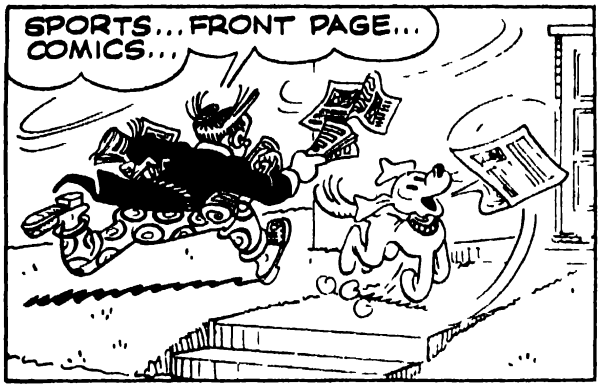
ANSWERS

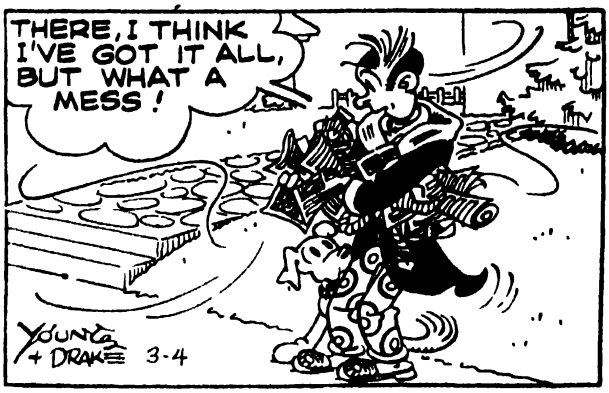










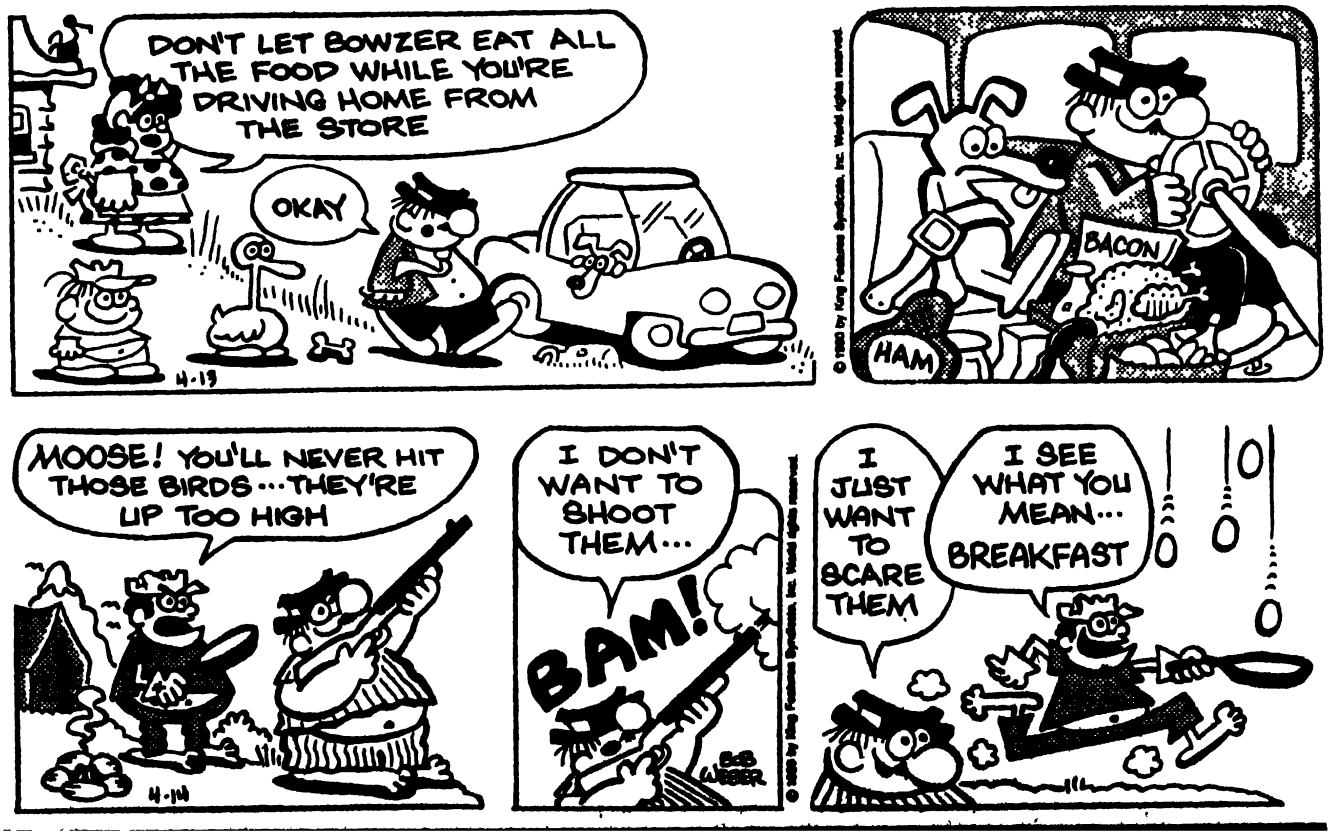


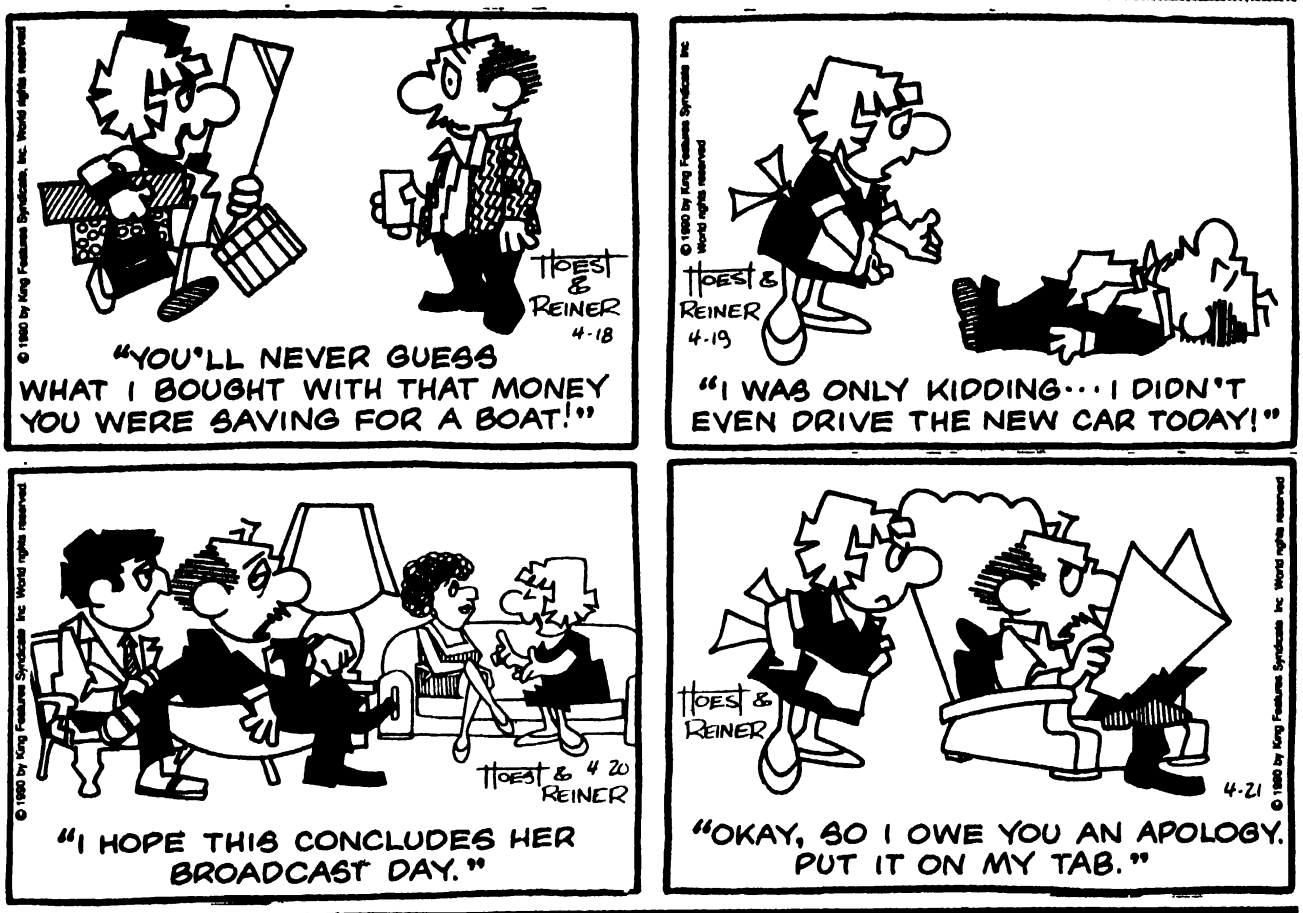


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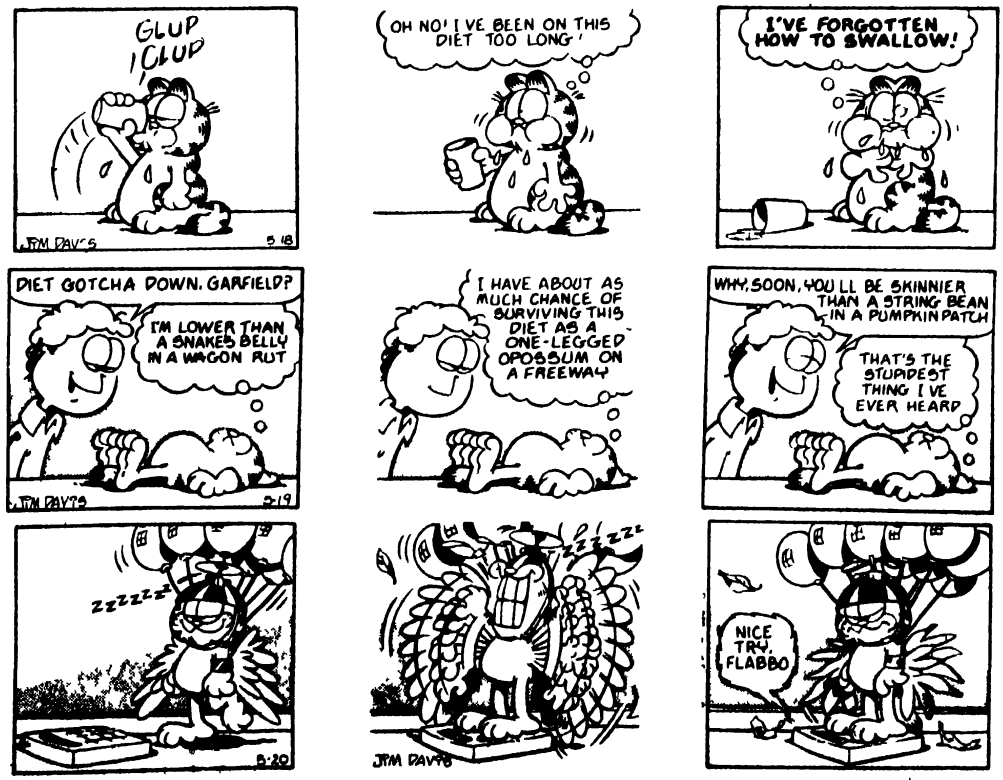



Archie
I JUST KNOCKED THAT BOTTLE OFF THE FENCE'
ANYTHING YOU CAN DO I CAN'T DO BETTER'
THAT'S FOR SURE'
LET ME REPHRASE THAT'
FIVE BUCKS SAYS I CAN KNOCK THAT BOTTLE OFF THE FENCE'
THAT ONE=
OKAY, YOU'RE ON'
SMASH
HMMM...
HERE'S THE FIVE BUCKS'
I'LL WRITE YOU A CHECK FOR THE WINDOW'
5-20


DON'T LET BOWZER EAT ALL THE FOOD WHILE YOU'RE DRIVING HOME FROM THE STORE
OKAY
4-19
BACON
HAM
MOOSE! YOU'LL NEVER HIT THOSE BIRDS... THEY'RE UP TOO HIGH
4-14
I DON'T WANT TO SHOOT THEM...
BAM!
BOB WEBER
I JUST WANT TO SCARE THEM
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN... BREAKFAST



GARFIELD By Jim Davis



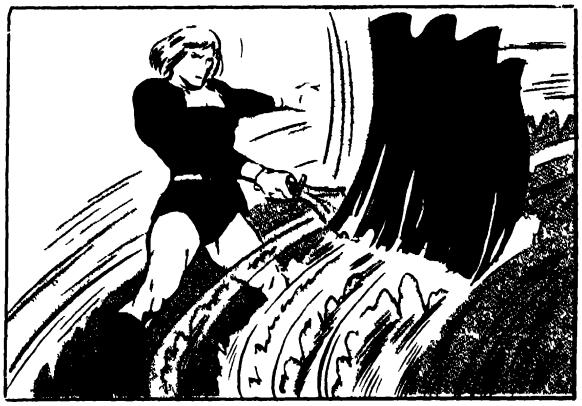

WE'RE FAR ENOUGH FROM THE FORT – WE'D BETTER OPEN OUR ORDERS
OH NO! WE'VE TO INFILTRATE THE ENEMY CAMP AND WREAK HAVOC AS SABOTEURS!
WHAT DO MINE SAY?
I KEEP FORGETTING YOU CAN'T READ
THEY SAY I'VE TO WAIT IN THE PUB TILL YOU'VE FINISHED
OH, NO – WE'RE SURROUNDED!
RIGHT! YOU TAKE THE FIFTY ON THE RIGHT AND I'LL TAKE THE FIFTY ON THE LEFT! TAKE NO PRISONERS!
HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING?
SURRENDER, YOU FOOLS! YOU ARE SURROUNDED!
NO, WAY BUSTER! JUST TRY AND TAKE US!
SO BE IT! YOUR BLOOD WILL STAIN THE SAND!
YOU DO REALISE MY FRIEND HERE IS SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF?
WE WILL GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE TO LIVE
ONE OF YOU MUST FIGHT OUR CHAMPION
DENNIS, I'M MUCH BIGGER AND STRONGER THAN YOU ARE
ON THE OTHER HAND, I WEAR GLASSES
COME ON, THEN – WHERE'S YOUR CHAMPION? WE'RE READY!
ER... THERE YOU GO! SORT HIM OUT, DENNIS!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE 'WE'?


HE-MAN™
AND THE
MASTERS
OF THE UNIVERSE™
AT THE MADAKAN CELEBRATION OF LAND'S DAY

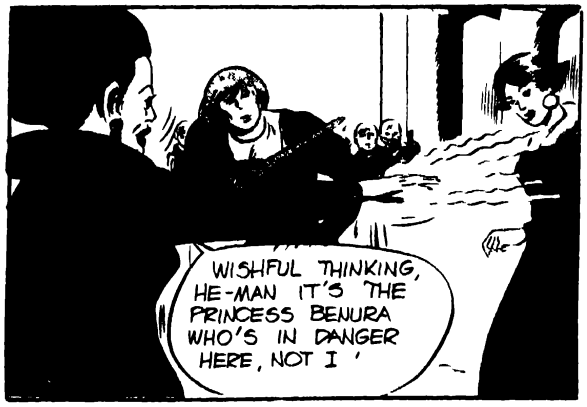

ONE CHANCE TO KNOCK OUT THIS MAGICAL STORM








NOW IANDIR STEP BACK AND LET THE CEREMONY CONTINUE


WISHFUL THINKING, HE-MAN IT'S THE PRINCESS BENURA WHO'S IN DANGER HERE, NOT I


6/4



Now, will the real chief minister of Haryana stand up? **Banarsi Das Gupta** heads the government at the time of going to press, but with Om Prakash Chautala hovering around, who knows which head the cap fits?
Photograph by RAJESH KUMAR



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250	17,600	—
350	25,500	—
600*	37,750	5,250
840*	52,750	7,400
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The Telegraph

17 JUNE 1990



Ashoke Chakrabarty

4 A child is someone you can really share your love with. But there are many children in search of a parent. Could it be you?

13 A tribute to the grand old man of music, V. Balsara, who turns 68 this week.

16 And a photofeature on the signs and symbols of music.

18 The economic realities in Hanoi are stark. How is that such a courageous people who have fought mightier enemies cannot manage a decent standard of living? A report.

SECTIONS

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12 Inner Eye
20 7 Days
23 Junior Whirl
24 Quiz
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover Ashoke Chakrabarty


SOMEONE
TO
LOVE

• *About a month ago, the staff of the B.C. Roy Memorial Children's Hospital in Beliaghata, Calcutta, found a baby boy, just a few months old, abandoned outside their premises. His features unmistakably identified him as Nepali. Following standard procedure, the hospital authorities had him legally declared abandoned by the Juvenile Court in Salt Lake. A Nepali couple, keen on adoption, were put on to the case, and had little trouble in legally adopting the boy. Parents and child are both thriving in each other's emotional embrace.*

• *Sipra and Aniruddha Roy Choudhury of Ekdalia, Calcutta, had an only son and desperately wanted a daughter. But Ms Roy Choudhury, who had delivered her son by Caesarian section, was advised against another baby. But so keen were the couple that they approached the International Mission for Hope in Calcutta, and after going through the formalities, picked up virtually the first female baby they saw. The couple, their parents and of course their son have all taken very naturally to the new member of the family. "She is two years old now, and has filled a gap for all of us," exults Ms Roy Choudhury.*

According to a very rough estimate, there are six million abandoned children in India. There are also four million couples who, for some reason or other, cannot have a child. This seems to solve the problem. The ratio of children needing parents and couples needing children is just about right. The quesiton thus seems to be one only of getting couple and child to meet. But no. In India there are inhibitions; and inhibitions always take time to break.

Would I really want to fondle and love and bequeath my wealth to the unwanted product of some illicit liaison? Would I want to take into my family a child born perhaps of Harijans or Muslims or some undefined mixed breed? Can I risk adopting a child who later prove to have some genetic defect or disease? Worst, even if I did so, what would people say? Really, what would people say?

These are the typical questions which plague the Indian mind. The only way to get over them is to visit any of the homes sheltering abandoned babies. A child is a child is a child. The sheer innocence and purity, not to speak of the cuddly cuteness and charm, of the little'uns that toddle about the nurseries of these homes are enough to sweep aside any doubts, showing them up for what they are: petty and meaningless. A baby, quite clearly, knows no barriers.

But with Indian families, other complexes soon surface. Says Ms Saroj Sood of the Indian Society for Sponsorship and Adopton (ISSA), "Many couples go through the whole process secretly. The wife pretends to be in confinement and the adoption agency is requested not to correspond on its letterhead." She adds strongly, "We do not encourage such couples. They do not treat a child as a child."

Childless couples belonging to the trading communities are driven to adoption invariably in the search for an heir. Predictably, boys—and fair ones at that—are most in demand. "A boy runs a family, not a girl," says Sumit Agarwal, one such prospective parent, quite matter-of-factly. He is in the process of adopting a boy from the International Mission of Hope.

The adoption of a child might not begin like a fairytale, considering the painful procedures and decisions that one has to make. But it is bound to end like one, reveal

Sumir Lal and

Tapas Chakraborty

Such couples are extremely fussy about the looks and other physical attributes of the child. "Really, Indians are the most colour conscious people in the world," fumes Ms Sood. Nevertheless, her society like most others allows couples to pick and choose from among several prospective babies. Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, on the other hand, is very firm about denying a choice. Says a spokesperson, "A child is God's gift. Does a natural mother have a choice about the sex and health of her baby?" At Mother Teresa's home, therefore, couples and children are "matched" strictly on the basis of their turn on the waiting list.

But even other communities are occasionally guilty of a pro-boy bias. Udayan Sarkar, an employee of an insurance company, has been told his wife cannot bear a child and he is very keen to adopt a boy. "A girl will go to someone else's house after two decades. Why should I adopt a girl and bring her up for someone else? And girls are a source of anxiety for their parents even after they get married. Since my wife and I are now in a position to exercise a choice, why shouldn't we?" goes his quite simple argument.

Another problem is with the Indian male's quite considerable ego. If it is the wife who is infertile, the couple usually has no problem making the required legal declaration. But if it is the man—it becom-



Ashoka Chakraborty

es something shameful which must be hushed up, invariably complicating and delaying the legal procedure.

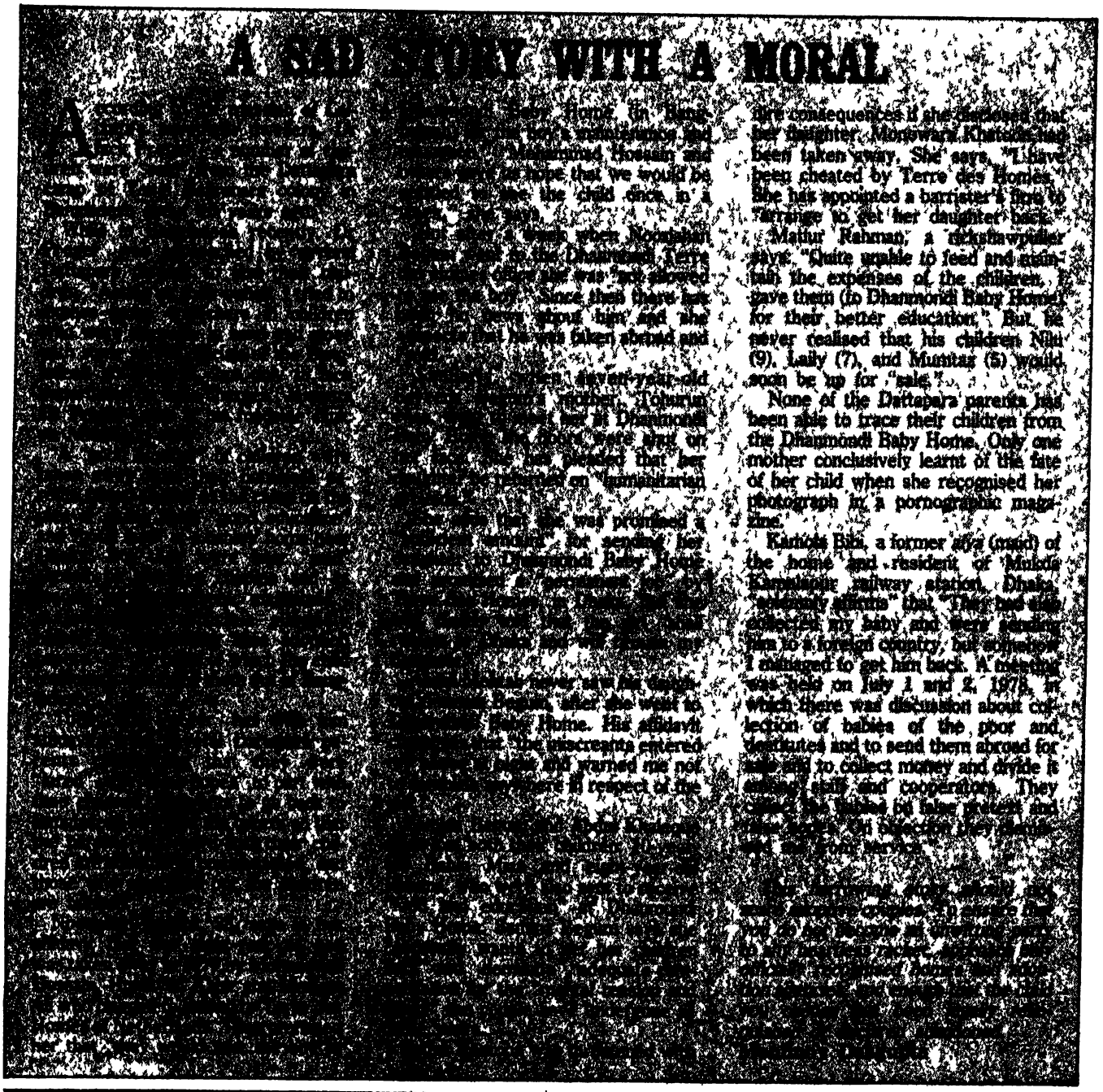
But there is good news Indians, particularly younger couples, have begun breaking out of these self-imposed shackles Over the last few years there has been a sudden spurt in adoptions by Indians Ms Sood of ISSA reports that in 1987 her organisation concluded 51 adoptions of which only five were by Indians in 1988-89, ISSA's 68 adoptions included as many as 12 by Indians and six by non-resident Indians, in 1989-90 the 55 adoptions included an impressive 17 by Indians, and so far this year already 12 Indian couples, including two NRIs have adopted children

Confirming the trend, Kamal Krishna, programme director of the International Mission of Hope (IMH), says that till a decade ago Indian couples were very rare, "but now we get almost one Indian couple a day " They come from all strata of society and there is a virtual "equilibrium" of demand and supply

Those involved with adoptions point to two reasons for this heartening trend a genuine shrugging off of inhibitions in the modern generation, and a concerted drive by agencies to convince Indians about the joys of adoption

The latter in turn is a fallout of the raging controversy some years ago over adoptions by foreigners (The allegation was that adoption agencies were "buying" children from poor families on false pretences and "selling" them abroad.) A writ petition resulted in the Supreme Court laying down detailed procedures and guidelines to prevent any trafficking in children, while the Union social welfare ministry stepped in to encourage adoptions by Indian couples

The ministry has prescribed that 25 per



A SAD STORY WITH A MORAL

A [illegible] Home, in Bang[illegible] a maintenance and [illegible] Mohammad Hossain and [illegible] hope that we would be [illegible] the child once in a [illegible] days.

[illegible] when Nominal [illegible] Dhanmondi Terre [illegible] she was "not allowed [illegible] Since then there has [illegible] been given him and she [illegible] he was taken abroad and [illegible]

[illegible] seven-year-old [illegible] mother, Toharun [illegible] at Dhanmondi [illegible] were sent on [illegible] pretext that her [illegible] husband on "humanitarian [illegible] that she was promised a [illegible] for sending her [illegible] Dhanmondi Baby Home [illegible]

[illegible] Home. His affidavit [illegible] the insecurity entered [illegible] and warned me not [illegible] in respect of the [illegible]

[illegible] life consequences if she disclosed that her daughter, Monowara Khatoon, has been taken away. She says, "I have been cheated by Terre des Hommes. She has appointed a barrister's firm to arrange to get her daughter back."

Matiur Rahman, a rickshawpuller says, "Quite unable to feed and maintain the expenses of the children, I gave them (to Dhanmondi Baby Home) for their better education." But, he never realised that his children Nilu (9), Laily (7), and Mumtaz (5) would soon be up for "sale."

None of the Dattepara parents has been able to trace their children from the Dhanmondi Baby Home. Only one mother conclusively learnt of the fate of her child when she recognised her photograph in a pornographic magazine.

Kanchi Bibi, a former aya (maid) of the home and resident of Mukda Kamalapur railway station, Dhaka, solemnly affirms that "They had also collected my baby and were sending him to a foreign country, but somehow I managed to get him back. A meeting was held on July 1 and 2, 1978, in which there was discussion about collection of babies of the poor and destitutes and to send them abroad for sale and to collect money and divide it among them with cooperation. They called [illegible] on false pretexts and [illegible] names. On inspection they [illegible]

[illegible]



Who can ignore the cuddly cuteness of a child?

Subhajit Pal

cent of all adoptions in the country must be by Indian couples, further, when a child when a child is declared abandoned or relinquished, the adoption home must wait for a month to allow Indian couples to exercise the first option on it before offering it to foreigners, and in their annual reports to the government, all such homes must explain why children adopted by foreign couples could not be given to Indians

This has resulted in adoption homes launching concerted advertisement and awareness drives to encourage Indian couples But it is still proving difficult "Children are not a commodity that one can fulfil quotas," points out Ms Sood, while Kamal Krishna argues, "If they are able to streamline the adoption law more Indian couples will volunteer and there will be no need to send children abroad " (More on this later)

Some homes in Bombay and Pune are reported to have achieved upto 90 per cent adoptions by Indians, but in Calcutta things are moving more slowly Inhibitions apart, Indians are motivated to adopt only in order to get a boy or "balance" the family (taking a child opposite in gender to an older natural child) But foreigners, whose motives are rather more altruistic are the ones to adopt girls, older children and, most important, handicapped and retarded children They are also the ones to keep the adoption societies running with donations above the prescribed fees For instance, the IMH, which was at the centre of the 1982 controversy, is in a severe financial crisis because the government has not renewed its license for foreign adoptions



Subhajit Pal

Saroj Sood : Playing mother

A very good—and legitimate—question is, where do these hundreds of defenceless, vulberable babies come from? To put it starkly, what is the source of supply of these children?

The bulk, by far, are relinquished by unwed mothers, 'You will be surprised at the extent of exploitation of young women in the rural areas," says Ms Sood, disclosing that 90 per cent of ISSA's children come from this source The IMH and Missionaries of Charity report a similar proportion (This also speaks poorly about awareness of family planning techniques)

Most of the adoption agencies have links with the city's many small private nursing homes who inform them of the birth of illegitimate children "We get one or two everyday," says Kamal Krishna Usually the mother signs a relinquishment certificate giving up all rights on the child and putting the adoption home legally in its charge But in case some other member of the family brings the child to the home, then the Juvenile Court decides whether relinquishment is justified

The adoption homes' other babies are relinquished by men whose wives might have died during childbirth or by young widows Ms Sood says that in her 25 year experience, there have been only two cases of a child's natural coming back to reclaim it This was allowed by the courts after due enquiry

The Missionaries of Charity, besides, receives babies abandoned by poor couples on its doorsteps About 60 per cent of these prove to be—predictably again—female

Hospitals like the B C Roy Children's Memorial and the Calcutta Medical College face a unique problem of poor couples getting their children admitted in the wards and then never turning up to claim them Very often, says Dr Tapas Sarkar, superintendent of the B C Roy Hospital, the babies are abandoned in the outpatients' department itself or in the hospital courtyard, their unattended-to cries attracting the staff's attention well after the parents have got away Most of these children are malnourished or handicapped and usually less than three years old The B C Roy Hospital gets an average of two such cases every month

In the case of an abandoned child, the hospital or whoever else discovers it must immediately report to the Juvenile Court (or appropriate district court) which orders the police to trace its natural guardians while temporarily placing it in the care of a government home or a couple recommended by the social welfare department. Only when the court is satisfied that the guardians cannot be traced, does

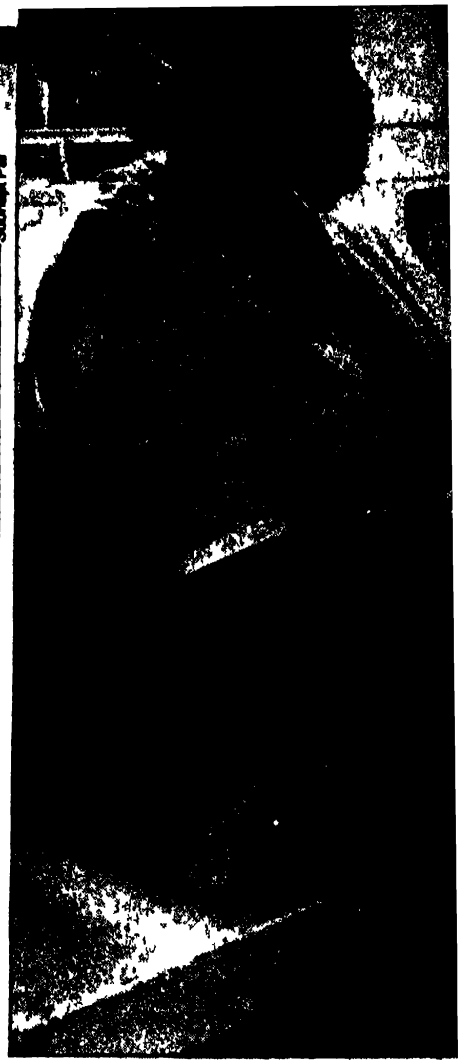
it declare the child abandoned If a couple had been given temporary custody of the child, they can now move to legally adopt it

The volume of such children with which the Juvenile Court has to deal is revealingly large The metropolitan magistrate in charge of the court, Mr Namit Mutsuddi, who took office only on May 14, had in the fortnight between his appointment and the writing of this article, already sent 25 children to temporary homes and formally declared four others abandoned The court, whose jurisdiction extends over the Calcutta Police district, the Howrah municipal area and the police stations of Naihati, Jagatdal, Titagarh Noapara, Barrackpore, Sankrail, Domjur, Bally and Jagacha, handles the cases of about 300 such children every year The tragedy is that this is only the tip of the iceberg As evident from the large number of child labourers and beggars in our cities, most abandoned children in India remain outside the pale of organised society living under the law of the jungle on the streets

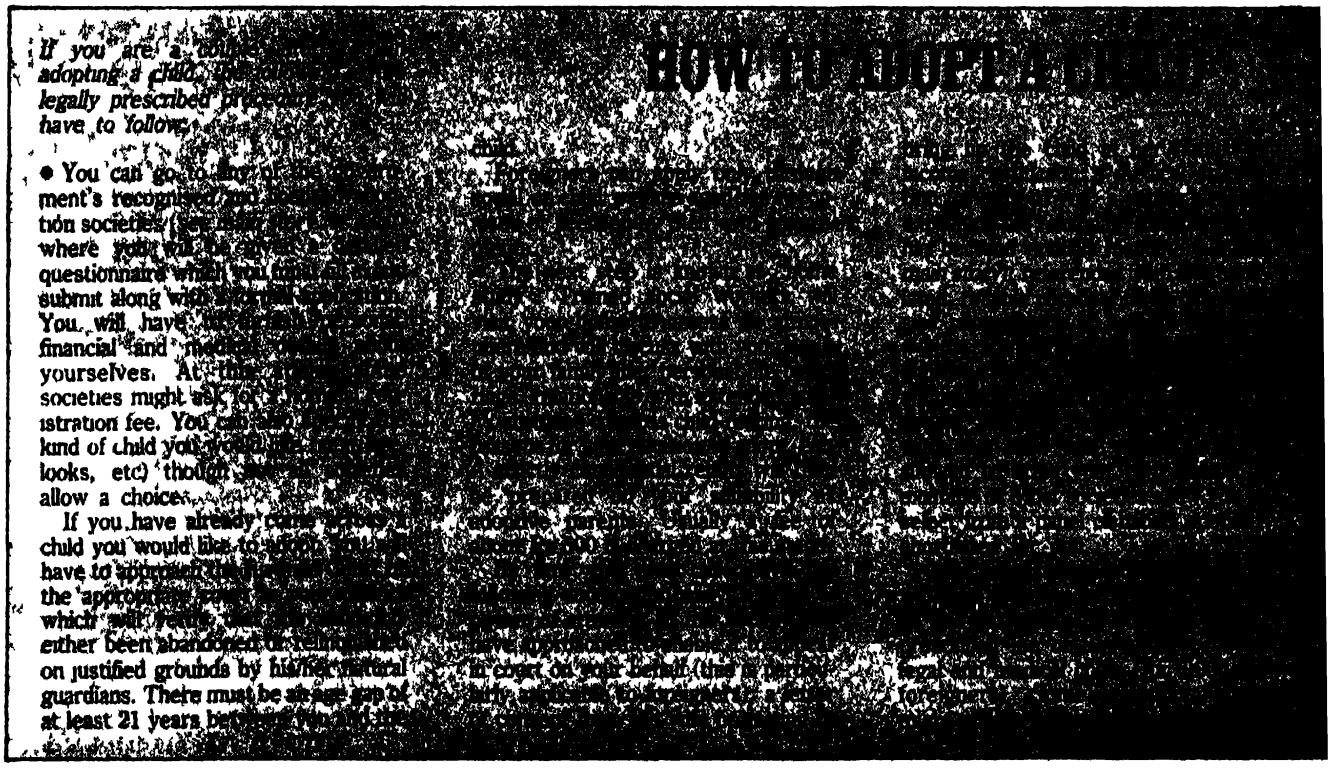
There is one Supreme Court directive which could have chilling consequences—that the enquiry to trace an abandoned child's natural guardians should be completed in one month According to sources in the social welfare department, this might be good in theory, but the administrative machinery is simply not capable The red tape involved (it could take weeks just to get the child's photograph telecast on Doordarshan, for instance) and the lack of adequate personnel to deal with so many cases result in half-hearted enquiries in order to meet the one-month deadline. Hence, it is quite possible that children are declared abandoned and adopted when in fact they have been genuinenly lost and their natural guardians are still searching for them An employee of the court recalls the case of a widowed seaman of Kidderpore who returned from a voyage to find his young daughter missing Much investigation eventually led to the discovery that she had been mistakenly adopted and sent to the US A lengthy, and traumatic for all concerned, legal procedure had to be undergone before she could return to her natural father

The Juvenile Court can send abandoned or relinquished children to any adoption society recognised or licensed by the government The main ones in Calcutta are the Indian Society for Sponsorship and Adoption (Palace Court, Kyd Street), the Missionaries of Charity (AJC Bose Road), the late Maitreyee Devi's Khelaghar (Palm Avenue), the Society for Indian Children's Welfare (Col Biswas Road,Ballygunge) and the Indian Society for Rehabilitation of Children (Kankulia Road) Besides, there are organisations like the International Mission of Hope (Nimak Mahal Road, Kidderpore) which is currently licensed only for Indian adoptions

As for the SOS Village in Salt Lake, it does not offer children for adoption, but itself adopts them, providing a family atmosphere with surrogate mothers

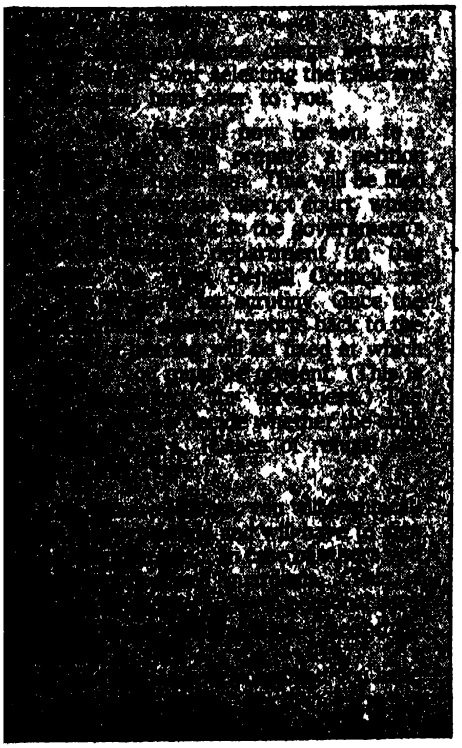


Subhajit Pal





In a sanitised nursery; but there is a whole life ahead of them



All those in the field complain that adoption laws in this country are outdated In the first place, because of the differences in personal laws of different communities, only Hindus are covered by the Adoption and Maintenance Act of 1956 Foreigners and others have to apply under the Guardians and Wards Act which is of 19th century vintage The Act for Hindus, which is based on the *krittima* concept of ancient Hindu law, entitles an adopted child to the same inheritance rights as a natural child But those adopted under the Guardians Act can inherit property only if their guardian's will specifies so under other laws like the Property Act

Kamal Krishna points out that the law in general is very discouraging for those who would like to adopt for altruistic reasons For instance, it disallows the adoption of a child of the same sex as a natural child, and if a couple already possesses natural children of both sexes they are not allowed to adopt at all

Another problem is the insistence on a medical certificate explaining why the couple cannot have a natural child. This automatically eliminates willing couples of other categories. say, a couple which has married late and though not technically infertile has opted against going through the process of natural childbirth, or a double income couple in which the wife is not in a position to imperil her career in order to go through a pregnancy and rear a child from complete infancy, or a couple which has children, but purely as a service to society would like to adopt another Invariably the more enthusiastic among such couples have to "purchase" an infertility certificate from an unscrupulous doctor

Finally, there is the problem of the courts themselves. Different judges apply different criteria in deciding the compatibility of a couple and a child Then, some judges decide a case in a single hearing while others may take upto a month even. Lawyers too play a role For instance, all adoptions in Calcutta were held up last month because lawyers were boycotting the district judge at Alipore on an altogether different issue

But at the same time, the courts are gradually stepping in tune with society Many single women, for example, have been allowed to adopt children Ms Anita Chatterjee, a widow from Entally, adopted a girl way back in 1968 The child is now a woman—married and happily settled in Bombay

All said and done, adopting a child is an extremely rewarding experience as every couple who has done so will testify The child fills an emotional gap and gratifies one's sense of service, but more important, a child gives pleasure simply by being itself The difficulties outlined above are only temporary and worth a lifetime's subsequent happiness

Wait, there are more questions, genuine ones Does an adopted child have any adjustment problems? All babies will have initial physical problems as their little bodies attempt to cope with an environment harshly different from the sanitised nurseries of the adoption homes Then, toddlers and older children, will naturally be wary and insecure at first, but like all children, once convinced of your love and trust, they will blossom

Finally, that crucial question should a child be told that he has been adopted? Yes, advise all workers in the field. Let a child know from the moment he/she is old enough to understand, and he or she will grow up secure in your love If you leave it too late it can come as a traumatic blow. Ms Chatterjee, quoted earlier, did not tell her daughter till she was 17 and she went through a shattering depression Of course, she did emerge from it after some time, stronger and loving her mother all the more But it could have been avoided

The procedures might be problematic and adjustment might seem traumatic But eventually the thrill of adopting a child is clearly well worth it ■

Terror on the Roads

How the elegant minibus has become a maroon menace

Years ago, the idea of a comparatively luxurious public transport, at a higher cost, for those who could afford it, was mooted It took shape in the form of the then elegant minibus

In its original form it was a spacious, well-decorated bus with ample leg space It was allowed to have only as many passengers as the number of seats and just half a dozen or so standing passengers Once full, it stopped only to drop a passenger and only when seats were vacant did it solicit custom There was no helper then, to shout and 'buy' passengers It was a much preferred mode of transport, especially for ladies

Things are different now Death blows have been dealt to the elegance, luxury and comfort of the minibus by successive increases in the price of diesel-oil In an effort to keep fares in check, the government allowed the minibuses to take more standing passengers, when oil prices were raised the first time.

The decision of allowing standing passengers sounded the death knell of the original idea of a comfortable mode of public transport The minibus became just another ordinary public bus, with commuters packed inside like sardines in a can

With a 60 per cent hike in fares at the lowest level and substantially higher fares as the distances increased, there is no justification in running minibuses. It is also unfair to the earlier public buses

For all their hype about lower profitability due to being almost half the size of the larger public buses, minibus owners are raking it in If minibuses were unprofitable, no owner would have lapped up new and untried routes. Even the government would have sanctioned larger public buses on these new routes

Operating minibuses in Calcutta has thus become a regular racket involving the owner, the driver, the conductor and even the helper. A mode of transport originally conceived to provide the harried Calcuttan a comparatively comfortable commuting system has become even more uncomfortable than earlier buses

Lack of comfort, however, is not the only charge against minibuses They have become a terror on the roads Speeding, swerving, overtaking from the left, sudden stoppage stopping at unauthorised places—you name the traffic rule violation and minibus drivers indulge in it most blatantly

And yet, when the crowds are thin, no amount of egging on by irate passengers will make the driver move the vehicle If one complains, he is bluntly told that he has not bought the bus with an 80 paise ticket and is welcome to get off it, if inconvenienced.

Minibus crews seem the most abusive and ill-mannered of all operators of public vehicles in Calcutta They cannot utter a single sentence without spicing it with the Bengali equivalent of a four-letter word They behave most harshly with passengers, entering into arguments at the slightest pretext. Even the normal courtesy to women and the elderly is lacking.

Greed and competition rule the day. The fun begins when two minibuses of the same route meet somewhere, going in the same direction. Then begins a harrowing chase, when more often than not, abuses fly.

Despite the 'No smoking' sign painted in bold inside the bus, the driver, the conductor and the helper themselves smoke openly in the bus, How, then, can they ask passengers to refrain from smoking? Hence, smoking has become a habit in the regular crowded buses, a highly dangerous practice and an inconvenience, to say the least. Lately, there have been instances of blatant criminal acts being perpetuated on board minibuses, too.

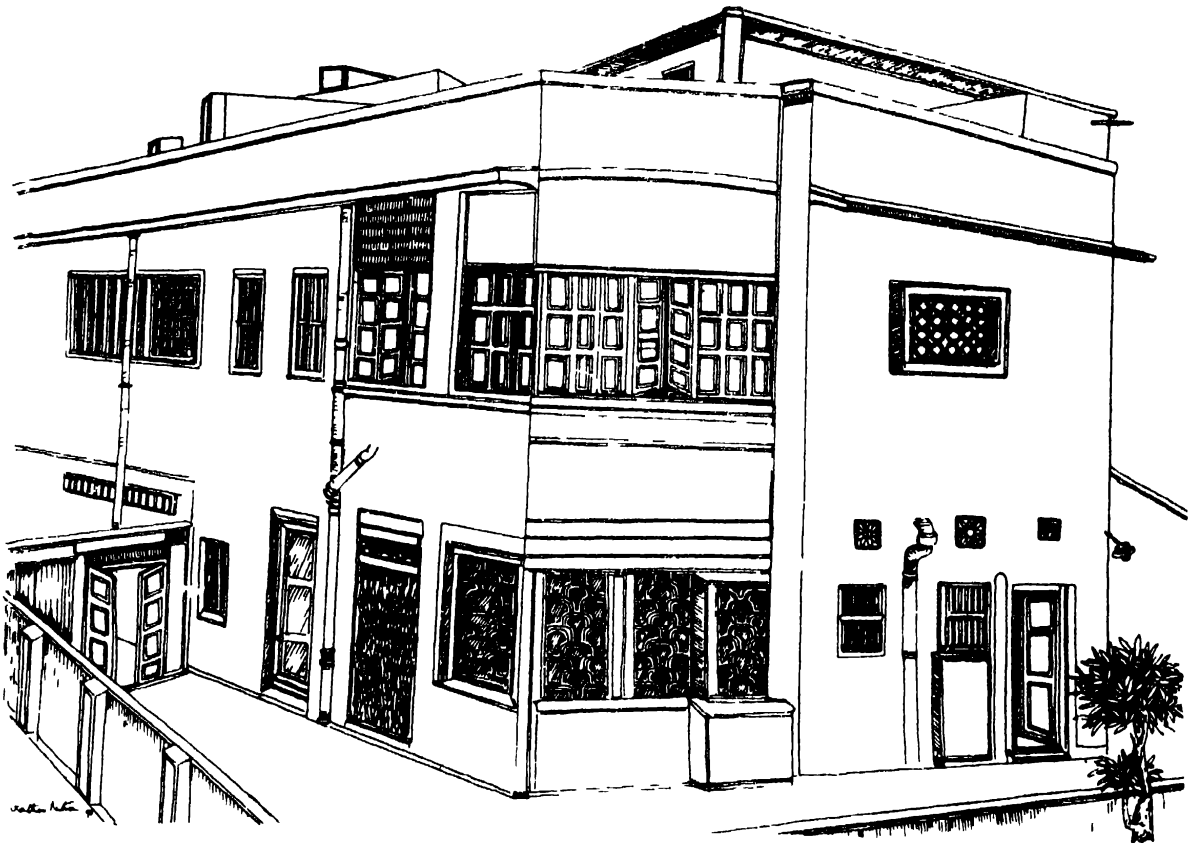
Is it not relevant then to re-examine the whole policy of issuing minibus licences at will and sanctioning newer routes everyday? While it would be highly revolutionary to call for the scrapping of all minibus licences, steps at least should be taken to rein in the 'anti-social' crew of the minibuses.

Sunil Garodia





GOSTHA PAL (1896-1976)



A legendary figure of Indian soccer, Gostha Behari Pal was born at Madaripur in Faridpur district (now in Bangladesh) on August 20, 1896. He lost his father when he was only one-and-a-half months old. As a child he moved to Calcutta with his mother and lived at his maternal grandfather's place in north Calcutta's Kumartuli area. He came on the Calcutta football scene at the age of 17. His robust physique caught the attention of Mohun Bagan. He made his maiden appearance for the club against Dalhousie as a right-half. But on Bhuti Sukul's advice he switched over to his original left-back position. His football career covered a span of 23 years (1913-36) of which 1917-33 was his peak period.

Pal belonged to a determined set of people who played barefoot against the tough English regimental teams with studded boots. He believed that the football field was the only place where the foreign rulers could be challenged on an equal footing.

Pal captained Mohun Bagan during 1921-26 and also served as its honorary football secretary for some time. Under his captaincy in 1922, Mohun Bagan played for the first time in the Rovers Cup and also became the first non-military side to play in the Durand Cup. He led an IFA side in 1933 to Sri Lanka. An English publication referred to him as the Chinese Wall for his stolid presence in the defence line.

Pal's dexterity even extended to cricket, hockey and tennis. He was the captain of the Mohun Bagan cricket team during 1922-24. He played regularly in the Beighton Cup and was a member of the club's victorious hockey side in the Lakshmibilas Cup in 1925. In 1962, he became the first footballer to be honoured with a Padma Shri. The Kingsway, connecting the Raj Bhavan and Strand Road in Calcutta, was renamed after him. He died on April 8, 1976.

The sketch above shows Pal's north Calcutta residence at Paikpara.

ARIES
March 21– April 20

Those in invention, research innovation sales and distribution set the pace and tempo Journey and communication will be your life blood In romance you will be passionate intense and highly charged with chivalry and savvy Even if you have to entertain to secure a business deal it will be worth it in the long run Do not be upset by criticism or temporary neglect otherwise your health might nose dive Travel is an exceptionally positive and strong pointer

TAURUS
April 21—May 20

Health, employment loans, funds home and recreation are the paradoxical directions You have your slice of cake in romance though work pressures keep you rather busy Investors those in land and property and the employed can look forward to happy prospects Except from June 20 to 22, your health remains fine A sudden call or invitation could lead to a journey

GEMINI
May 21—June 20

Negotiations, settlements, success in enterprises and a touch of class in whatever you do are the week s main trends In romance, your style and grace will slay your opposite number During the last four days of the week, you recover lost financial ground and create new opportunities Contracts and negotiations will be to your advantage Your health problems should be over by Wednesday or Thursday A meeting, function or ceremony will call for a journey

CANCER
June 21—July 20

Mighty ambition, great inner drive, buying/selling/investing and shopping sprees are the highlights of the week Secret ties and romantic places entice you You will have so much to do in so short a time that health will just not matter Calls, communication and correspondence will be ideal substitutes for travel Finance is the sector where you score

LEO
July 21—August 21

Moon's quarter makes you enterprising, restless, victorious and exceptionally lucky You shall have



your rightful due in romance However for the time being you may be afflicted by a love triangle Children and creative pursuits will consume your money but make you proud and triumphant Relatives business partners and friends will invite you As far as health goes a trouble free week is likely

VIRGO
August 22—Sept 22

Expenses and income even out Both home and journey claim your attention strongly and simultaneously Romance will be sudden and explosive, and therefore wildly exciting You will earn as much as you spend Foreign goods or merchandise sales distribution trading and commerce will come alive Take health precautions during the first three days of the week after that smooth sailing Your restlessness and urge to reach out find fulfilment A home away from home is a distinct possibility

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22

A burst of self-confidence and vigour helps you to get things done Through travel and correspondence you win your lady love Your income will augment your heavy expenses Thanks to your confidence, you manage your health problems very well You will shuttle and commute; a journey abroad is also possible

SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 20

Gains from collaboration, investments, socialising, religious rites and business transactions are indicated The mid-week and the weekend are ideal for romance Overheads and other expenses need careful watching Learn to plan carefully and organise tightly Health safeguards are necessary for the next 21 days A visit to the clinic is probable Expect visitors to drop in

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 21—Dec 20

Marriage official engagements travel and legal matters keep you completely occupied The last four days are ideal for romance Loved ones will respond magnificently Socialise be friendly and thus win over new customers and patrons News of a lucrative contract or tender may reach you

CAPRICORN
Dec 21—Jan 19

The focus is sharp and clear on work health and relationship with colleagues and subordinates Promotion and perks are possible Work first and use the weekend for a little bit of well-deserved fun Rewards and gifts greet you Job satisfaction will be there A check-up for a nagging health problem is advisable

AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18

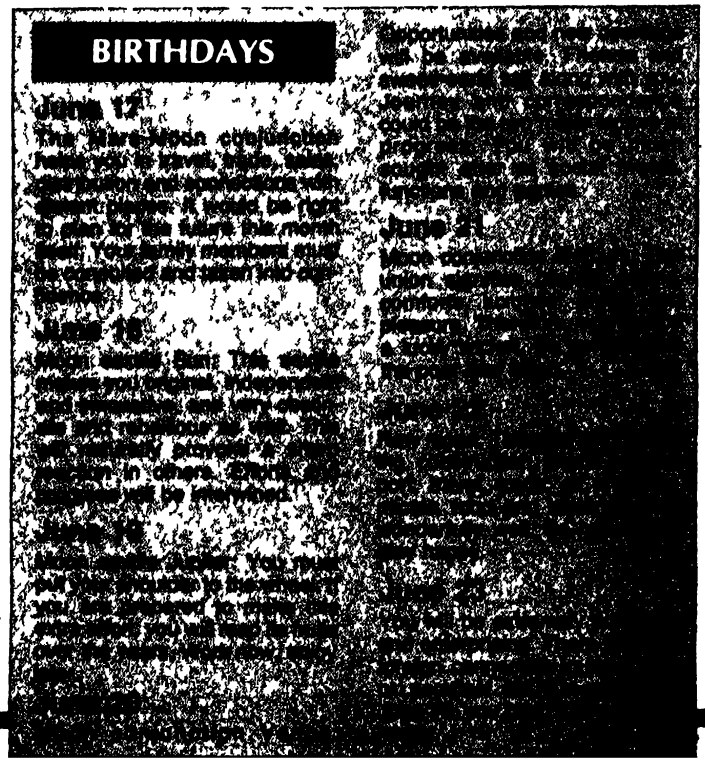
The main trends are romance, marriage, creative pursuits, childbirth/conception and socialising Expenses could eat into your income or profit Costly repairs are likely Installation of new gadgets or machinery is also foretold Health takes a turn for the better and this makes you more productive

PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

Home, property, funds, loans, investments, shifts and transfers are well signified All these will have inter-related effects An old flame rekindles, temporarily. While assisting a sick friend you meet someone interesting. A plot purchased proves worth it. Plans for your dream home take shape In search of superior health care, you may travel to a distant city.

BIRTHDAYS

June 12





VINTAGE BALSARA

One of India's most versatile musicians, **V. Balsara,** turns 68 this week. He has spent a lifetime contributing to the world of music, but never led a triumphal march. Yet, reveals SOHINI SEN, the man retains his sense of humour

Photographs: Aloke Mitra

V. Balsara If the name does not ring a bell somewhere (it should if you are a Calcuttan) you ought to meet the man He is old, short and bespectacled, with a quiet dignity about him that does not really go unnoticed in a crowd After the recent programmes on TV, his face is familiar to even CMDA men at work, but that look of recognition is about all As we travel together in a car, a few heads turn, but too few No one comes up asking for an autograph or to spill admiration on him Walking down the streets of Calcutta, he would look a genial old man with a warm smile

Dump a musical instrument onto his lap and things begin to happen His face comes alive as the first notes of a hauntingly familiar tune hit the air The man becomes the musician in an instant and the magic of *Jeena yahan, marna yahan, iske siwa jana kahan* envelopes you

A dingy lane in central Calcutta Almost as dark as a den "V Balsara Please leave your message," says the green letterbox fixed to the door We walk into a small room in the ancient building supported by rusted iron pillars There is a power failure and the room is dark, stuffy The venerable man gets up hurriedly from his desk to offer us a seat Picks up two tiny plastic handfans and starts fanning us While beads of sweat trickle down his own forehead



The chat begins with the fairly obvious question when did he first start his music career? 'At the age of six," he says, "in the annual social at my father's school, when my mother pushed me on stage From that day it has started and started and never ended '

Not quite uninterrupted though As he himself confesses, 'I've never been able to take anything seriously in my life " Early years saw him working at a typewriter as a steno typist, learning shorthand, even trying his brains at marine engineering "I can type better than most people who type with one finger ' The year 1937 found him a college dropout running away to the army camp at Kirkee to look for a future Job acquired bathing the army horses Nothing lasted long till 1938 On Christmas Day that year, he was asked to replace a pianist at the shooting of *Badal* (director Jahur Raja) He earned Rs 12 for recording six songs—a lot of money those days —and the next morning music director Khan Saheb Mushtaque Hussein asked him to be his assistant

That was also the year he proposed to his lady love Romance, however had come into their lives much earlier when, as children, both used to learn music under the same teacher *"Mere ko woh bahut achchha lagta tha"* says Mrs Balsara 'He was so short then, the foot harmonium would come up to the level of his nose To place his feet on the pedal, he had to sit on the edge of his chair " She used to reserve a special seat for him everyday *"Hum dono ka* friendship *hua tha,"* she says and the dim light hides the sudden blush *"Main bhi achchhi gaati thi "*

But film *zamana* in those days was considered a dangerous world and her parents did not approve of the marriage "They were not happy about it," says Balsara, but then, "this lady was stubborn All ladies are stubborn (this, with a half glance at me as he smiles and bites his tongue) " They were married in 1943 The lady was in for a few shocks however Not long after marriage, her father-in-law found her waiting up one night for the musician's return from a rehearsal The clock showed 2 30 am and she, naturally, was anxious Imagine her surprise, therefore, when her father in

law very calmly asked her to go to bed, for "he would surely be back in a week".

The phone rings insistently. With an apologetic look he picks up the receiver "Modern *ganasangeet? Shey aabaar ki sangeet?"* I jot that line down and the action does not go unnoticed. "She has taken that down, to be sure, haven't you madam? (laughs) "

Did you never think of specialising in any one instrument, I ask him Not one, but two, is the reply "I play the harmonium and the piano Not anyhow but in my own style As it was played in *Awara Hoon."*More than 20 years back, he had presented Tagore's songs in all Indian and as many as eight foreign languages at Mahajati Sadan "That was 1966 or thereabouts I had 20 to 25 musicians with me." The programme was the first of its kind in India.

How is it that he never seems to be in the limelight despite his undeniable contribution in the field of film music? Is it because he is publicity-shy or stays away from too many stage performances?" I've no fancy for film music direction I like playing with people in front of me—whether bricks or bouquets I'd like to have them instantly 'Get off' or 'encore' are the words I like to hear." But as far as publicity or awards are concerned, he does not really aspire for either "Award or*B*ward or *C*ward. It doesn't matter." Not even a Padma Shri. Love moves him, however, and it was partly the appreciation showered on him by the people of Calcutta that made him settle in the city

"While in Bombay, I used to play the songs of Juthika Roy *ya* Pankaj Mullick *ya* Saigal and all the while I would crave to see them in person." The chance to fulfil his wish came in 1953 when Anil Biswas brought him to Calcutta. At his first programme at Hindusthan Park, people gave him a gate-crashing, chair-thumping welcome. "It was like being in heaven." The very next year Calcutta became his second home. "In Bombay we had only film music then. While here I found a glorious assortment of pop, light and classical music...the list would run on. That attracted me. In Bombay, revolutionary songs meant *sare jahaan se achchha* while here we had poets like Tagore and Sukanta, songs of Kazi*saheb* (Nazrul Islam) and many many *many* others."

Bombay's tinsel town however found him the friendship and love of golden-voiced and large-hearted people. "I knew Lata when she was very young, not the Lata Mangeshkar of today, the singer of fame She only sang for private programmes then, and prior to any appointment or stage performance made it a point to find out if I would be free to play for her " He remembers Naushad as a paragon of perfection. "That was one word for him,"



A room full of music and memories

whether with regard to his conversation, or planning out anything "He was a good *shikari* but at the same time very *bhitu* (timid) "

The talk veers to Hemanta Mukherjee. Old memories well up "What shall I say about Hemanta*da?* I do not know how he could leave us like that Once during my mother's illness I was staying in his house. We had recording going on Everyday I would rush home to see my mother. But as we got busy with the recording there came a day when I just could not find the time to visit her. That night Hemanta*da* came up to me and said 'Don't worry I've been to your place and spoken to your mother. She's fine'. That was Hemanta*da.* He had taken the trouble to locate my house, enquire after my mother ..."Tears shine in his eyes and there is a pause in the conversation Allowing him to be alone with his emotions, we look around the room filled with photographs. Uttam Kumar smiles back from the wall In the company of Pahari Sanyal, Madan Mohan, Sukanta, Lata, Nazrul and Tagore Many other greats before my time Hemanta however has a place of his own on the piano—a frame of a page from *The Telegraph* Colour Magazine He follows my glance and points out the lines on the page— *Beqarar karke hume yoon na jaeeye, Aap ko hamari qasam laut aaeeye.*

We return to present day music direction. Do you feel there is a sense of degeneration in the industry,a waste of talents? "Nobody is to blame for that," he says. "It is the way things stand today. We have become so computerised, so busy these days. There is no time for rehearsal. In our days we had a sense of belonging to one studio, whether New Theatres or Prabhat and had a strong sense of loyalty But now, no one belongs to no one." A song is recorded in just two and a half hours. Exceed that limit and you have to pay for overtime, have hassles with the

With wife Aloo, the force behind him





unions "Even if we had Pankaj Mullick or Anup Ghatak in the line today, in harsh language I'd say they would have run away rather than work in this set up The way things were going, I had totally lost heart There came a time when film directors chose to have their say in music direction "Once a director told me to set a particular song to tune and play it only on the piano ' Since the hero would be playing a piano and singing for his love, no other instruments were required Accordingly the song was set to tune "But on the shooting day when I went to the site, there was no piano anywhere around When I asked the director he said since they could not acquire a piano they had chosen to bring a mandolin instead!

Working with Tarun Majumdar in *Path O Prasad* has made a difference though He is a director who plans everything systematically and in advance 'I've again come to life—I'm very happy working with him and he's very happy ' Sombhu Mitra, too was a pleasure to work with Right from *Shubha Bibaha* and *Manik* I've been with them We worked together as a family We used to discuss quarrel and reunite all for the betterment of work He also remembers Prahlad Sharma's *Vidyapati*— that was the first time Lata Mangeskar and Rafi came to Calcutta and recorded in a Calcutta studio



The phone rings again He does not pick it up himself But the man at the other end, a Mrityunjoy insists on talking to him *Bole dao mrityu hoye gechhe* (tell him I have passed away) Takes the call though While waiting we look at the plaques on the shelves Some have Bombay inscribed on them most have names of different organisations in Calcutta The room has an improvised altar in a wall almirah V Balsara happens to be Zoarashtrian by birth but the almirah overflows with gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon Jesus Christ and Zarathushtra share a shelf and joss sticks with Guru Nanak

Do you believe in God, we ask him, as he puts the receiver down "I am not a religious man at all" he says Why so many gods and goddesses then? 'I've kept them as a standby, if one fails I can fall back on the others" He laughs, but becomes serious the next moment "Didi started all this (pointing to a huge bust photograph of a smiling lady) She was my cousin and the only other musician in the family Kumari Dhannawaj Indorewalla She learnt music from me and worked day and night to make my programmes a success When she passed away in 1974, I thought my limbs had been severed If you do not mention her in your writing, this interview would have no heart or soul '

"I do not believe in Zoarashtrianism or Islam or Hinduism I only know that there is a superhuman energy that guides us in whatever we do," he says

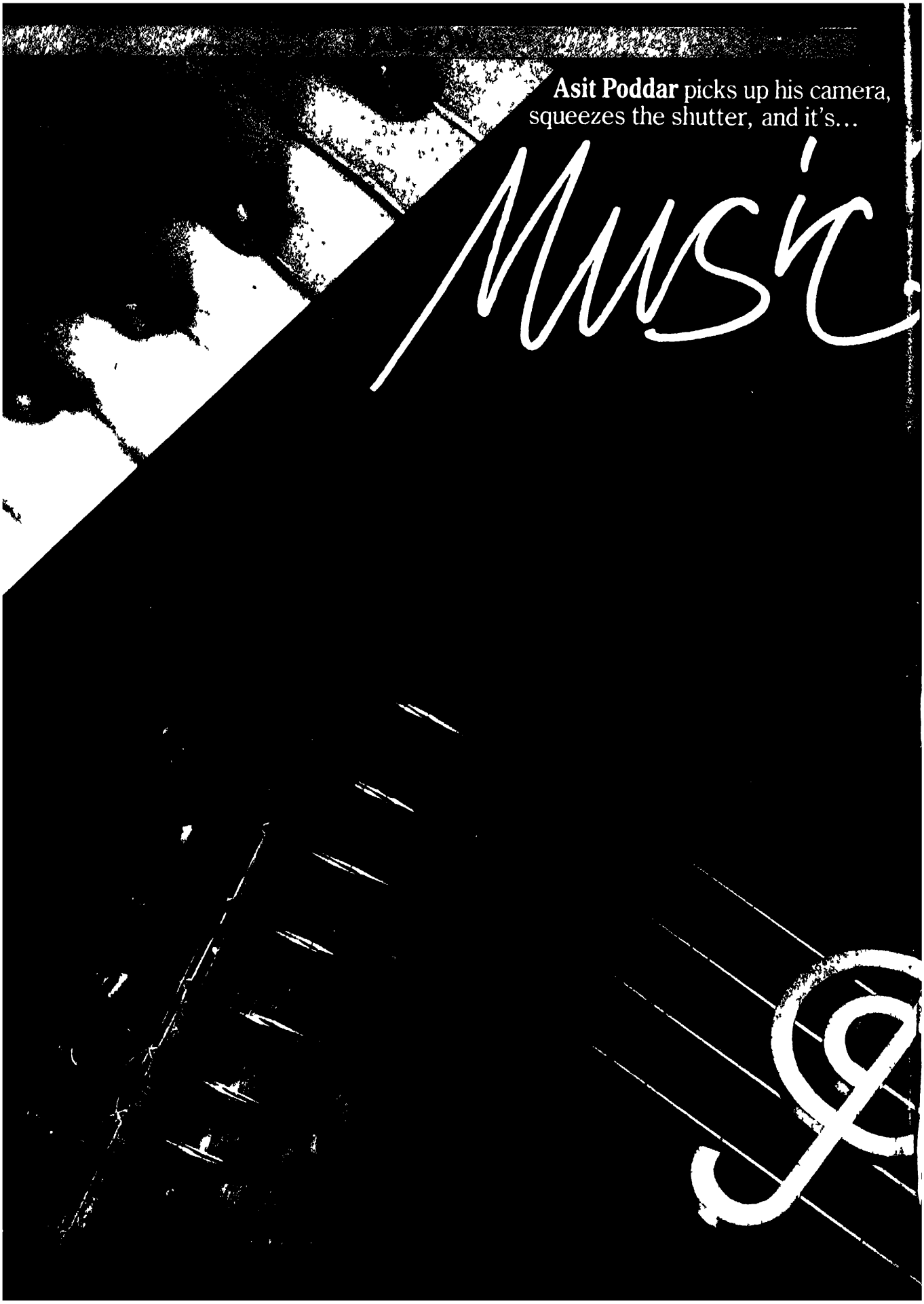
How has the state government shown its recognition? In answer, he hands me a card An invitation to an evening two days later at Nandan, where, the card says, V Balsara would receive the Khansaheb Alauddin Award The chief minister would present the awards himself

We musicians are dreamers ' *Imagination 90* is a product of his dreams It has the entire music composed by him with 16 other musicians There is choir singing and dance 'Someday I hope to set Tagore's *Debatar Graash* (Food for God) to tune It would be a dance drama based entirely on my composition I'd do everything except take part in the dance myself No one has so far seen any commercial possibility in this but the dreamer in him is undaunted

What more would he wish for in life we wonder One last wish he replies that I may die on stage while playing before an audience I've seen a young man die like that once (Ravish Malhotra) One minute he was there on stage, singing *jeena yahan marna yahan* and the next, he was dead You know I play that song at every function of mine, hoping to pop off just like that

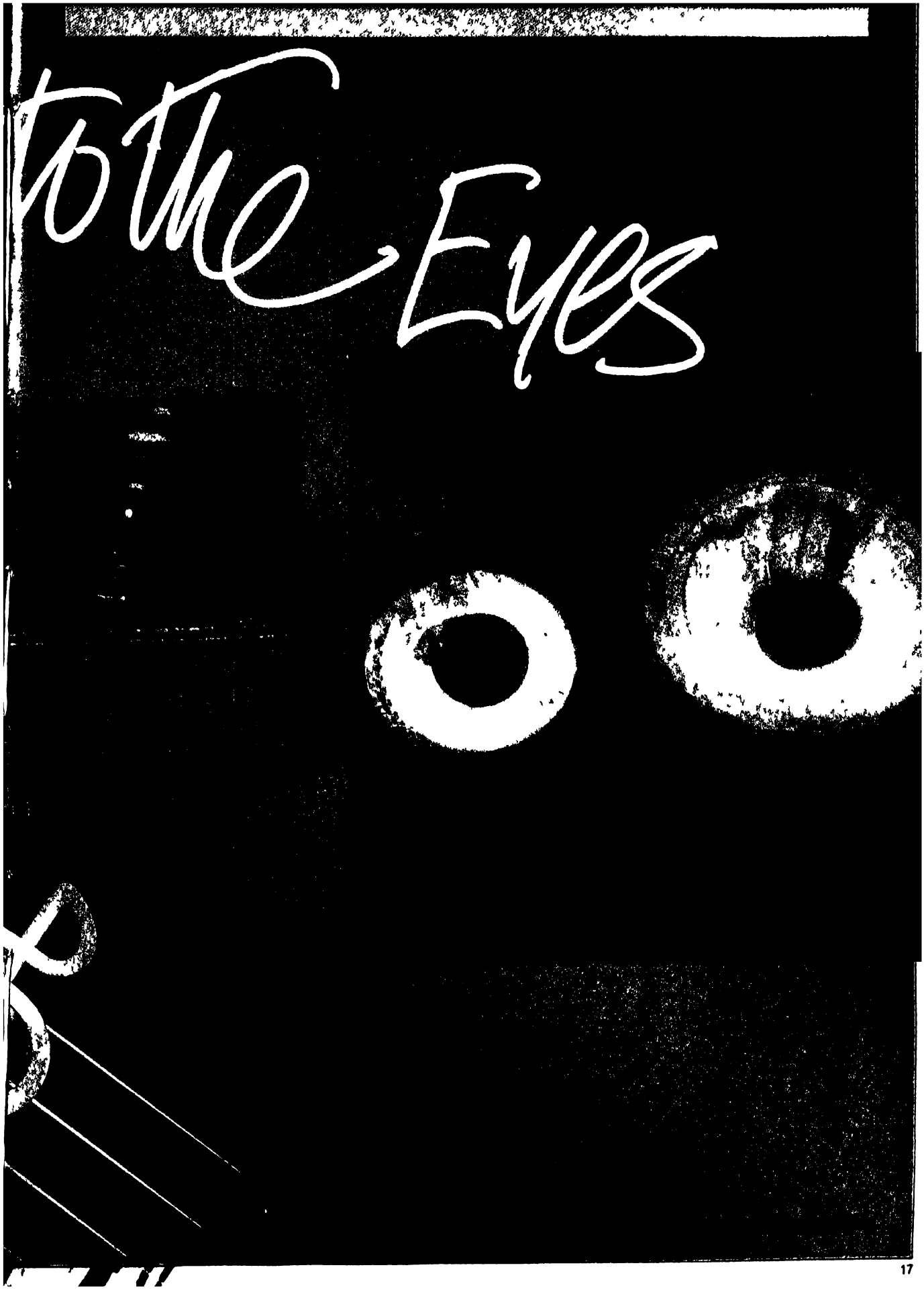
Vistasp Balsara Sixty eight this week (June 22) Sixty two years in music Music director for over 30 films Still works from morn to night and measures life by the claps As the framed greeting card on his piano says, 'Nothing improves my hearing better than praise

Talking of Calcutta and her people softens his expression 'I have been treated magnificently graciously I just don't have the word for it I've been given so much love that it would be enough to cause diabetes ' ■

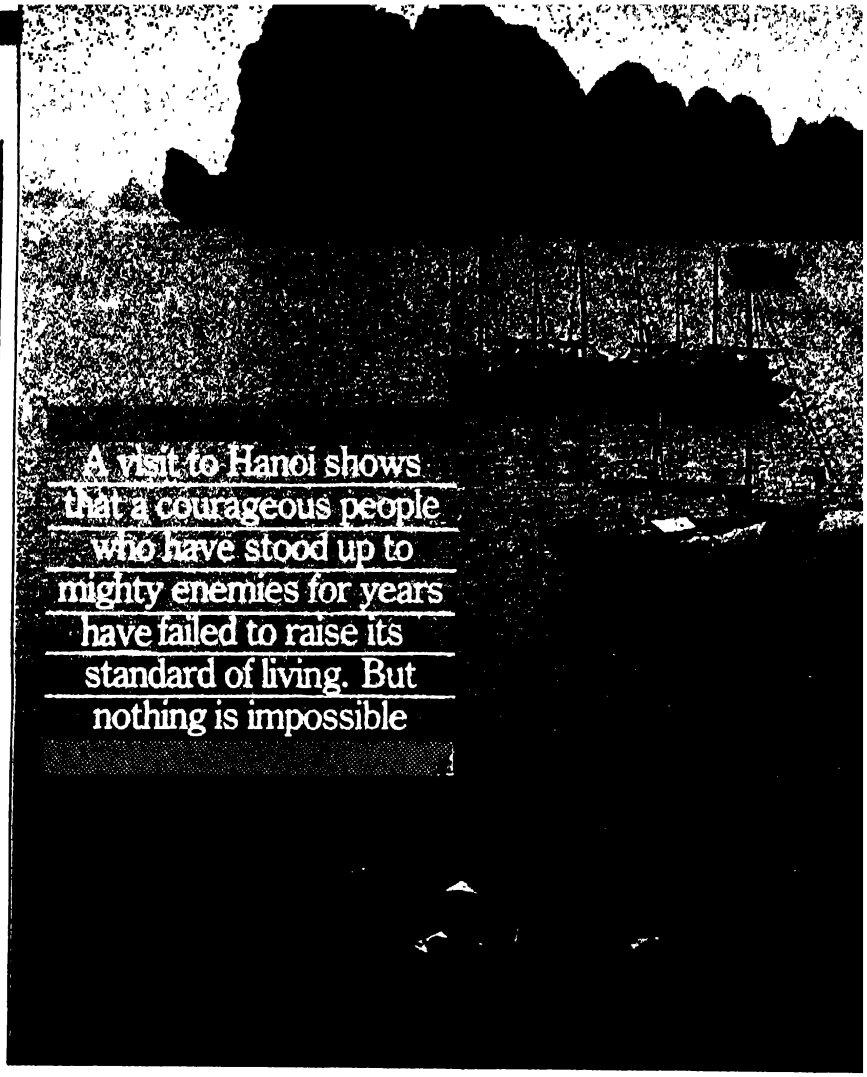


Asit Poddar picks up his camera, squeezes the shutter, and it's...

Music


to the Eyes

PANORAMA



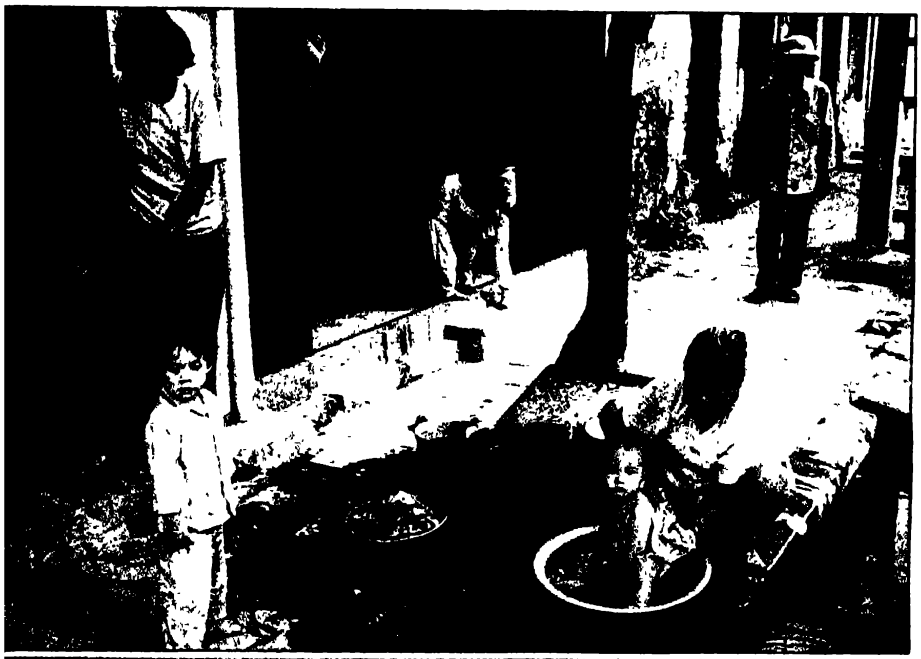
Economic realities are a daily obsession in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam, the oldest in Southeast Asia, founded in 1910. It is a metropolitan area of three million people, filled with relatively new buildings. Yet one continuously bumps into something old, into history and legend, Peter T. White learned.

White, an assistant editor of *National Geographic*, had visited Vietnam eight times since 1961, but this was his first trip to Hanoi. He sought answers to an important question: "How is it that these courageous, ingenious, industrious people, who in three decades of armed struggle somehow managed to achieve their aims against far mightier enemies—first France and then the US—have for 14 years now failed to bring to their vast majority even a halfway decent standard of living?"

No one in Hanoi disputes the shocking economic conditions. Officially, per capita income is equivalent to just over $100 a year. To make ends meet, a doctor in charge of a hospital has to be a janitor at night. A retired general must depend on his wife selling cigarettes on the street.

Many apply for jobs in other communist countries. To those faced with abject poverty, it's a privilege to be chosen for a textile mill in Czechoslovakia or an automobile plant in East Germany.

Near the Labour Ministry White watched a hundred young men and women finger their new passports. "They'll soon be off to open a new mine in the Kemerovo region in Siberia. I ask a young man how long he'll be gone. 'Six years.' He says he wishes he could stay longer. 'Then I could send more things to my family.'"



A stretch of sidewalk in Hanoi serves as marketplace, playground and place to bathe the baby and wash the clothes. As children tumble, a man strolls in his military-style helmet, common headgear even for civilians.

What's sent home is not to keep or use but to sell—a big factor in Vietnamese family budgets. Typical goods from the Soviet Union include mirrors, electric irons, pressure cookers, replacement elements for hot plates and plastic Christmas trees. From relatives in the US, Canada, France or Australia come occasional bonanzas—blue jeans, shoes, cassette recorders—all selling for high prices.

White describes a district of decrepit five-storey apartment blocks, built in the 1970s and 1980s. The windows have no glass, only shutters, and the winter chill sends people to bed with thick socks and quilted jackets and trousers. A family of four is confined to an 11′ x 15′ space.

"Now, say, the electricity is out on your block and you connect a wire to another block so your apartment has light," he writes. "Neighbours will complain—why do you have electricity and we don't? Or, say, you get a barrel and pump so you can have running water on the second floor; they'll throw your barrel away and say

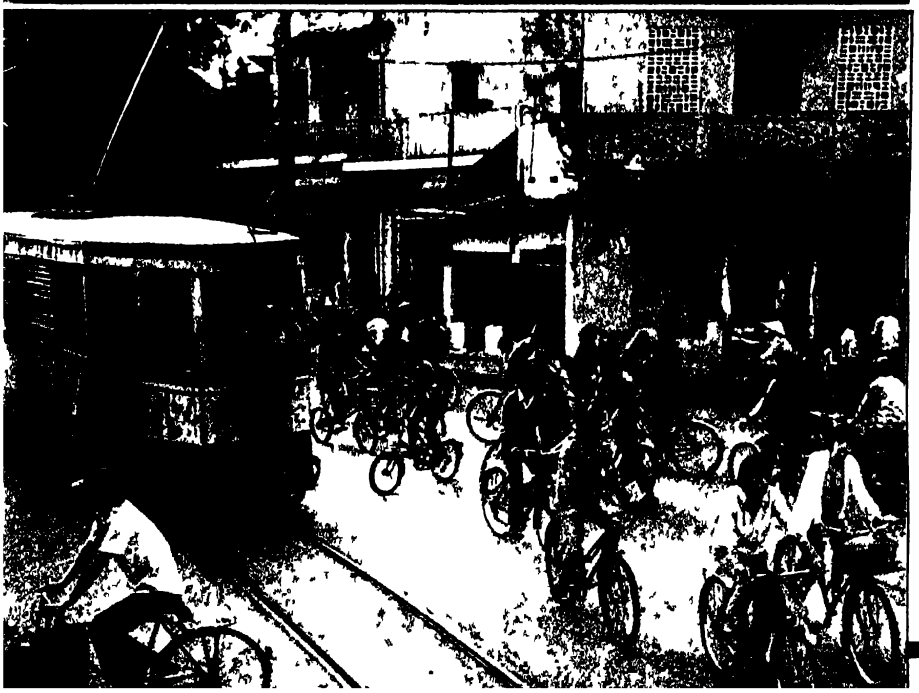
VIETNAM
AMS
A DREAM



At a Hanoi airport 23 boxes containing the remains of Ame servicemen are readied for shipment in 1988 to a US Army forensic laboratory in Hawaii. A months-long effort to ide the missing yielded only nine names

Ethereal formations said to house spirits rise behind sampans fishing in Halong Bay, one of Vietnam's most beautiful places. Dotted by more than 3,000 islets, the waters of Halong wind through coves where guides lead boatloads of sightseers on torchlit excursions. A trickle of tourists from the West now joins the stream of those from communist countries

Cyclists swarm through Hanoi in the wake of a decrepit streetcar during the afternoon rush hour. In the background the open doors of a French colonial building invite customers into the neighbourhood's shops and restaurants



you're selfish, why don't you fix the system so everyone can have water up stairs?"

It's jealousy under a pretext of collective interest, White is told. There is considerable fear of the administration, whose practices are patterned on Chinese and Soviet models. A block committee keeps files on everyone and reports to the community committee when someone has done something it believes is contrary to its interests.

"Want to travel abroad? Your file will be checked," White writes. "Or a bad report could go to the ministry where you work. Whatever comes up, the question in the back of one's mind is—if I do this or sign that, is it safe, will it be good for me? There's much talk of new thinking, new ways of doing things, but it's still the same routine."

Also on the mind of Hanoi's residents is China, whose border is slightly more than 100 miles away—less than 10 minutes by jet fighter, a city official reminded White. The most recent Chinese invasion was beaten back only 10 years ago. Even now, a general tells White, cross-border artillery duels occur daily. Graphic reminders remain, too, of the human cost of the war between the US and North Vietnam. US military specialists search crash sites for remains of Americans still missing.

Vo Nguyen Giap, the general who made the French surrender at Dien Bien Phu, then helped devise strategy that held US forces at bay, and in 1975 crushed the South Vietnamese army to force the reunification of all Vietnam, is now deputy prime minister in charge of education, science and technology.

His dream is that Vietnam will advance to the level of the most advanced countries in the world. "That dream will come true," he told White. "I think of it day and night." *(National Geographic News Service)*



Biplab, Prasenjit, Soumitra, Indrani and Satabdi in *Aapan Aamaar Aapan*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aandhiyan:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road; 363264)

Directed by David Dhawan, the film stars Prasenjit, Shatrughan Sinha, Madhusree and Mumtaz. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Awaaz De Kahan Hai:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266)—12, 3, 6, 9.

Directed by Sibte Hasan Rizvi and with music by Naushad, the film stars new finds Avinesh Wadhwan and Shikha Swarup along with Bindu, A.K. Hangal, Anjan Srivastav, Shubha Khote, Dev Kumar, Satyen Kappu, Jamuna and Annu Kapoor.

• **C.I.D.:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849)—4 shows.

Vinod Khanna, Amrita Singh, Juhi Chawla, Suresh Oberoi and Kiran Kumar comprise the main cast of this film, directed by Ajay Goel. The music is by Kalyanji Anandji.

• **Hum Se Na Takrana:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757), Malancha (Regent Park).

The star attractions of this film, directed by Deepak Bahry, are Dharmendra, Shatrughan Sinha, Mithun Chakraborty, Anita Raaj and Kimi Katkar. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383)—10.45, 2.15, 5.30, 9.

On its way to a silver jubilee, a rare achievement these days, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree. The film is directed by Sooraj R. Barjatiya and the music is by Raamlaxman.

• **Pati Patni Aur Tawaif:** Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664)—12, 3, 6, 9.

A film by Rajkumar Kohli, starring Mithun Chakraborty, Salma Agha, Farha and Amjad Khan. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Police Public:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—11.45, 2.45, 5.45, 8.45.

Raaj Kumar, Naseeruddin Shah, Kabir Bedi and Poonam Dhillon are the major attractions of this crime thriller. The film is directed by Esmayeel Shroff and the music is by Raamlaxman.

• **Swarg:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132)—4 shows.

Directed by David Dhawan and with music by Anand Millind, the main cast includes Rajesh Khanna, Govinda, Juhi Chawla and Madhavi.

• **Tum Mere Ho:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—4 shows.

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla are the lead pair in this Tahir Husain film whose music is by Anand Millind.

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla in *Tum Mere Ho*

Bengali Films

• **Aabishkar:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 485593)—1, 4, 7.

A film by Salil Dutta, starring Tapas Paul, Satabdi Roy, Manoj Mitra, Biplab Chatterjee, Master Rintu and Indrani. The music is by Mrinal Banerjee.

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Indrani Dutta, Sanghamitra Banerjee and Anup Kumar star in this Tarun Majumdar film. The music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Badnaam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)—2.30, 5.15, 8;

Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Shubu Mittra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit, Shakti Kapoor, Shakuntala Barua, Subhendu Chatterjee, Bankim Ghosh and Soumitra Banerjee. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

Special Events

17 June: 3 pm & 6.30 pm

Sangit Kala Mandir presents the Rajasthani drama, *Ramji Ko Gudo*, staged by its members.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 443666)

17 June: 6.30 pm

Sangit Kala Mandir presents the Hindi play, *Bhaiya Sabse Bada Rupaiya* (direction: Rajendra Sharma), with several TV artistes.

At Kala Mandir (B) (Shakespeare Sarani, 443666)

17 June onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Nihar Sen in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road, 284302)

18 and 19 June: 6.30 pm

Sarathi presents a two-day session of recitation featuring Nirendranath Chakraborty, Amar Ganguly, Partha Ghosh, Rajat Banerjee, Ratna Mitra, Partha Mukherjee, Tapan Roy Pradhan, Bratati Banerjee, Sarmistha Chatterjee and artistes of Sarathi on the 18th, and Debdulal Banerjee, Pradip Ghosh, Niladrisekhar Bose, Ashok Palit, Subhra Bose, Kajal Choudhury, Pranati Mitra Mustafi, Soumitra Mitra, Amitava Bagchi and others on the 19th. Compere: Rita Koyral.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

20 June onwards: 4 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of graphics and drawings by Babita Sarawgi (Calcutta), Suraiya Chowdhury (Bangladesh) and Bela Purohit (Baroda). Inauguration on the 19th at 6.30 pm.

At Birla Academy of Art and Culture (108-109 Southern Avenue).

20 June onwards

Ramen Kastha and others will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings and sculptures in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

21 June: 7 pm

Sangeet Research Academy presents Dr Shankar Lal Misra in a lecture-demonstration session on music therapy for the mentally deranged and music teaching for the deaf and dumb.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street)

21 June onwards

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Arup Kumar Biswas, Ashis Kumar Das, Ashis Kumar Sen, Sathi Mondal and Sovana Bhattacharya in the North Gallery.

22 June onwards

The 25th annual exhibition by the members of the Academy's Studio (junior group) will be held in the Central Gallery till the 28th

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Raod, 284302)

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0250; Dep (6) AI-309/AI-101 at 0215.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI 165 at 0500

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5) AI-306 at 1910, Dep (5) AI-306 at 2020.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI-309 at 1915, Dep (6) AI 309 at 2015

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0330

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1340.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1) AI-132/AI-1320 at 1340

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4). SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4). RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6). RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920. Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5) BG-098 at 1820, Dep (1,7) IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6). IC-223 at 1640

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840. Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr (5) BG-097 at 1740, Arr (1,7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr (2,4,6) IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep (6). IC-225 at 1330

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2). KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2) AI-101 at 0250, Dep (6): AI-309 at 2015.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr (5): AI-306 at 1910

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1) AI-1320 at 1340 , Arr (7). AI-1122 at 0330.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr (daily). IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily) IC-273 at 1920, Dep (1,2,3,5,6,7) IC-176 at 0845, Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830, Arr (1,2,3,5,6,7): IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily). IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250; Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1540.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4) IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7) IC 213 at 1030, Arr. (3,5,7). IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6). IC-219 at 1120; Arr.(1,3,5,6): IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600. Dep (1) IC-243 at 1400, Arr (daily). IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2,4) IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7) IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1). IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep (daily). IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily). IC-256 at 1030

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6). IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7). IC-278 at 2215

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4). IC-285 at 0545 , Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly) PF-706 at 1615

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi.
Dep (1 3, 5) PF 715 at 0600
Arr (1 3 5) PF 716 at 1025

Calcutta-Guwahati Lilabari
Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2 4 6) PF 721 at 0930 Arr (2 4 6) PF 722 at 1805

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat Along
Dep (1 3, 5) PF 723 at 1045, Arr (1 3, 5) PF 724 at 1950

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna:
Dep (2 4 6) PF 725 at 0550
Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-726 at 1040

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta
Dep (1, 3 5) PF-737 at 0600
Arr (1 3 5) PF 738 at 1100

Trains

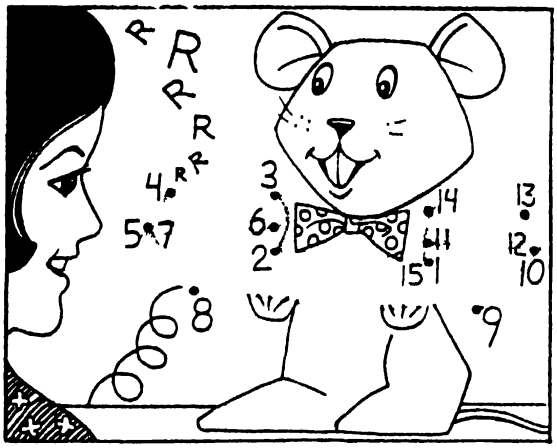
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	2312
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** v a Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** v a Gaya Varanasi Dep Tues Thurs & Sat Arr Wed Fr & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep Mon Wed Fr & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	2304
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fr & Sun Arr Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** v i Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20 45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21 10	**Delhi Janata Express** v a Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16 00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep Wednesday Arri —Friday	11 10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fr	7 30	3328
5049	22 25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16 30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** v a SBG Loop	12 50	3134
3103	18 0	Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	Chhapra Express Tri weekly Dep & Arr Wed Fri & Sun	4 50	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21 45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2821	5 55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11 20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati Howrah Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	–
—	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

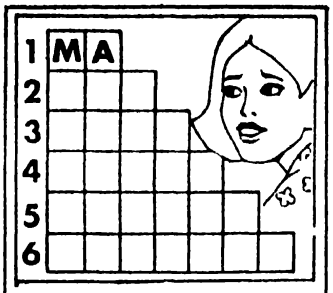
ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



RING BEARER! Something is on hold for the person above. What can it be? To find out, add lines 1 to 2 to 3, etc

• MURKY MATH! Twelve is as much greater than four as twice this number exceeds five score Answer quickly, what number is that?

The number is 54



GIVE MA HELP WITH WORDS

Ma is trying to puzzle out the words above Perhaps you can give her some help

One letter is added in each step to form a new word, with letters rearranged as necessary

Definitions

1 "Look—no hands" (inserted)
2 Extinct bird
3. Scary sound.
4 Fictional detective Perry—
5. Popular canned fish
6 Nuts used to make marzipan.

Remember, rearrange letters as necessary

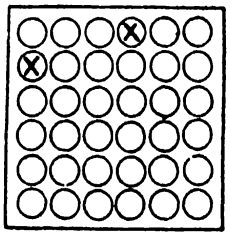
1 Ma 2 Moa 3 Moan 4 Mason 5 Salmon 6 Almonds

• CHECK IN! A pair of X's are in place in the diagram, below. You are asked to insert four more X's so that no two of the of the total of six are found in the same row, across, down or diagonally.

Remember, two X's are already in place. You are to insert four more.

Check answer below. Other answers may be possible.

Third row down—5th circle across 4th row down—2nd circle across 5th row—6th 6th row—3rd



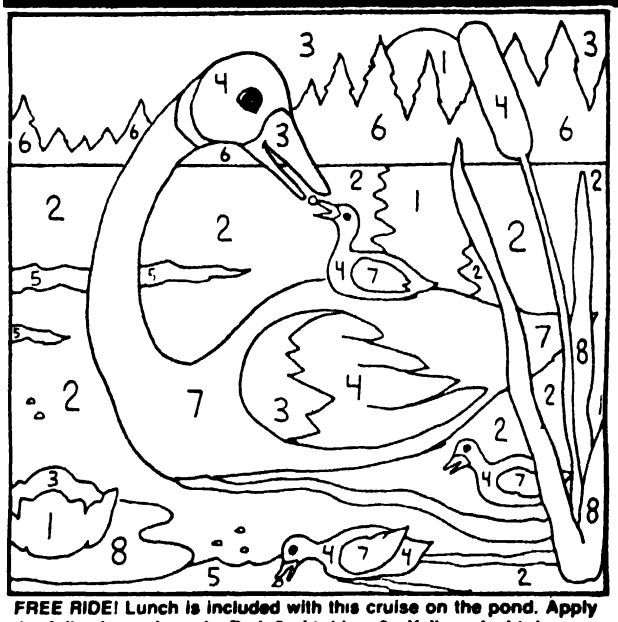
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Chef's hat is different 2 Shutter is missing 3 Truck is missing 4 Fence is different 5 Shovel is smaller 6 Cap is missing

FUNSPOT



FREE RIDE! Lunch is included with this cruise on the pond. Apply the following colors: 1—Red. 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown. 5—Dk. blue. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown 8—Dk green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

CHILDREN

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible twosome Land rich



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

"Please write something about bear baiting ' writes S A Ahmed Calcutta

In the Middle Ages and right up to the early 19th century, the 'baiting (literary 'making bite) of bears and other animals by setting dogs to them was a popular form of amusement Bear-baiting was, of course much older than this for it had been one of the favourite blood-sports of the ancient Romans In England it became a national pastime, especially during the 16th century, when it was patronised by all classes, including even the ladies of the Court

The bear was tethered by a long chain to a stake in the middle of a ring, or pit, and about half a dozen mastiffs were let loose upon it It would lash out with its claws, perhaps killing and maiming a few dogs to start with, and sending the whole pack in retreat New dogs were put in to replace the dead and wounded, so that there was no pause, and the contest went on until the bear was either overpowered, or proved the winner The excited cries of the spectators combined with the growling of the bear and the barking of the dogs created such an uproar that we now use the expression a 'bear-garden to describe any scene of chaos and disorder Often the entertainment was prolonged by replacing the bear as soon as it was killed or disabled, as many as thirteen bears sometimes appearing in succession Generally, however, the bear survived and was carefully tended by a keeper for the next encounter The bears had names, and some of the toughest veterans became famous and were idolised by the public The favourites of Shakespeare s day were named Sackerson, Don John, and Nod of Canterbury

Bull-baiting was carried on in exactly the same way as bear-baiting, but was never so popular in England, though it has given rise to the breed of dogs known as 'bulldogs , specially bred for their powers of holding on once their teeth have gripped In Spain it developed into bull-fighting As a novelty, lions were sometimes baited or a man might himself fight with a savage dog

Bear-baiting was so much a national amusement in the 16th century that Henry VIII created a special royal officer—the Royal Bearward—whose duty was to look after the king's bears, bulls, and dogs In 1526 Paris Garden, the most famous of the bear-gardens, was erected at Bankside, Southwark It seated 1,000 spectators, the entrance fee being a penny, or two pence for one of the best seats in the gallery It was on the river bank, close to Shakespeare s theatre, the Globe, and it is very probable that when a bear was needed to appear in a play, the actors borrowed one from across the way There seems, indeed, to have been some competition between the bears and the actors, for in 1591 Queen Elizabeth prohibited the performance of plays on Thursdays, as it detracted from the bear-baiting held on that day Every town kept its bear, bearward, and pack of dogs, and bear-baiting was held in royal or private parks, as well as in recognised bear-gardens In the north it was a feature of the Wakes week celebrations In Cheshire,in fact, there used to be a popular, if not wholly truthful, catch which ran

Congleton rare, Congleton rare,
Sold the Church Bible to buy a new bear

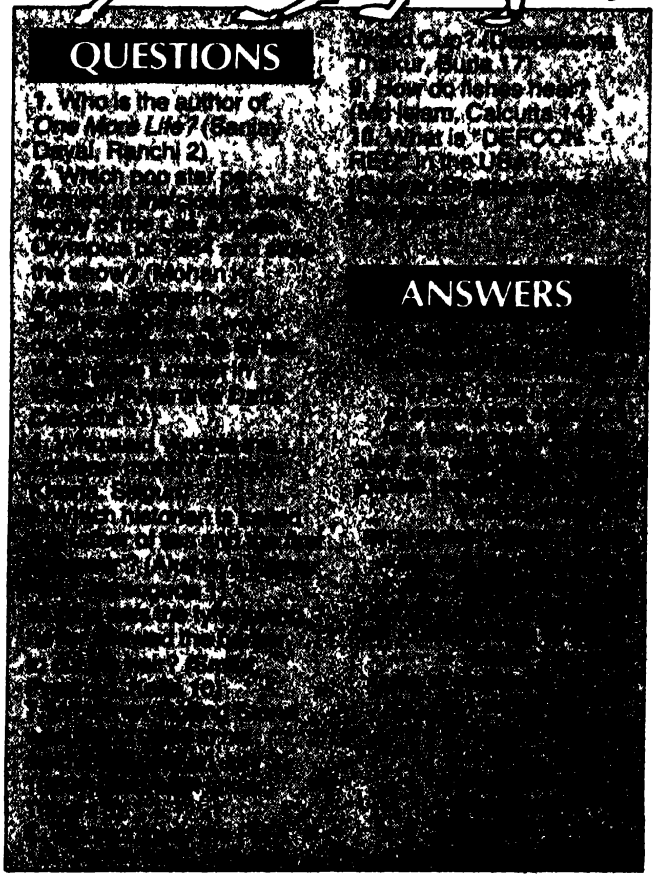
It seemed that the Congletonians of 1662 had saved up their money to replace their ageing Bible, but as their bear died in the interval, they spent their money on replacing that instead

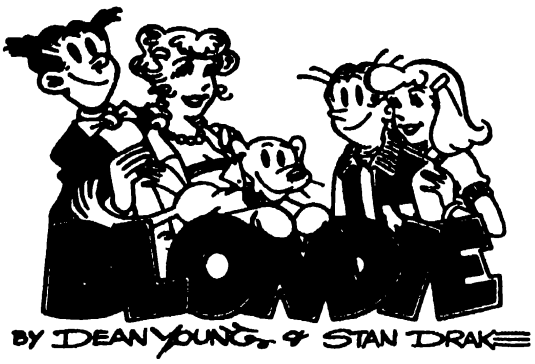
During the 17th century many attempts were made by the Puritans to put down bear-baiting, but they never wholly succeeded, and in the 18th century it was still a flourishing entertainment. The Regency 'bucks' delighted in all forms of single-combat, such as knuckle-fights and cock-fighting, enjoying not only the brutality of the spectacle but also any opportunity for baiting In the 19th century, however, the public conscience was aroused against the cruelty of such sports, and bear-baiting was prohibited by Act of Parliament in 1835.

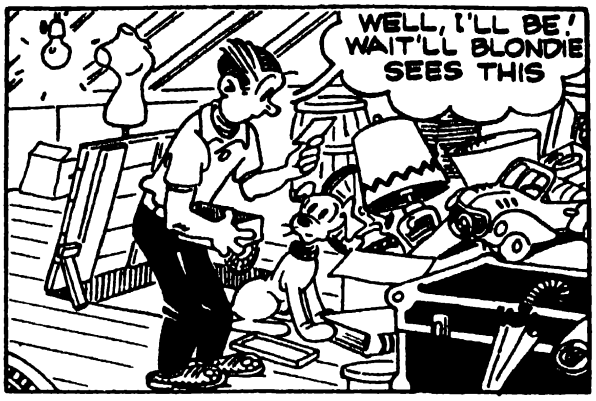
CBS

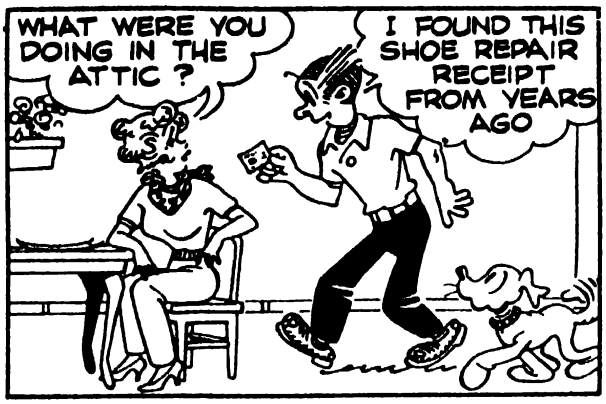
11th Question: **Why is the Union Budget of India presented at 5.30 pm at most of the times? (V. Shankar, 7 Nyniappan Street, Raja Annamalaipuram, Madras 600028)**
Ans: **The British Budget is presented in the House of Commons at noon. In the days of the Raj the Colonial Budget was also presented at the same time. India, following the pre-Independence tradition, converted GMT to IST and hence the budget is presented at 5.30 pm.**

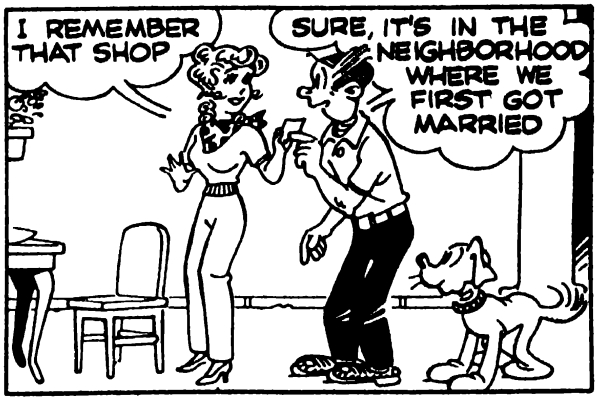


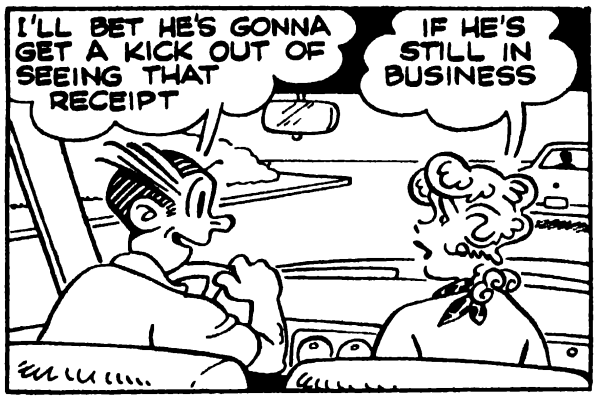


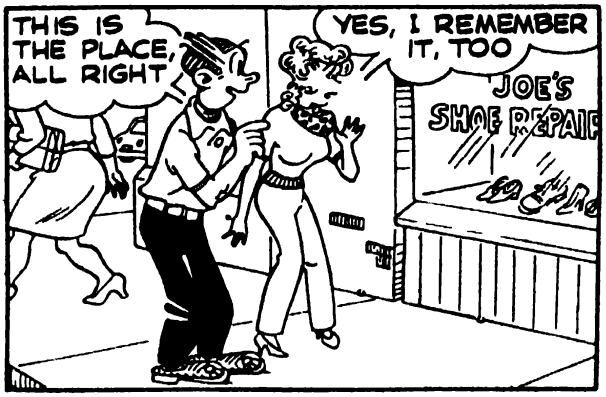














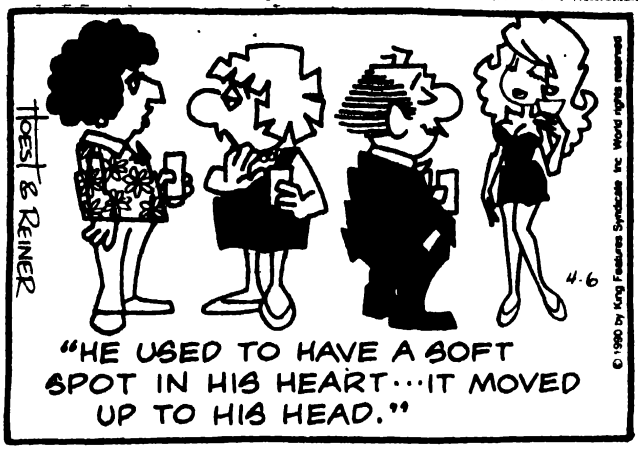
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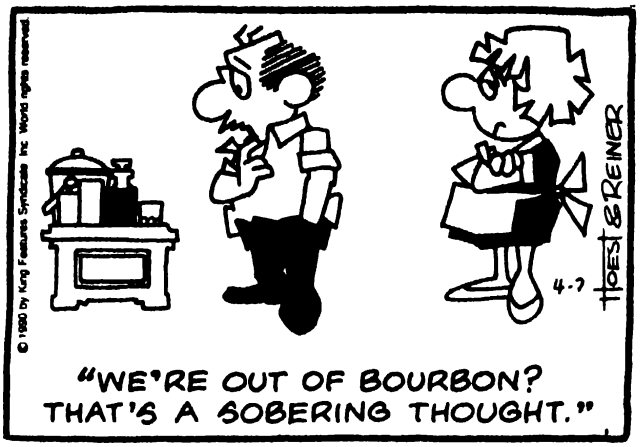


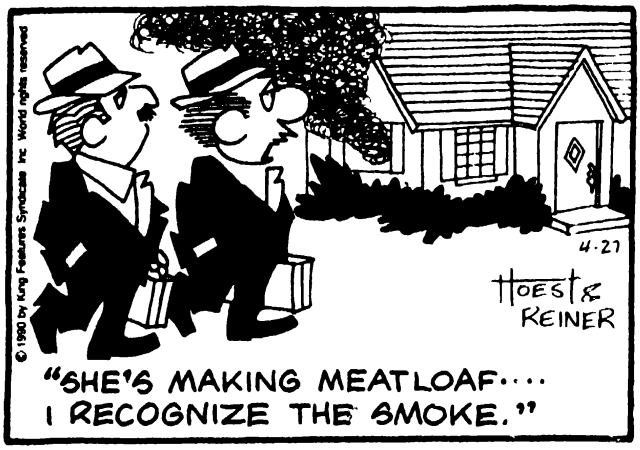

Archie
WHY IS HE IN SUCH A RUSH?
HE'S GOING TO A TIME MANAGEMENT SEMINAR
AND HE'S LATE!
MR WEATHERBEE S TAKING THIS TIME MANAGEMENT VERY SERIOUSLY!
HE TIMED MS BEAZLY MAKING LUNCH IN THE CAFETERIA!
HE CLOCKED HER AT 21 MINUTES, 42 SECONDS.
THEN HE TOLD HER SHE COULD IMPROVE THAT TIME!
NOW LUNCH IS MADE IN 19 MINUTES 27 SECONDS!
BUT HE'S MAKING IT!
63

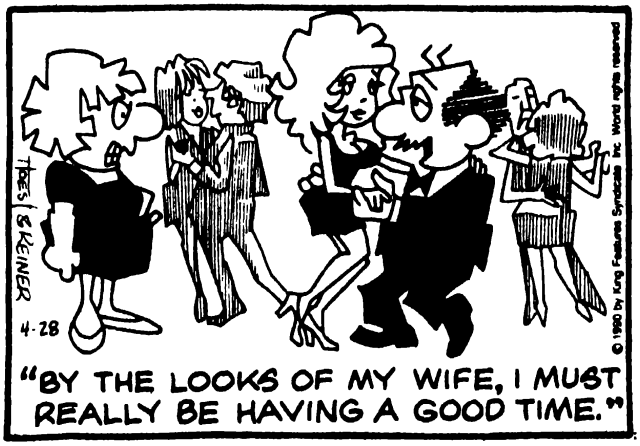

PAY UP, MOOSE, OR I TURN BRUCE LOOSE
BILL COLLECTOR
4-11
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BOBWEBER


HEY, CHET! DON'T TRIP OVER THAT MILK BOTTLE BEHIND YOU
NOW ASK YOURSELF... HOW CAN I REPAY MOOSE FOR BEING CONCERNED ABOUT MY SAFETY?
4-12
BOBWEBER
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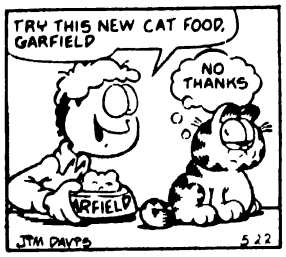


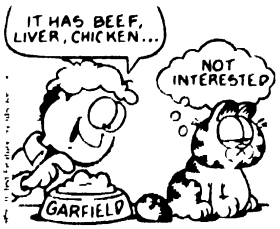


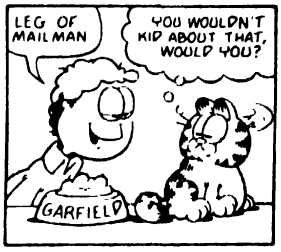


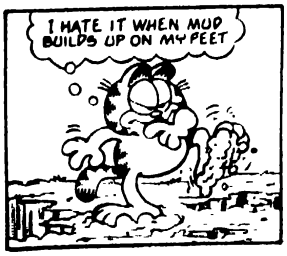


GARFIELD By Jim Davis

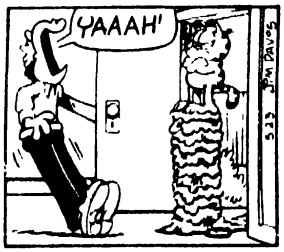


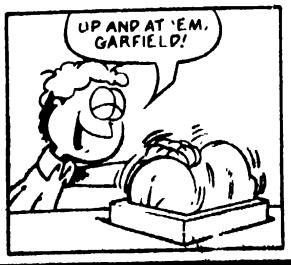


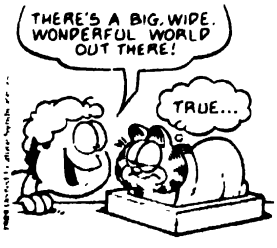








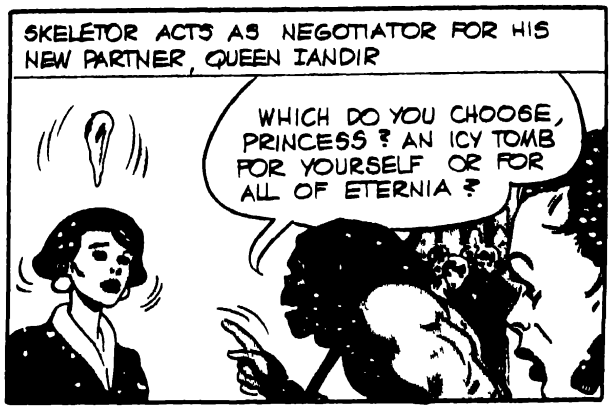




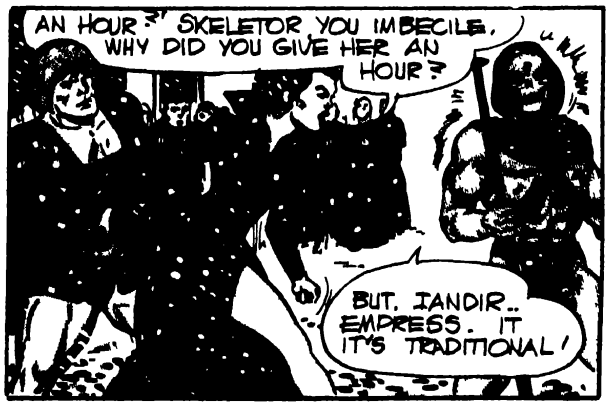



YOU CAN BEAT THIS TINKERBELLE, DENNIS
REMEMBER YOUR TRAINING. USE HIS BULK TO YOUR ADVANTAGE BY USING YOUR BODY AS A FULCRUM
FAILING THAT KNEE HIM IN THE GROIN
YOU BEAT HIM, DENNIS! HOW DID YOU MANAGE IT?
679
WELL, MY DAD WAS AN EXPERT AT KARATE
AND HE TAUGHT YOU?
NO, HE SOLD ME HIS KNUCKLE-DUSTER
YOU HAVE DEFEATED OUR CHAMPION
680
YOU HAVE FOUGHT FOR YOUR LIBERTY AND FOUGHT WELL IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR ANCIENT TRIBAL LAWS, YOU ARE FREE TO GO
MAY THE GODS FLY ON WINGS TO PROTECT YOU
BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND AND HAVE YOUR FACES RE-ARRANGED
TWO SHOTS, THAT'S ALL I NEED
681
TWO CLEAN SHOTS TO END THIS HELL!
IT'S NO USE! I CAN'T DO IT!
LOOK, DENNIS! THE SERGEANT IS CRYING WITH RELIEF THAT WE'RE BACK!
GOOD DAY, MINE HOST! I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL TODAY!
I SEEM TO REMEMBER YOU SERVING UP A PARTICULARLY DELICATE LITTLE WINE – IT HAD A HINT OF SPARKLE AND A SUBTLE FLOWERY FRAGRANCE
YOU MUST REMEMBER! THERE'S THE BURN-MARK WHERE I SPILLED SOME!



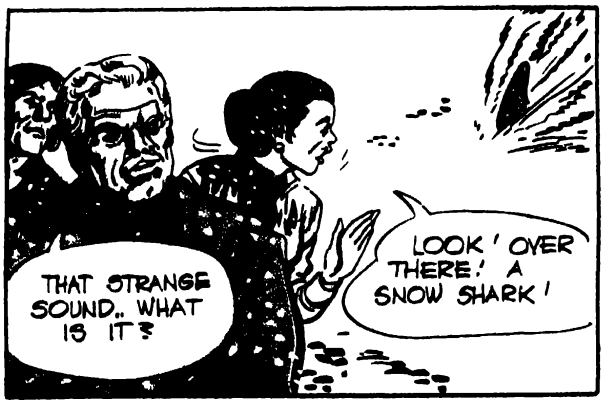












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The Congress(I) MPs misbehaved in the Rajya Sabha and brought chairman S.D. Sharma to tears. That not being enough, **K.K. Tewari** decided to tear into him. The House then reprimanded him. "Only because I am K.K. Tewari," he retorted. Well, can a tiger change his stripes?



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840*	52,750	7,400
1300*	82,500	11,500

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Sad Story

The cover story, 'Man and Wife' (May 13), opened the eyes of many of us who claim to be the most *pragatishil* (culturally advanced) people of India The incident was enough to puncture our balloon of *pragatishilta*

If such an incident could happen in a fairly modernised village like Sriram pur, one wonders what is happening in the remote corners of the state Child marriage is not confined to Rajasthan, after all

So long as socio-economic factors like superstition, illiteracy and poverty exist, thousands of Gouris and Gautams will continue to fall victim to such evil practices

Following the storm raised in the Assembly, the state government ordered an inquiry The news was published in *Anandabazar Patrika* two months earlier, what was the government doing then? It is said that if you tickle a rhino, it laughs only after a week Is the skin of the Left Front thicker than the rhino's?

Sirajus Salekin,
Calcutta

■ Vidyasagar had struggled to abolish this evil practice during the British era It is a matter of great shame that such a heinous crime was committed in the great man's home district itself

Manohar Mandal,
Nabadwip (W B)

■ While the country is about to enter the 21st century, a vast section of the Indian rural society is still under the influence of evil social practices

Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

■ I fail to understand how you could publish such an article and highlight the incident By doing that, you are encouraging others to commit the crime Just for the entertainment of the reading public, do not waste your power of the pen

Manav Jalan,
Calcutta

■ The shameful act of the couple in Srirampur in getting their seven-month-old daughter married to a six year-old boy deserves to be condemned

Your concern for the children, while projecting the evil system of child marriage in our country, was commendable

Sunil Banerjee,
Calcutta

■ I cannot but express my amazement at the furore raised in the Assembly on your cover story Our honourable legislators seemed to be blissfully ignorant of child marriages in West Bengal until you chose to spill the beans

Such incidents are not at all alien to the state The sacrificial lambs in the countless villages may not be seven months old, but they are by no means the legal 18 years Even if one carried out a survey among maid servants in the homes of Calcutta, one would find that child marriage is rampant

Can the poor parents be blamed when they have so few options? Instead of verbal frenzy, can'tthese legislators come up with genuine solutions?

S.K. Bhattacharya,
Calcutta

■ The unfortunate parents of Gouri Mal were forced to give in while battling against devastating destiny We quickly criticise such evil practices, but the sensitive handling of the story forced us to think awhile about the particular factors in this case

Harekrushna Mahanta,
Bokaro

■ It is impossible to judge the right and the wrong of this particular child marriage and we are sure there must be more such cases I can only suggest that the incident be taken up by the *Guinness Book of World Records*

Panchkari Dasgupta,
Bankura (W B)

■ One would have thought that 42 years of freedom was long enough to educate the people against superstitions Are we really going into the 21st century with all these beliefs?

Vinod K. Dash,
Baripada (Orissa)

■ *Haye, mera* Bharat! You are really *Mahaan*!

Debasish Nandi,
Taherpur (W B)



Dilip Banerjee

Gautam and Gouri with their young friends

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Cover Rakesh Sahai

MULAYAM SINGH



DOES HE REALLY MEAN BUSINESS?

Illustration Anup Ray

A strongman blessed with the touch of a Machiavelli, Mulayam Singh Yadav is fast emerging as a new power centre in Indian politics. Afraid of neither V.P. Singh nor the BJP, his influence already extends beyond Uttar Pradesh where he is chief minister. But what is he really after? SANKARSHAN THAKUR provides an insight into the man and his mind

In 1977, the rising stars of Mulayam Singh Yadav—a wrestler and one time champion in his category in the Agra division—fell victim to his physique. The Janata Party had won a euphoric victory in the Uttar Pradesh elections and as one of those who had made it possible, Mulayam Singh was in the running for the chief ministership. The man had the right credentials for the moment: he sported the magical badge that proclaimed 19 months of jail during the Emergency and belonged to the backward community Chaudhary Charan Singh wanted to push to the forefront. Besides, he had played deputy to the Chaudhary's leadership of the Opposition in the earlier House and was the old man's blue-eyed boy. But when it came to the chief ministership, the brooding patriarch had one little reservation. "*Iska kad bahut chhota hai* chief minister *ke liye,*" (he is too short to be chief minister) the Chaudhary said. Perhaps it was the Jat speaking up in him but that was it. The chief ministership went to the other *ahir* frontranker, Ram Naresh Yadav. Mulayam Singh sat it out as minister for cooperatives but he had his eyes set on the chair handed to Ram Naresh, who he has never made up with since.

Mulayam Singh is now able to joke about how he missed his first chance for the lack of a few inches for he is now, to rub in a cliche, the tallest leader in Uttar Pradesh. It has taken time and tenacity but he has overcome not just kinky biases about his oily hair and crumpled clothes and his inability to speak convent English but also about the fact of being born a Yadav in a state whose politics Brahmins and Thakurs have so dominated over the years. Uttar Pradesh might yet again have produced the country's Prime Minister, it might he the begettor of the leader of the opposition in Parliament as well, it might be the homeground of the only real political dynasty—the Nehru Gandhis—we have. But at the state level, Mulayam Singh would brook no challenge. It is often said that the chief ministership of Uttar Pradesh is the second most important political job in the country, second only to the Prime Minister's, and Mulayam Singh Yadav wants to live up to that. He will not, for example, kowtow to New Delhi on any and every matter. The man is, in fact, the very antithesis of his name: a tough nut.

Nothing could have proved his intentions better than the stand he has taken on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy. Unlike Raja Vishwanath Pratap Singh who has swung and wavered and dilled and dallied between the *mullahs* and the *pujaris* and is still in the process of doing much the same, Mulayam Singh Yadav's position was firm and forthright: no tampering with the Ayodhya site until there is a mutually acceptable solution, achieved either through negotiations across the table or the courts. Notwithstanding the BJP's crucial and critical support to his party's government in New Delhi, Mulayam Singh went to the extent of saying he would not hesitate to arrest even senior BJP leaders if they tried to bulldoze their way through in Ayodhya. "My personal belief is," he keeps repeating, "that the secular principles enshrined in the Constitution have to be protected and nobody can be allowed to break the law, no matter who he is."

There was, undeniably, a lot of pressure on Mulayam Singh at home in Lucknow and from New Delhi, where the BJP moves its levers in the government almost at will, to tone down his sharp attacks on the BJP and "restrain"





See no evil

MULAYAM'S MEAN MACHINE

Two of the most serious allegations against Mulayam Singh Yadav are that he encourages casteism and provides protection to criminal elements, often using muscle power as a political weapon. Among the criminals known to be close to the Uttar Pradesh chief minister are:

—Aruna Shankar Shukla alias Anna: A dreaded underworld character who operates with Lucknow as his headquarters and has been closely associated with Mulayam Singh for several years now. Anna is a grade 'A' history sheeter in police records and has close to 40 cases against him. Some of these are murder charges. Anna has often appeared on political platforms with Mulayam Singh and the chief minister is known to socialise with him. Anna's younger brother, Kailash Shankar Shukla, is also known to be a local gangster and was given the Janata Dal ticket for the Lucknow corporation elections last year. He won. Anna's brother-in-law, S. C. Mishra, too was given a Janata Dal ticket from one of the wards. He won too.

—Kamlesh Pathak: Another 'A' grade history sheeter who was sentenced for life on a murder charge in 1976 but let off by the higher courts later. He belongs to Auraiya and was taken in under the NSA in 1986. He is now a Janata Dal MLC and promises he has "mended his ways".

—Ram Sewak Yadav: Another history sheeter from Mulayam Singh's home district Etawah. Travels openly with the chief minister who defends his activities saying he is fighting Congress(I) gangsters.

—Shivpal Singh Yadav: younger brother of the chief minister. Known to throw his weight about in Etawah district. Alleged to have assaulted a police officer after a Yadav-Thakur dispute over land in April after which some of Shivpal Singh's men were arrested. The uncompromising police officers in the case were transferred. Shivpal Singh remains untouched.

True to character, Mulayam Singh Yadav does not deny having connections with any of these people. He is seen publicly in their company and makes no bones about it. His stock answer on his links with these elements is: "If Vinoba Bhave and Jayaprakash Narain could reform people, why can't I take such an initiative too?"

Close associates of the chief minister who do admit he uses his underworld connections to further his political aims say Mulayam Singh began building such links in the early eighties "only after he realised he could not counter the lumpen and muscle power which the Congress began to use under Sanjay Gandhi's patronage, with mere speeches."

Casteism is an allegation that perhaps no chief minister of Uttar Pradesh or Bihar has ever escaped. Mulayam Singh defends his position by saying there is no other Yadav in his Cabinet and that his closest officials, the chief secretary, Raj Bhargava, and his principal secretary, Nripen Mishra, are both brahmins. But then, Mulayam Singh does represent a certain social section and he is in the chief minister's chair because of the consciousness of the backwards in mainline politics. He does, inevitably, have to pay some of the benefits back to where all the power and the glory has come from.

himself on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue. He also had to take care, he was told, of the implications of his stand on the V. P. Singh government in New Delhi; he had to protect the interests of the Central leadership too. But no, Mulayam Singh had taken a stand on the Ayodhya question and he was not budging. Instead, he embarked on a series of addresses at anti-communalism seminars and came down heavily on forces trying to create divisions on the basis of religion. Perhaps just to give that extra punch to what he was saying, he went all the way to Left Front-ruled Calcutta to declare he would not hesitate to arrest even the likes of L. K. Advani and Atal Behari Vajpayee if it came to protecting the secular credentials of his government and the rule of law.

A day before he gave orders for the arrest of Acharya Swaroopanand, the Shankaracharya of the Dwarka *peeth*, in Ayodhya during the first week of May, very close senior officials told him that the arrest could prove counter-productive, that it "could unleash a storm that could shake his government". Threats to the same effect were relayed to him from the state BJP but the chief minister remained unfazed and went ahead with the Shankaracharya's arrest. If there was any immediate fallout, it was that Mulayam Singh gained a few more inches in stature. The BJP can go complaining to the Prime Minister, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) can rave and rant and call for his dismissal but Mulayam Singh does what he thinks he should do as chief minister. He had, in fact, made it very clear that he was not prepared to place himself in a position prone to blackmail by the BJP much before February's Assembly elections despite the fact that the BJP was supporting the Janata Dal government in New Delhi. This is one of the reasons why seat adjustments between the Janata Dal and the BJP were not as sucessful at the Assembly level as they were during the Lok Sabha poll.

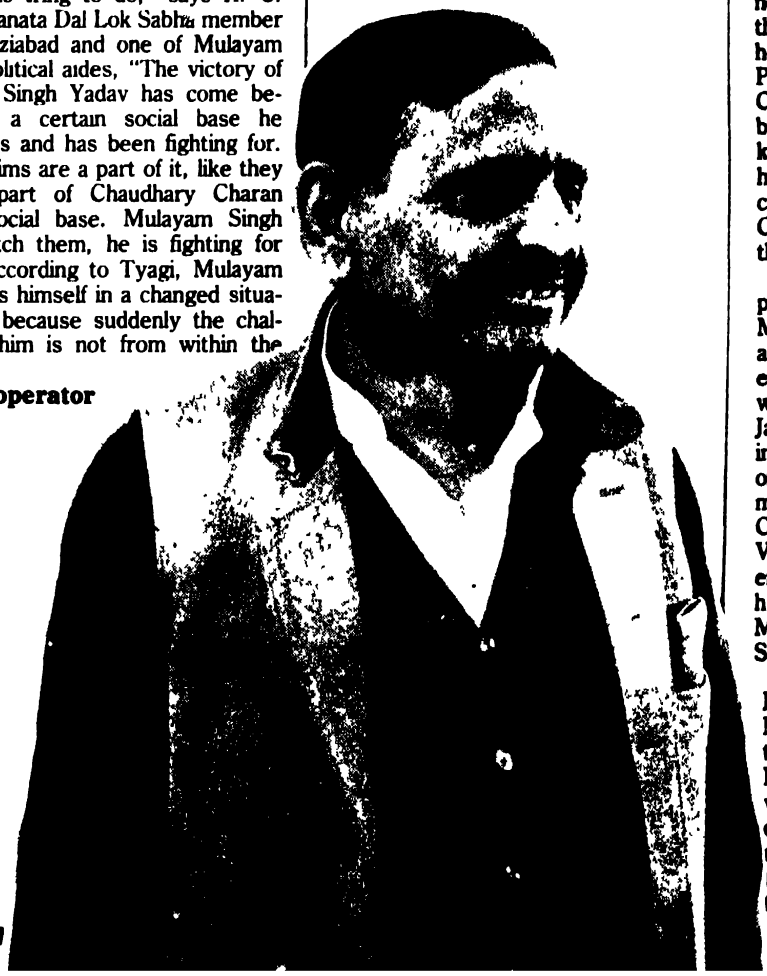
There are reasons why Mulayam Singh Yadav cannot stomach the BJP. One of them of course, is that when the Lok Dal split in 1987 the BJP sided with the Ajit Singh faction of the party and helped instal Satyapal Singh Yadav as leader of the Opposition in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, pulling down Mulayam Singh Yadav. But the real reasons for his dislike of the BJP and its brand of politics go much further back and are grounded in his early training as a politician.

Born in a peasant family in Saifi village in Etawah district, Mulayam

Singh, the wrestler, was an early convert to the Lohia School of Socialism and became an active member of the Samyukta Socialist Party (SSP) in the mid-sixties. Given the fact that the Jana Sangh—the progenitor of the present day BJP—was one of the forces the socialists in Uttar Pradesh were fighting at that time, Mulayam Singh's ideological aversion to the BJP is only too understandable. The BJP-RSS-VHP combine's ever-increasing clamour for Hindu Rashtra must be anathema to any Lohiaite.

Then there is also the question of the social base Mulayam Singh has fashioned his politics on: it is, and will have to be, a coalition of the backward castes and Muslims. Even according to conservative estimates, the two put together form a winning combination on more than 250 of Uttar Pradesh's 425 Assembly seats. Muslims are crucial to Mulayam Singh's political survival, he cannot afford to alienate them. What he can do, on the other hand, is to consolidate them behind himself and confront the BJP with whatever other forces—the Left, which is marginal in Uttar Pradesh, among them—he can have on his flanks. "This is precisely what he is tring to do," says K. C. Tyagi, a Janata Dal Lok Sabha member from Ghaziabad and one of Mulayam Singh's political aides, "The victory of Mulayam Singh Yadav has come because of a certain social base he represYnts and has been fighting for. The Muslims are a part of it, like they were a part of Chaudhary Charan Singh's social base. Mulayam Singh cannot ditch them, he is fighting for them." According to Tyagi, Mulayam Singh finds himself in a changed situation now because suddenly the challenge to him is not from within the party but from outside. "The challenge is of running the government of the largest and probably the most complex state in the country, now that he has established himself as the undisputed leader of the party in the state."

Not that it was easy. Mulayam Singh first came to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly in 1967 on an SSP ticket from Karkal in Farukkhabad, which was Ram Manohar Lohia's parliamentary constituency, but lost the 1969 polls and spent five years out in the wilderness rebuilding his bridges with the people who returned him as an MLA again in 1974. By this time, he had impresed Chaudhary Charan Singh enough to be made the deputy leader of the Opposition in the Assembly but that role was cut short by the Emergency, during which he was jailed. Coming back in 1977, he became the Uttar Pradesh cooperative minister but with the crumbling of the Janata dream three years later, he lost Jaswantnagar to Balram Singh Yadav of the Congress(I). In 1981, however, Chaudhary Charan Singh made him president of the reborn Uttar Pradesh Lok Dal and a year later he was elected to the state Legislative Council.



Smooth operator

It was during the 1980-84 period that Mulayam Singh really entered the race for leadership, launching one agitational after the other and making whirlwind campaign trips across the state. Among his major successes during this period was the agitation against the Maya Tyagi scandal and repeated exposures of the government for fake encounters by the police. And guess who was the chief minister Mulayam Singh was constantly locking horns with? None other than Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

1984 was yet another windfall for the Congress(I) delivered by the assassination of Indira Gandhi and Mulayam Singh Yadav came to lead the opposition in the Assembly yet again with 85 Lok Dal MLAs to lead. Three years later, when the Lok Dal split and he lost the leadership of the Opposition to Ajit Singh's man, Satyapal Singh Yadav, he recoiled with a vengeance to form the Krantikari Morcha with the support of the Janata Party and the Left Bloc. With this began perhaps the most intense power struggle of Mulayam Singh's life: the battle was not only against Ajit Singh but also against the tall shadow of Chaudhary Charan Singh that stood behind him.

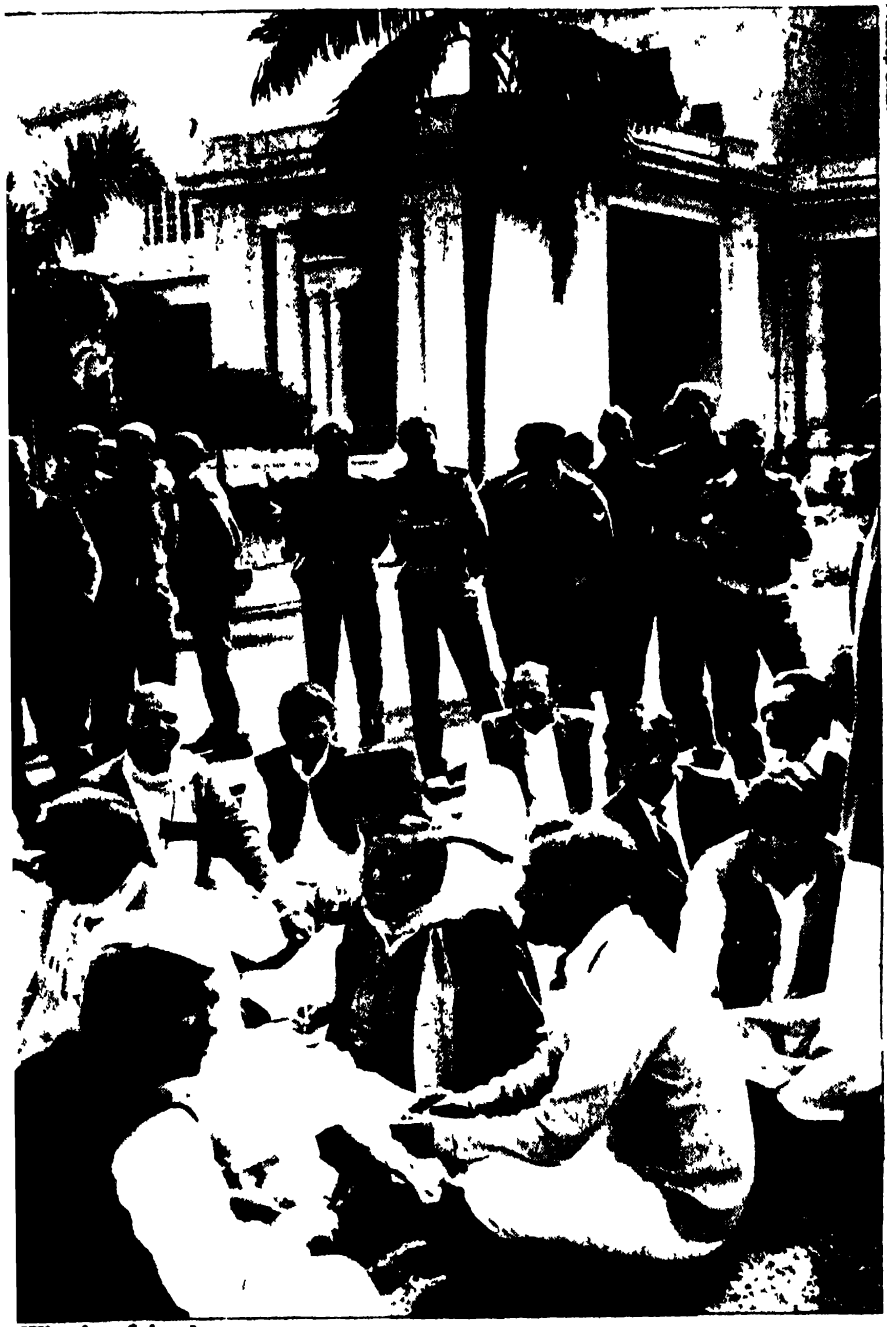
Mulayam Singh, shrewd man that he is, never once disowned the political legacy of the Chaudhary in his battle with Ajit Singh: he only kept protesting that in Uttar Pradesh he was the real mantle-bearer of Charan Singh, and never once did he let it become a Jat versus Yadav affair for he knew that would totally break the back of his support base. What he did was to align closely with the other great Jat chieftain, Chaudhary Devi Lal, and work his way up through him.

For a time, during the painfully long period the Janata Dal's birth took, Mulayam Singh was torn between Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar who were calling each other names over the merger, but when the deed had been done and the Janata Dal formally launched at Bangalore in November 1988, Mulayam Singh was one of the biggest beneficiaries: he had the most influential combination—Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar—behind him. Even if V.P. Singh did quibble a little, at the insistence of Ajit Singh, he could not voice it for he knew what it meant to take on Mulayam Singh with Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar behind him.

Ajit Singh, never one to reconcile to Mulayam Singh, finally did challenge Mulayam Singh personally in the battle for the Uttar Pradesh chief ministership last February but came back from Lucknow vanquished and licking his wounds. "The defeat of Ajit Singh in the race for chief ministership," admits a senior member of the Ajit Singh camp, "was a decisive victory for Mulayam Singh that really estab-

lished him as the state supremo. Having known how actively Mulayam Singh had been consolidating himself over the past few years in the state, Ajit Singh should never have entered the contest." Just before that Mulayam Singh had got rid of the other little thorn in his side: Satyapal Singh Yadav, the man who had ousted him from the leadership of the Opposition in 1987. Mulayam Singh had Satyapal Singh kicked up to the Lok Sabha in November with promises that he stood a better chance of becoming a Union Minister—on the Ajit Singh quota, of course—than hanging around at the state level with a quarter of a chance of making it to chief ministership.

Mulayam Singh has made a habit of getting back at people he picks on. The biggest obstacle to his political career in recent years has been the Ajit Singh group and slowly but surely he has sidelined it. As chief minister, the biggest challenge to him comes from the BJP-VHP-RSS combine and rather than trying to appease and accommodate them he is confronting them head-on. Not so many years ago, he had taken on Vishwanath Pratap Singh, then chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, and driven him out of office: Mulayam Singh had, in fact, at that point virtually blamed V.P. Singh of unleashing a genocidal state war against the Yadav community following the Chhabiram scandal. The quirks and exigencies of politics have now placed Mulayam Singh on the same side of the fence as Vishwanath Pratap Singh but it is already clear that the Uttar Pradesh chief minister is not too comfortable with the Prime Minister. Not for nothing is he undertaking all these well-publicised tours of the Uttar Pradesh ruralia in the company of Chandra Shekhar.



Pradeep Shah

Winning friends

But then, to friends Mulayam Singh is also a great friend to have. And it does not seem to bother what party or shade of opinion you belong to. For years Mulayam Singh was leader of a raucous Opposition when Vir Bahadur Singh was chief minister of Uttar Pradesh but the two men were also friends at a personal level (a fact that led to many a story about Mulayam Singh being in cohorts with the Congress-I chief minister). It neverstopped Mulayam Singh running his politics the way he wanted to, which meant cudgeling the Congress(I) all the time, but it also did not stop him being the first man at Delhi's international airport to receive the mortal remains of Vir Bahadur Singh who died of a heart attack in Paris last year. Today, it is not the Congress(I) but Mulayam Singh Yadav who is having a statue of Vir Bahadur Singh erected in Lucknow and it is he, more than anyone else, who looks after the well-being of his family. "The two were," says a close associate of Mulayam Singh, "from the same background, they were victims of similar elitist biases beyond their politics, there was a certain son-of-the-soil brotherhood between the two which Mulayam Singh has not forgotten."

On the other hand, when he disagrees with something, friendships do not matter. Mulayam Singh might be firmly in the Devi Lal camp but he did not say a word in support of Om Prakash Chautala on the Meham affair even though Chautala could have done with a little backing from him. But then again, when Devi Lal played out his resignation drama on the Meham issue, it was Mulayam Singh who came out and played a key role in helping tide over the crisis, saying a thing or two, in the process, about his worth to V.P. Singh. "Basically," says a senior official who has worked with Mulayam Singh, "Mulayam Singh is now more useful and crucial to V.P. Singh than vice versa because Mulayam Singh is in control of Uttar Pradesh and a little more. And he has built this position by being his own man, a man who knows what he wants to do." ■

THE NAME OF THE GAME

How to drop it is what it's all about

As everyone seems to be dropping Khushwant Singh's name these days, I too might jolly well have a go. I am well qualified. I have known him longer than most, and our lives were once intertwined by a quirk of fate in which the role of puppeteer was played by V.K. Krishna Menon, who was then our High Commissioner in London.

This is how it happened.

Towards the end of World War II the Government sent me to Canada to open an Information Service in anticipation of the arrival of a High Commissioner at the time of Independence. Not long thereafter, following the partition, Khushwant, having abandoned his law practice at Lahore, was sent to London as one of the two Information Officers serving under Sudhir Ghosh, who was Public Relations Officer and head of the department at India House.

Now, Krishna Menon hated the PRO's guts and wanted him out but could do nothing about it as Ghosh had been selected personally by the I & B Minister, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, reportedly on the recommendation of Mahatma Gandhi. Although Menon was known to be a favourite of Pandit Nehru's, he could not assert himself in a situation in which the Prime Minister and his Deputy might find themselves at loggerheads. As it is, there was no love lost between these two great men of India, so Menon thought it wiser to sit back and bide his time.

It was a nice how-do-you-do. Here was I in Ottawa, the Canadian capital, minding my own business and tending my newly arrived boss—Hardit Singh Malik, former Prime Minister of Patiala—when out of the blue came this cipher telegram asking me to proceed to London and take over from Sudhir Ghosh, who was returning to Delhi.

I must have turned a sickly colour, because Malik called Room Service—we were staying at the Chateaux Laurier—placed a double whisky in front of me, helped himself to another, sat back, and said to me in a confidential tone: "Tell me all about it."

I told him about the disaster that had befallen me. I mentioned the cable that had ordered my transfer, and the thing called Menongitis which I'd heard was sweeping the Government of India, the worst form of which dread disease was personified (so I'd been told) in the gentleman presiding over the London mission to which I had been sentenced.

Malik pooh-poohed my fears, fixed me another stiff drink, and reeled off the names of a dozen "fine Menons, including your own KPS". Then he added: "You don't turn down a promotion. Over there you'll have an office much larger than this one and many times more important. Cool it and start packing your bags. Everything will turn out fine."

And so it was that I went to London and Khushwant came to Ottawa in my place. Krishna Menon gave me a cool reception, making it clear that he had someone else in mind as Sudhir Ghosh's replacement. That someone, I learnt through the grapevine, was Khushwant, who wasn't madly in love with VKKM but preferred to be in England rather than Canada.

Menon got his way in the end, and some months later he sent me a message in Paris, where I was attending the U.N. General Assembly, saying that he was heartbroken, but the Ministry wanted me back at headquarters and that he couldn't stand in the way of my advancement, blah-blah-blah. He even gave a farewell party in my honour, the two-faced so-and-so, and Khushwant came back to occupy the chair which I had so unceremoniously been made to vacate.

I forgot to mention that Khushwant and I were in college together—he was a couple of years my junior—and although we were never quite chums, we had close mutual friends, among them Manzur Qadir, who in later years became Foreign Minister of Pakistan. After the London episode, our contacts were few and far between, although during one of my home postings we lived practically next door to each other, when I was alloted a flat in Sujan Singh Park, in which complex he still lives.

Several years later, after I had retired from the Foreign Service and was toying with the idea of becoming a full-time writer, I sent him a story when he was Editor of the *Illustrated Weekly of India*. He sent this back with a friendly note explaining that it did not fit into his scheme of things, but shortly thereafter, as if to compensate, he published a longer piece of fiction I had written, entitled "The Last Maharaja", and sent me the originals of complimentary messages sent to him by readers.

One thing about Khushwant is that he always replies to letters, however brief his reply. Author, traveller, *bon vivant*, and now arguably the country's most celebrated columnist, he must receive hundreds of letters every week. How he replies to them I don't know—possibly with a staff of secretaries—but it is a matter of principle with him to keep in touch with his correspondents.

There, I've dropped Khushwant Singh's name—and some others.

P.L. Bhandari

BARTER BANK

• **V.C.R.:** I would like to exchange a Sony Betamax V.C.R.(made in Japan) bought three years ago for a VHS V.C.P of any good make. Contact N.G.Deb, 135/1 D.H.Road, p.o. Thakurpukur, Calcutta-63.

• **Books:** I wish to exchange *Classical Mechanics* by Herbert Goldstein, *General Properties of Matter* by Newman and Searle, *Heat* by P.K.Chakraborty, *Electricity and Magnetism* by Fewks and Yerwood for a Sanyo Walkman (stereo). Write to A.C.Paul, c/o S.Haque, Qr-391/B/71 Old Station, Dhanbad-826 001.

• **Books:** I offer 15 Hindi novels including *Mahabharata* by Nagarji, magazines like *Sarita, Parag, Nandan, Mukta, Manohar Kahania* and The Telegraph Colour Magazine, and ten Hindi audio cassettes for anything of corresponding value. Write to Atul jain, c/o Boxes Mfg. Co., p.o. Nayasarai, dist. Hooghly, W.B. Pin-712 513.

• **Comics:** I offer two Tintin comics, *Tintin in Tibet* and *Professor Calculus' Affair* for old tin or iron made toys. Write to Mousumi Bose, 36/9A Sahitya Parishad Street, Calcutta-700 006.

• **Coins:** I would like to exchange 100 foreign stamps for coins of corresponding value. Write to Aditya Tandon, 82/C Beltalla Road, Calcutta-700 026.

FACTS & FANCIES

Twice Extinct!

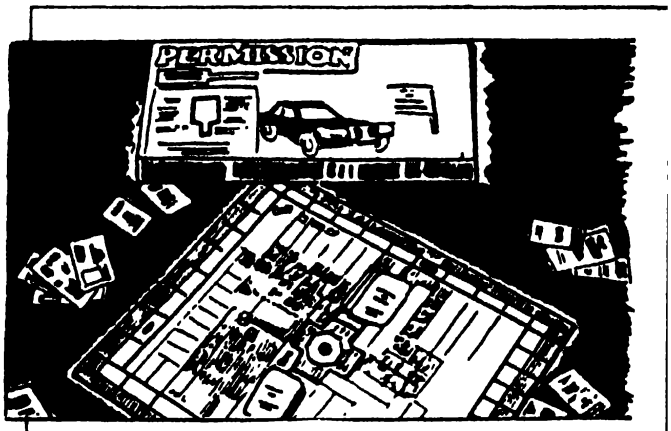
Not since the Great Ark has a bird been more threatened. The Madeiran gadfly-petrel known locally as the Friera (the Nun), Europe's rarest bird is struggling to maintain a precarious hold on existence.

Always very rare, the Friera, numbering not more than 30 pairs, were once before thought to be extinct. However, colonies of what were assumed to be the same species were thriving on the tiny nearby island of Bugio.

Through a remarkable bit of ornithological detective work, a group of scientists re-discovered the birds. They taped calls of the Bugio species and played the recordings to shepherds in the mountainous heartland of Madeira. A shepherd actually recognised the calls and led the party to a location where eventually eggs and birds were found.

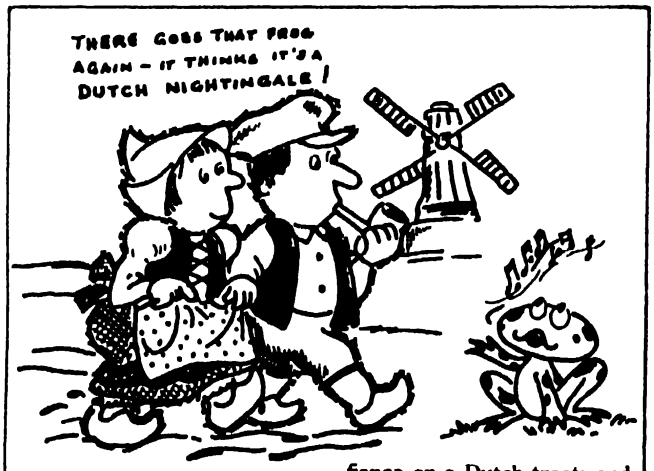
Throughout the early 1980 s, whenever unpredictable mountain weather permitted, visits were made to the ledges on which the birds excavated their metre-deep nesting burrows. It was then that the first signs of another tenant of the ledges were noticed. Friera eggs and a chick were found eaten and everywhere there were droppings obviously left by rats. These attacks were repeated for several breeding seasons and over that period there was no evidence of any chicks having been successfully reared to return to the seas in autumn. Once again, this very rare bird having been brought back from the dead was on the brink of extinction.

Action was finally initiated by a UK based ornithologist who roped in ICI Public Health to fund a project to start a rat control programme. The painstaking and dangerous work of positioning boxes carrying rodenticide bait began in 1987. This effort, continuing to this day, has been mounted by a daring and dedicated team of climbers using equipment provided by the project. In 1988 the birds returned to the ledges virtually clear of their rodent adversaries but showed no signs of prolonged occupation or successful breeding. Last year however, visits in July/August revealed a number of fat healthy chicks. It is on these first chicks that the Frieras' future will depend. Their survival is far from certain but now at least they seem to have a chance.



With Your Permission

Peter Plummer's newest board game, called PERMISSION, seems to be based on the consequences of land-ceiling in India. A property developer in London, Peter Plummer faced traumatic experiences while attempting to assemble small sites for housebuilding—mostly made up of people's back gardens. The game, played with several people, is good fun and the most enjoyable bit is 'bargaining' or negotiating to buy land from other players who hold a small part of your site. Even as a friendly game, PERMISSION brings out the true business ethics of people while negotiating a property deal! Beware! You could make a foe of your friend.



Double Dutch

The word DUTCH properly meaning "Hollandish" formerly denoted the people of Germany, and not merely the Netherlanders.

Today, you can strike a Dutch bargain with Dutch courage, and take Dutch comfort in Dutch defence. Many a male would rather be a Dutchman than take his fiance on a Dutch treat; and what would she say to a ring of Dutch gold? That brings us to the Dutch wife which, in case you did not know, is a bolster on which to rest your weary limbs; and a Dutch nightingale is actually a frog that croaks and not a bird that sings.

And, if all this does not sound like double Dutch to you, well, then I'm a Dutchman!

Illustrations: Katie Dalal

Shamlu Dudeja and Nalini Sithani

...And the No-plug Iron

'Heat sandwich slices through ironing time' is how *The Daily Telegraph* described this no-plug iron and the plug-in board.

Heat radiates upwards from a plate in the ironing board which needs to be plugged in. The cordless iron sits in its own socket where it is recharged when it is putdown, and presses down the heat, when in use.

It is estimated that an average English housewife irons away for about three hours in a week; and this can be halved, say Gemini of Cornwall, the manufacturers of this heat sandwich.

At around Rs 4000 a piece, this iron is based on an old wives' tale that putting a piece of aluminium foil under the ironing 'cloth' gives quicker and better results.

19A GURUSADAY ROAD



Once the home of the Tagores and later, the Birlas, 19A Gurusaday Road now houses the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum (established on May 2, 1959), the first of its kind in our country. The idea of such a museum was mooted by Dr B.C. Roy and industrialist G.D. Birla gave shape to Dr Roy's vision by gifting his rambling Calcutta residence, Birla Park. The museum occupies all the 40 rooms and seven sprawling halls of Birla Park together with five *bighas* of surrounding land.

19A Gurusaday Road has a rich past. G.D. Birla bought the property (18 *bighas*, seven *kattas* and three *chattaks)* for Rs 4 lakhs from Surendranath Tagore in 1919. The Tagores had purchased it from Mirza Abdul Karim and eight part owners in 1898. Before that it is believed to have been occupied by a number of Westerners; the earliest owner listed in the Corporation's records of 1878-79 is A.W. Chapman.

According to the Corporation plan of 1907-08, the building is shown as partly two-storeyed and partly three-storeyed with two tanks, one to the north and another on the eastern side. Tagore's daughter, Meera Devi, spent a large part of her childhood in this house. The present structure was raised by architects N. Gun and Co. after the Birlas took it over. The museum building is a colonial adaptation with a mixture of various styles of European architecture. Finally, what used to be 18 Ballygunge Store Road was renamed and the address changed to 19A Gurusaday Road.

The tradition which the Tagores had set as owners continued under the Birlas as well. Surendranath Tagore's liberal outlook attracted various luminaries from different walks of life. They included Kakuzo Okakura, founder of the academy of the neo-Japanese school of the east, and Japanese artists Yokoyama, Tikan, Hishida and Katusta. Members of the revolutionary forces of the freedom movement, under Barrister Pramathanath Mitra and with Surendranath as the financier, operated from this house. They included C.R. Das, Aurobindo Ghosh, Satyendranath Tagore, and leading Congressmen S.N. Banerji, Rashbehari Ghosh and Anandamohan Sen. G.D. Birla's close links with the nationalist leaders brought to this house Mahatma Gandhi, Motilal Nehru, Lala Lajpat Rai and Madan Mohan Malaviya. Informal meetings of the Congress were also held here. Chiang Kai-shek and his entourage stayed here as guests and met Gandhiji here.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Thanks to the moon s first quarter col laborations, partnerships, jour neys and links are well signified July 2 to 5 will be ideal for deals transactions, loans and funds Those employed will do slightly better A major move is destined next month Mars in your sign activates love, engagement and marriage Changes on the home front and improvements on the house are imminent

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

The Sun-Mercury conjunction focalises travel, contacts, deals, contracts, communications and a job-switch Promises will be kept, but delays and cancellations are not ruled out Partnerships will be fluid July 2 to 5 will be ideal for fun and frolic or a serious relationship The career graph definitely shows an upward trend, so negotiate intelligently

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Be firm, do not vacillate, cultivate a hobby and entertain royally, for that s the way to bag a contract Buying, selling, shopping and investing are definitely highlighted as the moon trines the sun on July 2 Pursue career matters with relentless regularity and use your gift of the gab Work comes first and pleasure later July 4, 5 and 6 are ideal for mating, socialising, loving and caring

CANCER

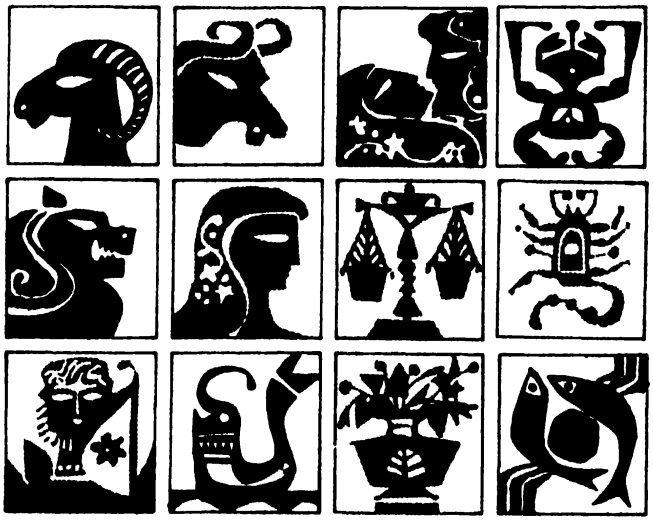
June 21—July 20

Your work will be done A facelift for the home, office and property in general Mercury in your sign leads to travel, news messages and good luck Do anticipate a fine slice of the financial cake in August Folks and the beloved will be willing to play to your tune Health of parents and in-laws could, however worry you Your tenacity and powerful imagination help you to get to the gravy

LEO

July 21—August 21

The moon trine Jupiter helps you in business, deals, real estate, entertainment, travel and leisure Take care of expenses and postponements Those in sales, journalism, teaching, travel and trade do well Be charming and you will be in the money In romance, your loved ones will



respond and that sweetens life a lot Learn to put your message across clearly and concisely if you want to clamber up the ladder of success Deals will be struck now

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Financial transactions lending, borrowing, leasing shopping sprees and investments are the week s highlights Despite hesitation and opposition, you do succeed in transactions and deals, as the sun conjuncts Mercury, your main planet Money will make romance more exciting Expect an addition to the family The time is right to adopt a child, if so interested Learn to relax, go in for group activity and health will certainly improve

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The moon s first quarter in your sign according to Western astrology, makes you dynamic, ambitious and enterprising The full impact of it will be felt between August and October An upward trend in your finances is envisaged as you will succeed in reaching out to people and clients Mars makes your sweetheart blow hot and cold, tensions will be there but never a dull moment Legal matters are possible

BIRTHDAYS

July 1

Moon square Saturn: Home, domestic conditions and influences could be disturbing, and a major upheaval is not ruled out. On and after February 8 next year, pressures will ease.

July 2

Moon trine sun: Fame and fortune and a thwacking good year for filmstars, teachers, financiers, astrologers, salesmen and those in import and export lie in store.

July 3

Moon trine Jupiter: Self-confidence is the mother of success. Those in the arts, sciences and research do remarkably well. With luck helping you, you owe it to yourself to give in your very best. Happiness is your destiny.

July 4

Mercury trine Pluto: Writers, journalists, traders, brokers and hoteliers will be in their element. You love life will improve. You will run into people who will help you in more ways than one. New openings in your job and profession are possible.

July 5

Moon opposition Venus: You will succeed after a struggle. Quite a few of you are in for a job-hop. Very possibly, you will overindulge and overspend, and repent at leisure.

July 6

Moon trine Mars: This trine prods those in employment, trade, commerce, profession and business to give in their best. Status and honourwise, a great birthyear.

July 7

Be ambitious, but learn not to count your chickens before they are hatched. Financially, all should be well. August will be a lucky month.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Expenses, religious ceremonies, collaborations and the luck of the draw are the main trends of the week July 2, 3, 4 and 5 are ideal for deals and ventures A bright career ahead, so play your cards right and give your intuition a chance Renovation decoration and refurbishing are a must Except the first two days, no major health problem is foreseen

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Romance, loans a chance to make a fast buck, and a possible overhauling of goals and work methods are destined for you You may even change your line of activity Bargains deals and transactions come through and those in real estate and showmanship find sweet satisfaction It is just the right time for romance as the moon transits your sun sign

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

The main trends of the week are kicks and kisses, engagement and marriage, foreign and local connections, hectic communication, personal affairs property, parents and legal suits Romance will be bitter-sweet, but still worth it as Jupiter works overtime for you from the angle of intimacy A job-switch or a new employment opportunity is on the cards

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

The lure of new and distant places, a possible marriage or betrothal, collaboration and travel, a fatter pay packet and health posers are the week's highlights Expenses will eat into your income But as income will also augment, do not worry much Thanks to the Venus-Mars happy placing, you will have your fill of romance

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Children, grandchildren, property, loans and funds are highlighted Despite obstacles you will reach your goals A good going on the financial front Those in sales, marketing and distribution will be in their element Romance will be hectic and well worth it, as Venus is in your angle of love and laughter Get set to work at a faster pace and reap happy rewards

KING AND THE COMMISSAR

With King Jigme Wangchuk

Leaving behind the heat and dust of Bantala, Jyoti Basu let himself unwind in the cooler climes of Bhutan. SRINJOY CHOWDHURY reports on the chief minister's 'private' visit

Photographs: Aloke Mitra



It was just a private visit Away from the snowballing bedlam after the Bantala lynchings And away from humid Calcutta, shrouded in smoky darkness during loadshedding Occupying the front seats of the Druk Air aircraft were the chief minister, Jyoti Basu, wife Kamal, son Chandan, daughter-in-law Dolly, granddaughters Doel, Koel and Payal and a troika of senior aides Waiting for the royal guests in Paro and Thimpu were cooks and courtiers, chauffeurs and high chamberlains, eager to please and pamper In the Thimpu secretariat, cabinet ministers stood by, ready for unscheduled consultations during the "private visit"

In 1958, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru entered Paro on horseback, three decades later, Comrade Jyoti Basu's dinky jet dodged the heavy clouds to make a tricky landing Hustled into waiting cars (Benzes for Basu and his entourage, Toyotas for the hired help) at the toy airfield, they sped to Paro's Ugyen Pelri palace

At the palace, a granite square with coloured roof eaves and windows and a spire of beaten gold, waited his majesty King Jigme Singe Wangchuk, monarch for over a decade, but still only 37 Over lunch, the King (who had driven down from Thimpu) discussed the falling dominoes in East Europe and a Calcutta communist's assessment of present-day Marxism At dinner, Basu blended his sombre baritone with the chorus of "Happy Birthday" There was a cake for Koel, and specially caught trout from river Paro for the CM June 5, the first day of the commissar's five-day holiday at the invitation of a king, had whizzed by

On the sylvan lawns of the Ugyen Pelri palace, an archery contest had begun the next morning Two teams of 13 heavy set archers in traditional *gohs* and Jordache sneakers, clutched their black fibre-glass bows, and aluminium foil arrows "The equipment is modern, the tradition as old as history," said 26-year old Ugyen Rinzin of the Druk Rovers "We have replaced the bamboo bows and arrows in the last decade" Meanwhile, Kuntse Tshering, tense and beady eyed with concentration, leaned back and released his arrow, almost a piece of innocent tinsel in the early

morning against a backdrop of poplar trees His aim is true the arrow flies a distance of 150 yards and hits the bulls eye with a soft thwack *"Yoye yoye"* comes the war cry What does that mean? "Strike while the iron is hot," is the approximate translation

Chief guest at the archery contest was Jyoti Basu Expressionless as ever, Basu, wife Kamal and son Chandan looked resplendent against richly embroidered cushions in the special *shamiana,* bowls of fruit on low coffee tables in front of them Daughter in law, Dolly and the three effervescent grandchildren sat nearby, while the aides, and a pretty Bhutanese liaison officer hovered nearby

The flurry of arrows trailed off The long silver pipes (doongs) roared and out

t the Kichlu temple with Doel and Koel



came the dancers, bare chested in the chilly drizzle, in swirly yellow, blue and purple skirts and antlered stag masks The *rimongs* clanged harshly, but the dancers were full of languid grace Lounging back, the CM sipped Thums Up and munched sandwiches as the show went on Between every hectic dance, a 'chorus line' of 11 women in red, gold or acquamarine *kiras,* sang and solemnly swayed from side to side As the tom-toms beat, men in lion and tiger and garuda masks danced around a hunter who waved his shield Perched on the nearby watchtower, stood Basu, staring down stolidly

Then in a blur of activity, Basu, pha lanxed by his security men, was whisked away, his deep-blue Mercedes racing down the drizzle-slick roads to the Kichlu *Gompa.* Besides the road gurgled river Paro, more a swift-flowing stream, with banks of polished white pebbles At the top of the hill, stands the temple with a prayer wheel at the entrance and a *chorten* inside the courtyard, and two shrines, one almost as old as Bhutan the other a modern replica, the images with faces of beaten gold Playing patron of the arts, Basu asked if the original manuscripts dug out of treasure chests for him to inspect had been copied and published "Yes" assured his guide, a senior official of the Royal Museum

Distinctly happy after a double Scotch after the meal at a dinner party hosted by Dawa Tshering, the Bhutanese foreign minister, the CM fondly remembered his meetings with "Jigme" "I knew the King as a boy and I later met him in London He is intelligent, progressive and is well aware of the international situation," was his verdict As the pressmen crowded him, Nikons flashing, he was (unusually for him) more avuncular than aloof "I have told the authorities to look after my press boys I hope all of you are comfortable," he said expansively "Did he say *my* boys?" asked a reporter in a disbelieving half-whisper once he had recovered from the initial shock

After settling down to a meal of *coq au vin* with white wine in the banquet room of the sprawling Motithang Hotel with wooded grounds littered with pine cones, he sportingly posed with a group of dancers in *kiras* Only the CM's aide Jaikrishna Ghosh, who had his automatic camera in his coat pocket had time to shoot But the party broke up quickly, the CM probably wanted a good night's sleep before meeting with the King the next morning

Bathed in the dappled early morning sun, Basu's Mercedes inched forward Marching ahead were flag waving men in colourful *gohs,* carrying daggers and shields The drums beat, the flags including the tricolour and the royal Bhutanese flag fluttered Others danced the last lap up to the marbled but fly-infested gates of the Tashichho Dzong (the fortress of the glorious religion) secretariat

Gamely (Basu is 77), he climbed up a steep flight of stairs, past a pair of golden prayer wheels that go clang with every rotation, into the *dzong* Portly in the prince coat he wore the night before but as straightbacked as ever he looked every inch the elderly statesman at a summit Briskly walking past mischief-eyed *gaylongs* (young monks) in flapping scarlet robes who were patiently daubing red and gold paint on the wooden pillars, past the beds of pink roses, his leather soles crisply ringing on the stone-slabbed courtyard up another flight of steeper stairs (after refusing to rest), Basu walked to the royal



With wife Kamal, grand-daughters Payal

office chamber Then amidst popping flashbulbs Basu was seated with the King on leopard skin cushions that would leave an animal lover wincing Escorting the CM through the *dzong,* was "Benji", Bhutanese deputy social services minister, a connoisseur of horseflesh and a regular visitor to New Market

While the king and the commissar conferred for over an hour, the royal courtiers and their Indian counterparts exchanged gifts on behalf of their leaders For the King, the CM had bags of Darjeeling tea, and sandalwood statues of Krishna and Arjuna (Did the TV serial *Mahabharat* play a part in the choice?) The Queens (there were four at the last count) and the Queen Mother received sandalwood images of the Buddha, stoles of benarasi silk, *zari* handbags and Darjeeling tea. In return, King Jigme Singe Wangchuk presented the CM and his family members



and Doel and daughter-in-law Dolly

with *tankhas* (scrolls) and other hand icrafts

Even during a pleasure trip, there is always time for politics Ethnic strife among the south Bhutanese who migrated several generations ago after floods in Nepal were high on the agenda Two groups, the People's Forum for Human Rights (PFHR) and the United Liberation People's Front (ULPF) are protesting against the "imperialistic tendencies of the north Bhutanese" who run the kingdom Refusing to wear the *goh* or *kira* and to speak in Dzonkha the rebels have fled to hideouts in the Dooars Basu promised to speak to V P Singh about the meeting

Chandan Basu went fishing that afternoon, but returned empty handed after sunset, a tangle of rod and tackle Another fisherman saved face, picking up three grey trouts, each one less than a

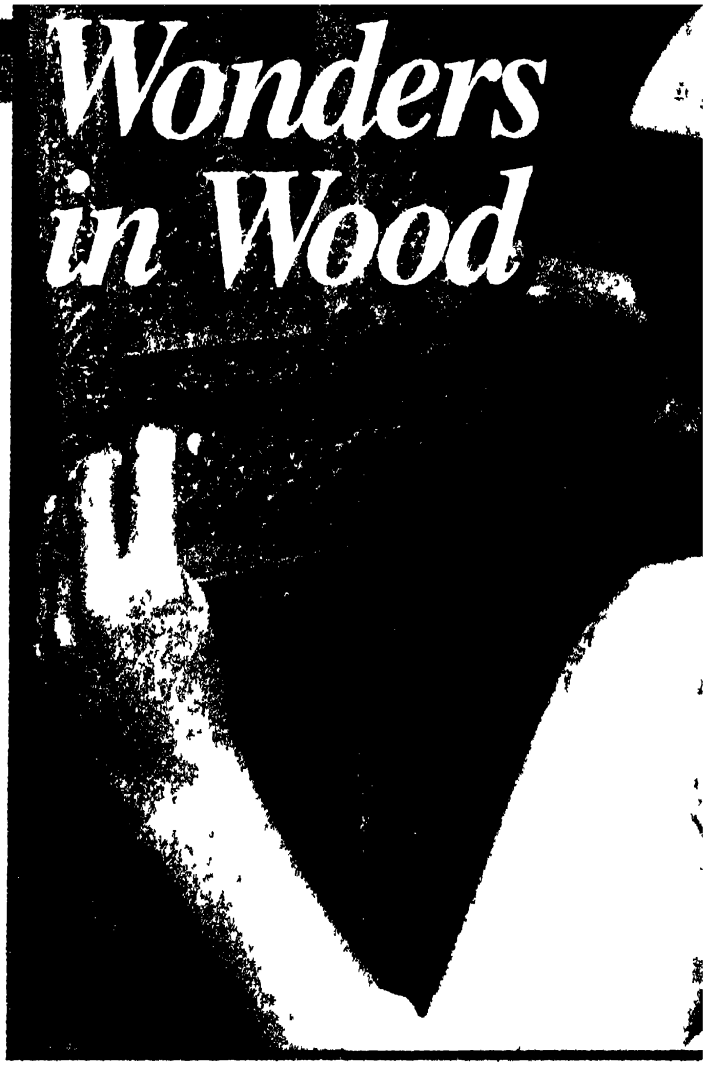


Mr and Mrs Chandan Basu

foot long While son Chandan flyfished in the fast flowing mountain streams, it was Jyoti Basu s turn to play fond grandfather In a maroon half sleeved sweater and a checked *lungi*, he paced the verandahs of the palatial Kuengachholing state guest house, granddaughter by his side, after a lavish lunch with the King at the Dechenchholing palace

The four days went quickly It was time to return In another, newer Mercedes (with Bhutan in royal red and yellow on the number plate) Basu and the convoy of 19 vehicles set out for Paro through the snaking roads, hugging the sides of the mountains People lined the roads, silent and staring Paro airport was only two hours away the special flight was waiting A few handshakes, the last wave, and Comrade Basu was away, his seat-belt tightly strapped, doggedly looking out of the window The private visit was over

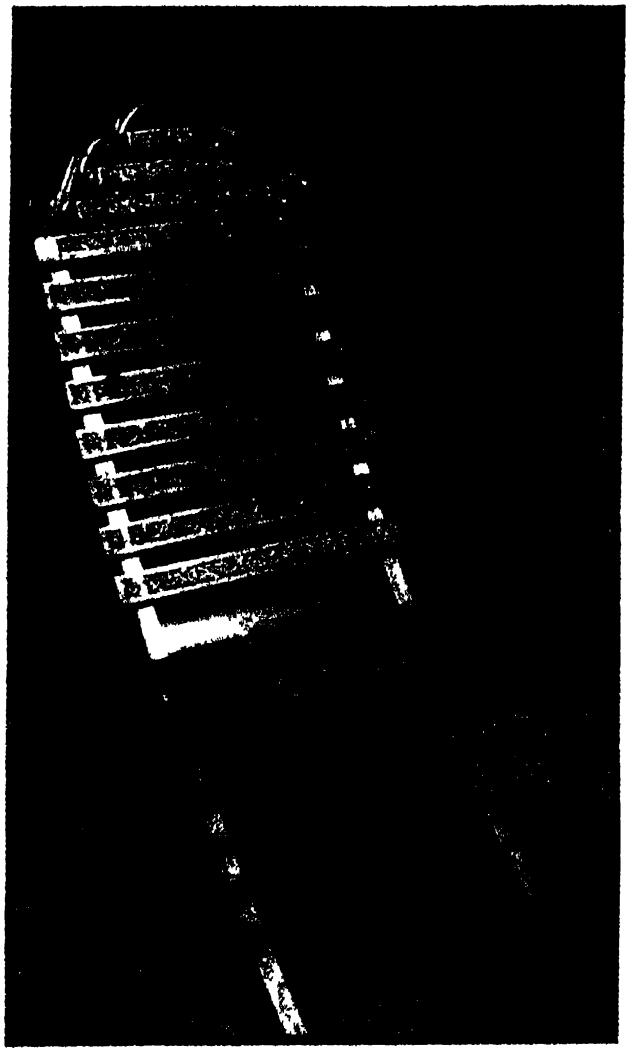
Wonders in Wood



Saharanpur craftsmen keep alive an art that has now gained worldwide fame, writes **Nandita Chaudhuri**

The terai of Saharanpur in the fertile Ganga-Jamuna doab basin, has been a dream for settlers, travellers and plunderers alike. This region, often referred to as the "cradle of Indian civilisation", attracted woodcarvers from Persia in the ninth and 10th centuries in search of patronage. And it was here that they eventually settled down.

With the turn of the 13th century, woodcarving went into what is called the 'decorative' style with distinct characteristics of exaggerated designs. It drew a parallel to the Baroque style of European sculpture. This, however, was a golden age for art and architectural ornamentation when creativity was at its peak. Carvers in Saharanpur have since pursued this craft and the same designs are still perpetuated in an unbroken tradition.



A finely carved knockdown easy chair



The presence of the British in India produced a diversification from the traditional architectural ornamentation to carved furniture, screens and smaller household items like trays, coasters, etc. Independence witnessed a boost in exports as carved products fetched a premium abroad because of the relatively high cost of carving in European countries. But this proved difficult for the small community of carvers. Having earlier served a select chentele, they were being coerced to cater to the global demand for which they were ill-equipped, due to the presence of innumerable middlemen and the exorbitant price of raw materials.

Naushad Khan at work



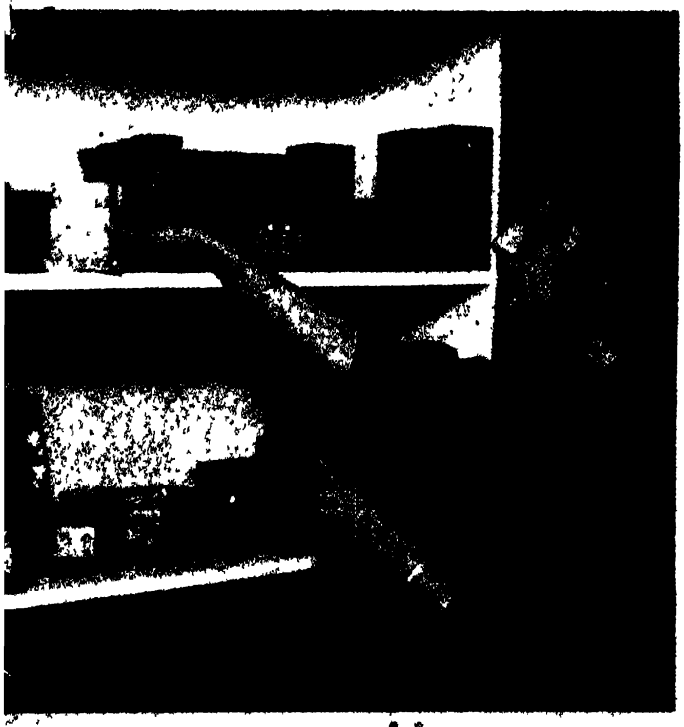
Wooing the wood

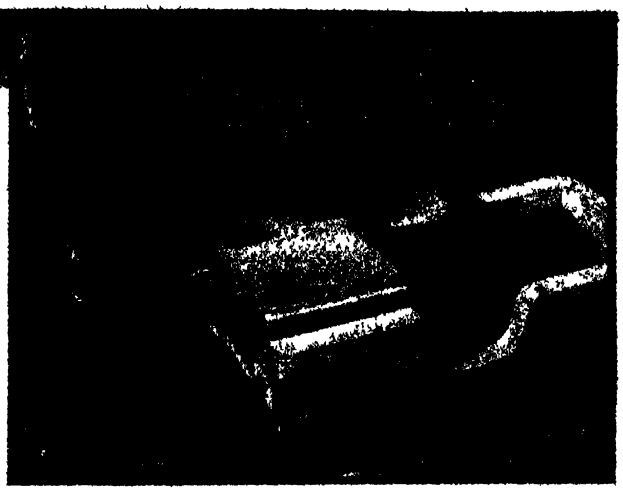


In 1985, a group of dedicated young men came to the rescue of the woodcrafters by forming the Crafts Development Society (CDS), a non-profit, voluntary agency for the development of crafts and craftsmen. Their main aim was to provide the basic infrastructure to save this dying art by arranging for credit to meet the working capital requirement of articles, impart training to upgrade skills through workshops and organise exhibitions, fairs and festivals.

Saharanpur currently has 25,000 craftsmen (all of them Muslims) of whom 15,000 are semi-skilled and 10,000 unskilled. The CDS has managed to bring about 2,000 of these craftsmen under its aegis and are promoting their art. According to Prakash Chander, the programme coordinator, who left a lucrative post with Oxfam to serve these artisans, "Fashion styles have changed, and the demand for purely decorative articles have declined. Therefore, apart from the traditional ornate furniture, we have diversified into a number of utilitarian products too, like toys, household and stationary items."

In this context, the CDS organised a workshop on designing in 1985, which was conducted by the EEC, Oxfam, England and the All India Handicrafts Board to impart training in toy design. The outcome is Mohammed Daud, 23, perhaps the best toymaker in the country who has developed over 70 different educational models within the past five years. These toys have a ready market in Europe (orders worth Rs 2 lakhs from Berlin alone) as they adhere to the British Safety Act i.e. have no sharp edges, polish or nails. Recently there was a major Saharanpur toy expo in Milan, Italy.





Toys are characterised by an absence of nails and polish

For Mohammed Daud, life has changed dramatically ever since he joined the CDS. One of the ace carvers of Saharanpur, Daud is mainly into heavy items like furniture. Before joining the CDS, he sold his products locally and would net a profit of Rs. 800-900 a month at the most. Now he has six men working for him and for the Calcutta exhibition alone (which was held between March 15-21) he made a profit of Rs. 20,000 which otherwise he would have earned in 18 months. What does he plan to do with the money? "I'll put it in a bank in the name of my five daughters," is his simple reply. "We've persuaded him to do this instead of squandering it all away," adds Chander, smilingly.

Previously, ebony, teak and other expensive wood were used in this craft. But due to the gradual depletion of teak-wood forests and to maintain an environmental balance, CDS has persuaded most of the craftsmen to use substitute wood. "For small and light items like toys, stationary and kitchenware, teak is unnecessary. So we use sheesham instead. Only for heavy furniture, we use teak. This has helped save a lot of teak-wood forests. Besides, recently we have also started making small



Rich colour

items in mangowood. Prior to this, it had only been used in packaging," says Chander. He further adds, "Mangowood and sheesham being cheaper, the margin of profit doubles and by using substitute wood, forests are also safe." Even the pieces left over are not wasted, but instead used for making toys, snuff-boxes, etc..

Thus, thanks to the efforts of the CDS, this handicraft has been rejuvenated and Saharanpur put on the world map. Hunched over their pieces of wood, chisel and hammer in hand, these craftsmen seem lost to the world. Yet, their creations have found acclaim the world over. ■

Stained

Industrial pollution threatens to darken the skies over Grand Canyon, reports Mercer Cross

The white haze steals in on quiet winter days, draining colour and depth from the rainbow-toned, erosion-cut intricacies of the world's most spectacular gorge.

In the summer it is even worse. On a really nasty day it is impossible to see across the vast canyon's peaks and buttes to the opposite rim 10 miles distant.

Crystalline air is the trademark of the Colorado Plateau, the high, arid canyon lands of the Southwest that boast the most spectacular concentration of national parks and monuments in the United States Any pollution, however slight, is more noticeable here than in most other parts of the country

Nowhere does it attract more attention than in the Grand Canyon, the mile-deep chasm through which the Colorado River works its sculptural wonders through 280 miles of northern Arizona

Four million visitors a year marvel at the beauties of the national park, the choicest segment of the canyon. It encompasses 56 miles of geological splendour—walls of multihued limestone, shale and sandstone that are an incomparable record of the planet's history.

Where the winter haze originates is the subject of a dispute that began years ago and is not likely to end soon. Last August the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concluded that the major source of the haze is the giant Navajo Generating Station, a coal-powered, 2,250-megawatt plant at Page, Arizona, a dozen miles from the northern edge of the Grand Canyon.

The EPA based its conclusions on a 1987 study by the National Park Service. Forty per cent to 70 per cent of the layered wintertime haze in the canyon, mostly sulphate particles, comes from Navajo's three 775-foot smokestacks, the study found

"We have a lot of confidence in our report," Molly Ross, assistant chief of the Park Service's Air Quality Division, says. "We think it's excellent work."

But company officials strongly dispute the accuracy of the report, argue that Navajo is not the chief polluter and complain that installation of scrubbers would cost $500 million to $1 billion Scrubbers are devices that can remove 90 per cent of the pollutants from power-plant emissions. Navajo burns 24,000 tons of low-sulphur coal and emits an estimated 12-13 tons of sulphur dioxide daily.

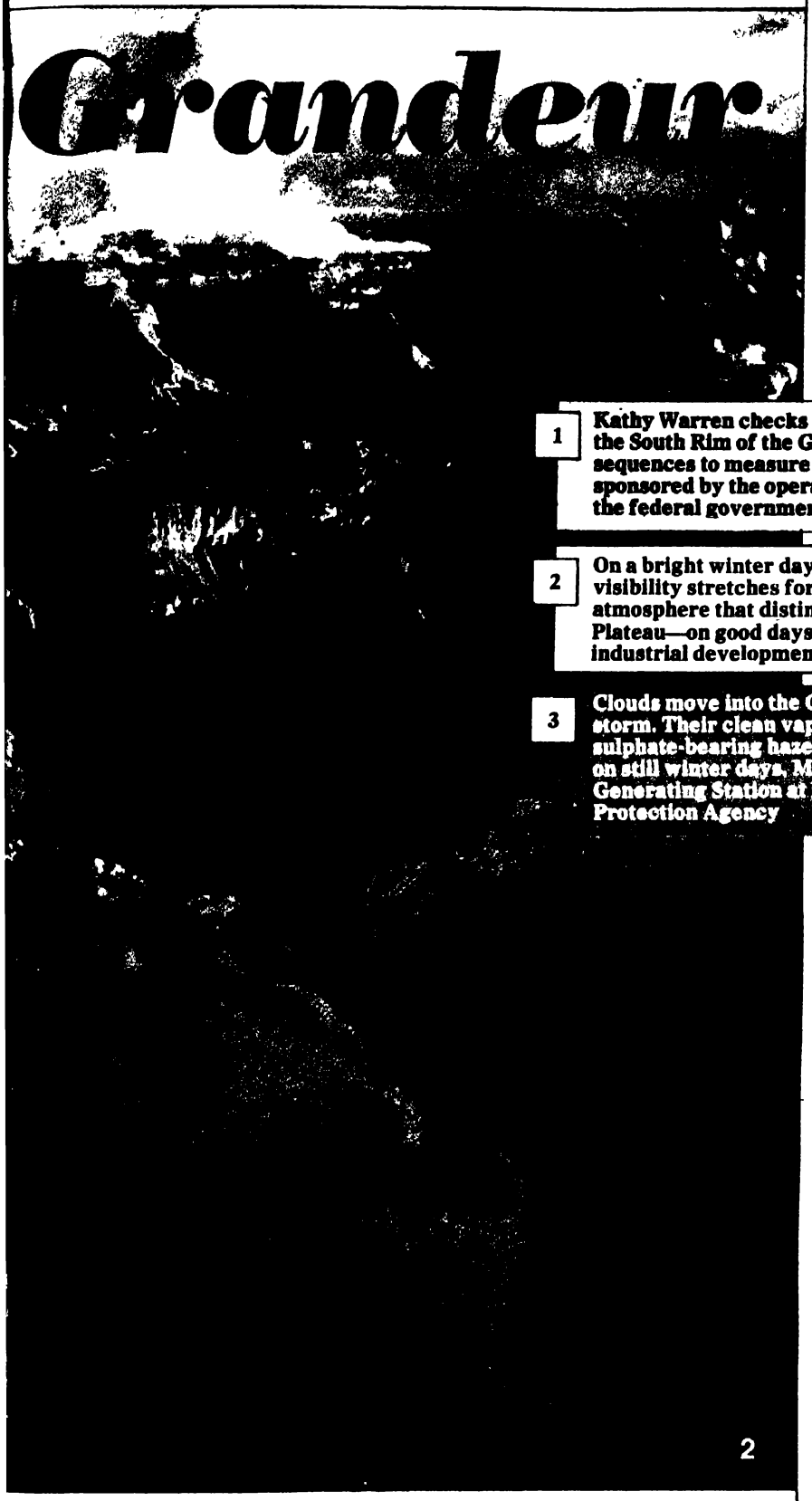
A federal court has extended for one year the Feb 1, 1990, deadline for the EPA to decide what cleanup measures Navajo should take. EPA officials expect a decision sooner. Meanwhile, studies by both sides continue.







Grandeur



1 **Kathy Warren checks a photographic monitoring station near the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Cameras shoot time-lapse sequences to measure haze in the canyon. The study is sponsored by the operator of the nearby power plant accused by the federal government of being the canyon's major polluter**

2 **On a bright winter day in the snow-rimmed Grand Canyon visibility stretches for dozens of miles. This is the crystalline atmosphere that distinguishes the canyon lands of the Colorado Plateau—on good days. But with population growth and industrial development bad days are becoming more frequent**

3 **Clouds move into the Grand Canyon, signalling an approaching storm. Their clean vapour is a welcome contrast to the sulphate-bearing haze that settles in layers through the canyon on still winter days. Much of it comes from the Navajo Generating Station at Page, Arizona, says the Environmental Protection Agency**

John H. Davis, the park superintendent, and some other experts agree on one hopeful glimmer in the canyon's pollution battle. "It is not getting worse," he says. "I don't know where the cut-off point came, but it is a function of societal changes and views of air quality. We want to go the other way now."

Gary Neuroth, air-quality director for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, says the Navajo plant spews forth more pollution than the state's three smelters combined. "It is a huge mass they emit and regardless of where the wind blows it, it's going to cause some visibility problems," he says. He includes the whole Plateau and beyond, with such parks as Zion, Bryce Canyon and Canyonlands in southern Utah and Mesa Verde in southwestern Colorado.

Bryce, a fairyland of hoodoos—strange-shaped rock spires—is particularly vulnerable because it is a park of vistas. "Urban visitors are used to visibility of two miles, We're sitting up here with visibility of 90 miles. It's pretty hard to convince them that it is a problem," says superintendent Bob Reynolds.

"It gets tougher all the time. The folks out here are getting tired of paying the price of development in Los Angeles," says David K. Morris, assistant superintendent of the US Park Service in Moab, Utah.

He speaks of summertime air pollution when sources are more distant, more dispersed and harder to eradicate than are the winter sources. Dominant among them are automobile and industrial wastes from Southern California, southern Arizona and southern Nevada.

Bob Yuhnke of Boulder, Colo., an atorney for the Environmental Defense Fund, frequently testifies on clean-air legislation before congressional committees. He cites studies showing that the present average of nine summer days of extremely low visibility in the Grand Canyon will grow to 30 unless action is taken to counteract industrial and population growth.

"The issue is whether or not we can develop a stable environmental future with a growing population," he says. "We can handle it. It's just a question of putting policies in place but making sure we don't trash the environment while we're accommodating growth."

(National Geographic News Service)



Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri in *Ghayal*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aandhiyan:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138)—12 3 6 9

The film directed by David Dhawan, marks the comeback of the superstar of the seventies, Mumtaz Also co starring are Prasenjit and Madhusree (who make their debut in Hindi films), and Shatrughan Sinha The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Appu Raja:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) Krishna (T C Dutta Street 250437), Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515)—4 shows, Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 351382), Ragini (Behaghata Main Road, 363264) 3 shows

An unusual film on the life of a dwarf, the title role of which is played by Kamal Haasan The film is directed by Singeetam Srinivasa Rao and the music is by Ilaiyaraja

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 311090), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133), Malancha (Regent Park)

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Ghayal:** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808) Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108) Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522), Alochhaya (Behaghata Main Road, 355059), Madhuban (Regent Park)

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the lead pair Also starring are Om Puri and Amrish Puri The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Hum Se Na Takrana:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 272473)-4 shows

The star attractions of this film directed by Deepak Bahry are Dharmendra, Shatrughan Sinha, Mithun Chakraborty Anita Raaj and Kimi Katkar The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383) 10 45 2 15 5 30 9

A silver jubilee hit this teeny boppers love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is Raam laxman

• **Muqaddar Ka Badshaah:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue 553046), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680) Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141)

Directed by T Rama Rao, the film stars Vinod Khanna, Vijay Shanti, Shabana Azmi, Amrish Puri, Kader Khan, Anupam Kher and Asrani The music is by Viju Shah

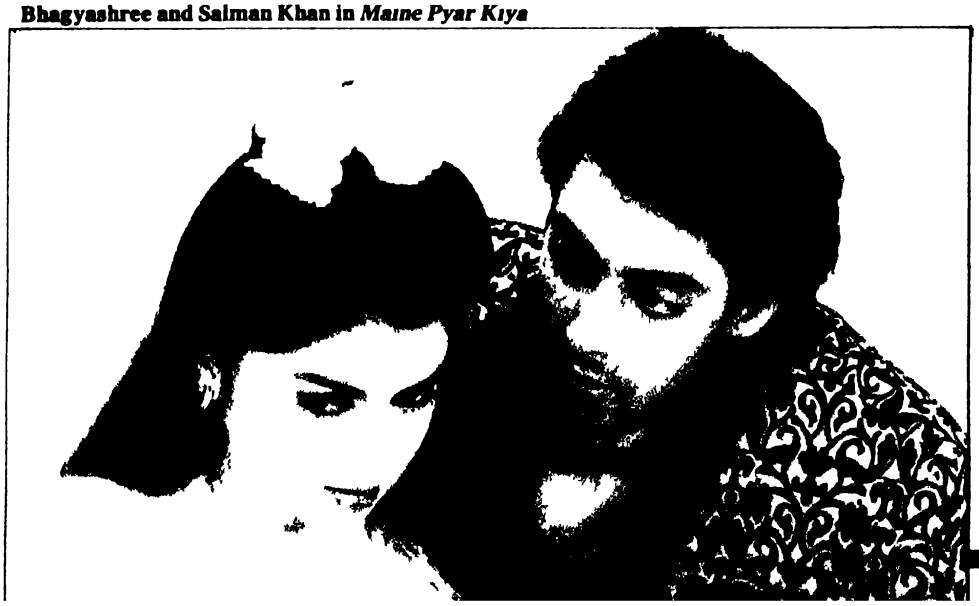
• **Swarg:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132)-4 shows

Directed by David Dhawan and with music by Anand Milind, the main cast includes Rajesh Khanna, Govinda, Juhi Chawla and Madhavi.

• **Tum Mere Ho:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442)—4 shows

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla are the lead pair in this Tahir Husain film whose music is by Anand Milind

Bhagyashree and Salman Khan in *Maine Pyar Kiya*



Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Mi-

nar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)-2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Deepankar De, Sanghamitra Banerjee, Shakuntala Barua, Indrani Dutta and Anup Kumar are the principal attractions of this Tarun Majumdar film whose music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Badnaam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)-2.30, 5.15, 8; Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)-2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)-2. 5, 7.45.

Special Events

1 July: 4 pm to 8 pm

The concluding evening of an exhibition of graphics and drawings by Babita Sarawgi (Calcutta), Suraiya Chowdhury (Bangladesh) and Bela Purohit (Baroda).

At Birla Academy of Art and Culture(108-109 Southern Avenue).

1 July: 3 pm to 8 pm

The concluding day of an exhibition of paintings by the students of Gour Mallar in the New Gallery.

1-3 July

Ashis Dutta's exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

1-4 July

An exhibition of paintings by Susanta Ghosh in the North Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

5 July: 6.30 pm

Padatik Music Circle presents a sarod recital by Jotin Bhattacharya.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

6 July: 6.30 pm

Padatik Music Circle presents a flute recital by M.M. Patnaik.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087)



M.M. Patnaik

6 July: 7 pm

Durbar and ITC present a classical vocal concert entitled *Monsoon Melodies—the Many Moods*



Pandit C.R. Vyas

of Malhaar, featuring Pandit C.R. Vyas.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (29, Ashutosh Choudhury Avenue, 478717).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (2) AI-IOI at 0240; Dep (6)· AI-309/AI-101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7). AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6). AI-309 at 1820; Dep. (6)· AI-309 at 1935.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132 / AI-1320 at 1300.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755. Dep (6). IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6) IC-844 at 1115 Dep (6)· IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920. Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620. Dep (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840. Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6) IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5). BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2). KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920 and IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily)· IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250; Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1540.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030: Arr. (3,5,7). IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6): IC-219 at 1120. Arr.(1,3,5,6)· IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400, Arr (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7). IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

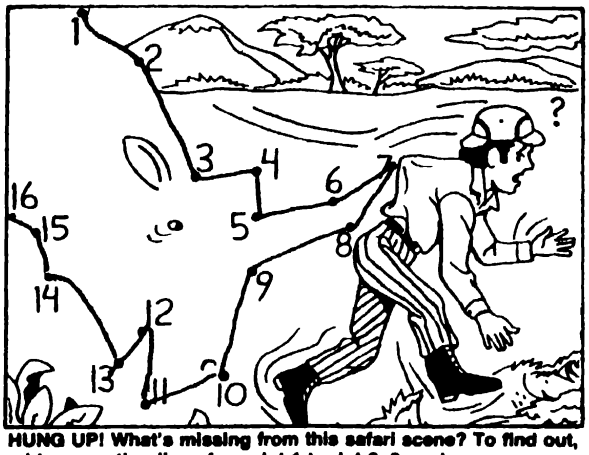
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9-45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep. & Arri.—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed., Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Time	Arrival Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4[30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri —Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



HUNG UP! What's missing from this safari scene? To find out, add connecting lines from dot 1 to dot 2, 3, and so on.

• SUM FUN! Multiply reds times greens, and the answer is 1200. Add them and the answer is 80. Divide, and answer is 3. How many reds and greens?

Sixty reds and twenty greens



COIN DROP MAGIC!

A handful of coins and a glass of water are the only props required for this magic trick.

The glass is filled to the very brim, and is placed on the table.

Now, the magician asks spectators to guess how many of the coins he has in his hand may be dropped into the glass without causing a spill.

Alakazam, holding each coin perpendicular to the surface, the magician slides them in one at a time and is able to enter the whole lot.

Water surface swells and rises, but it does not overflow.

Give trick a try.

• ZOO'S WHO! You are asked to find the names of seven animals below. To do so, drop one letter of each anagram and rearrange the others. In no. 1, for instance, drop the O and form CAT.

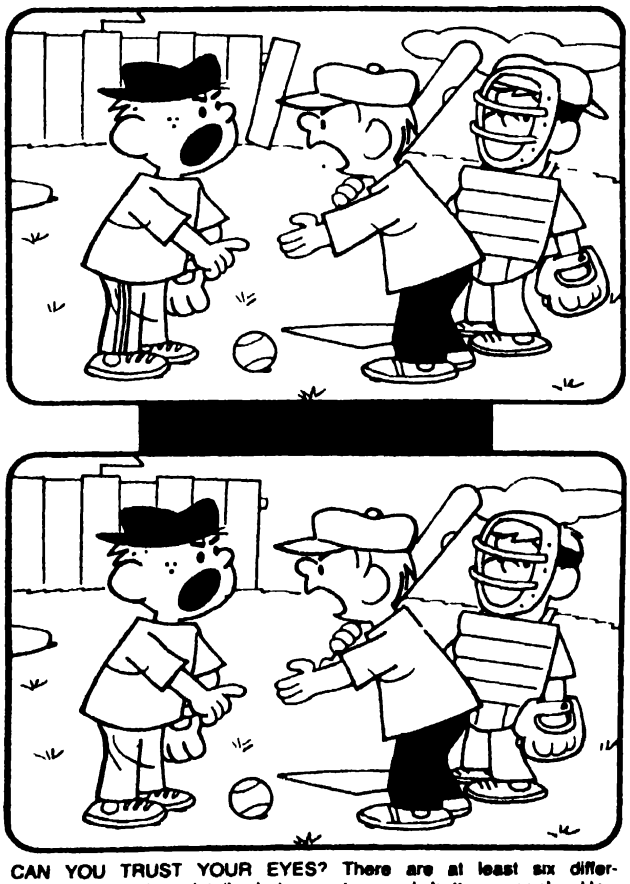
All six of the animals still to be found are familiar to zoo-goers.

How many can you puzzle out? Time limit: 2 minutes.

1. A COT
2. AS LET
3. IS BONE
4. I GRATE
5. ALL AIM
6. SAW LURE
7. ICE LOOT

1 Cat 2 Seal 3 Bison 4 Tiger 5 Llama 6 Walrus Ocelot

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences 1 Fence board is missing. 2 Stripe is missing. 3 Sleeve is shorter. 4 Cloud is smaller. 5 Cap is missing. 6 Arm is moved.

FUNSPOT



SPOT CHECK! "Let's see how it will look here," suggests Mom, as Dad totes the tree. Code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words.

INDIRECT

- - - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram: Nice dirt



QUIZ BINGO

What exactly is 'grog', asks Tushar Roy, Calcutta-27.

Grog is a dilution of rum with water. In 1687, following the conquest of Jamaica, rum was introduced into the Royal Navy in place of brandy as a daily ration. By an order from Admiral Vernon in 1740, with a view to reducing the incidence of drunkenness in his fleet, the ration of one pint of neat rum a day for men and half a pint for boys was diluted by adding a quart of water. This was issued in two halves, to the tune of 'Nancy Dawson', at a scuttle butt at noon and 6 pm daily.

Vernon's nickname in the fleet was 'Old Grogram', from the material of which his boat cloak was made, and the watered down rum was speedily given the name 'grog'. The word groggy is derived from the effects of too large an intake of the spirit. The evening issue of grog was abolished in the Royal Navy in 1824 and the daily ration reduced to one gill in 1850. The issue of rum to officers was stopped in 1881, the popularity of gin having replaced that of rum among them. The issue to warrant officers ceased in 1918. Chief and petty officers drew their rum undiluted.

For all other ratings the grog ration was one and a half gills of water to half a gill of rum until 1970, when the issue of rum was totally discontinued in the British Navy.

"Grog-blossom" is the sailor's name for a red nose or an inflamed pimple.

The grog-tub was a scuttle-butt, or cut-down cask, traditionally used in the British Navy for the daily issue of the watered-down rum, or grog, ration to seamen. The mixture of three parts of water to one part of rum in order to form grog was always made in the presence of an officer to protect seamen from being given a short allowance of rum by adding too much water, a practice by which some of the old-time pursers used to enrich themselves. The words 'God Save the King (or Queen)' were traditionally fixed to the grog-tub in large brass letters. Any grog left over was, by order, poured into the scuppers so that it should run overboard and not be used to supplement the daily ration or consumed by persons who did not qualify for the daily issue.

"What is the wall of death?" queries Pinky Sengupta, Calcutta.

This is a spectacular motor-cycling event seen in fun fairs and circuses. The actual 'wall' consists of a strongly built, hollow, wooden tower about 20 feet high and 20 feet in diameter. The inner side is vertical, except for about 2 ft. 6 in. of wooden 'banking' at an angle of 45 degrees at the base. A railed gallery on the outside, about four feet from the top, accommodates the spectators. Inside the pit a motor-cyclist starts up his engine on the centre of the floor, mounts the banking, and gradually accelerates until he is circling the vertical portion of the wall at speeds which may reach 60 miles an hour. Less common stunts include the use of sidecars and even of baby motor-cars, in which passengers are taken. Even a lion has been taken as a passenger. The performance looks extremely dangerous; but in fact centrifugal force holds the riders quite firmly on to their vertical track, and accidents are practically unknown.

Old timers like myself remember Sunboat Jack who thrilled Calcutta crowds at the Victory and other carnivals in the early 40s.

CBS

***11th Question*: In marketing, what is Backselling? (Sunil Madhogarhia, P-55 C.I.T. Scheme, VII M, Calcutta 700 054.)**

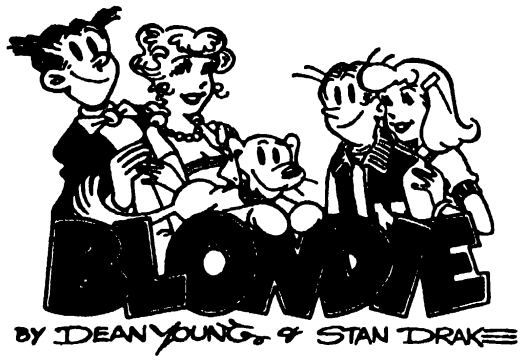
***Ans.* Using all the means at their disposal, the prime manufacturers (a synthetic fibre company, for example) promote the charms of the end-products which use their goods (an imitation angora sweater, say). The ultimate consumer demand created by this aggressive marketing forces the prime manufacturer's direct customer to buy more of the material; and both live happily ever after, or at least until the next promotion.**

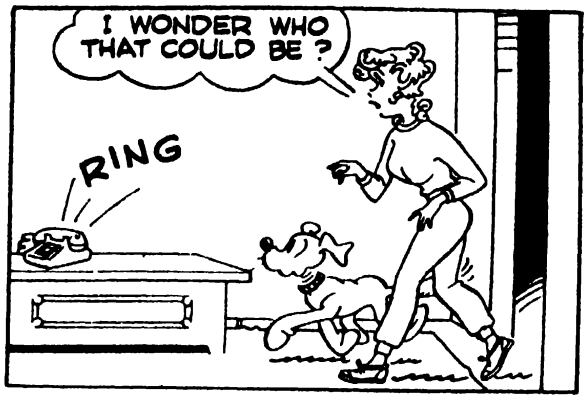
QUESTIONS

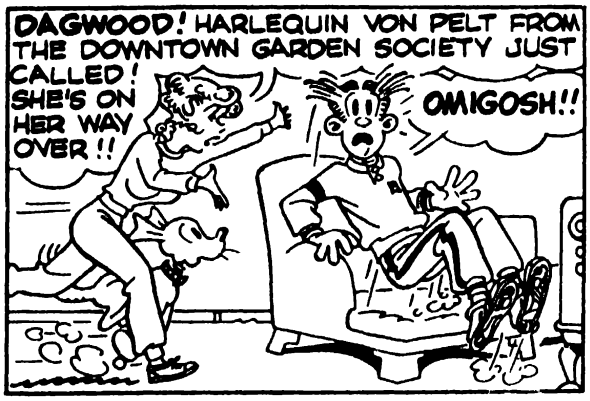
1. What is a monoply? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)
2. What is post-vacation dysphoria? (Aruna Chandraraju, Calcutta 29)
3. What is the oldest living thing on earth? (Sunil Sharma, Howrah)
4. What is the "Fresh Kills"? (Srinjay, Calcutta 9)
5. This year's 'Shaurya Chakra' awardee has made special news. What is the speciality? (Manohar Mandal, Nabadwip 2)
6. What is a penny arcade in the USA? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral 5)
7. Who coined the phrase 'the perpetual struggle for room and food'? (Chandar Bhargav, Calcutta 20)
8. Sherlock Holmes' best friend and chronicler was Dr John H. Watson. What does the H stand for? (Biswarup Roy, Calcutta 28)
9. Pop singer Julio Iglesias was once a reserve goalkeeper of which European soccer club? (Subrata Haldar, Triberi 3)
10. Which Royal refused to eat on a train when travelling in Britain but was prepared to do so on the Continent? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)

ANSWERS

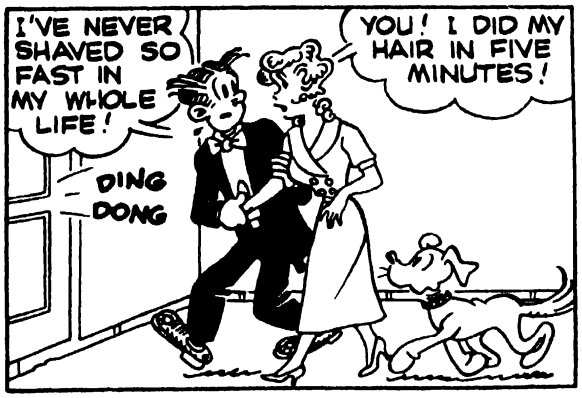
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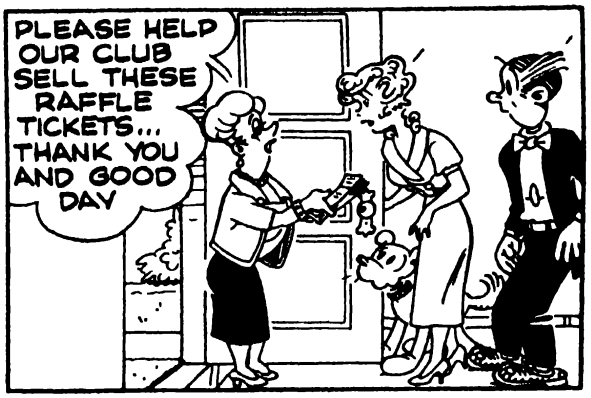


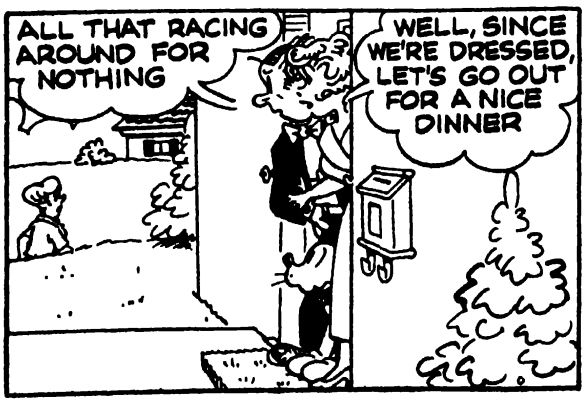




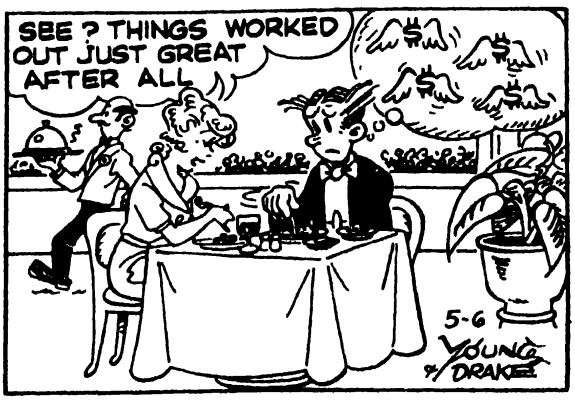


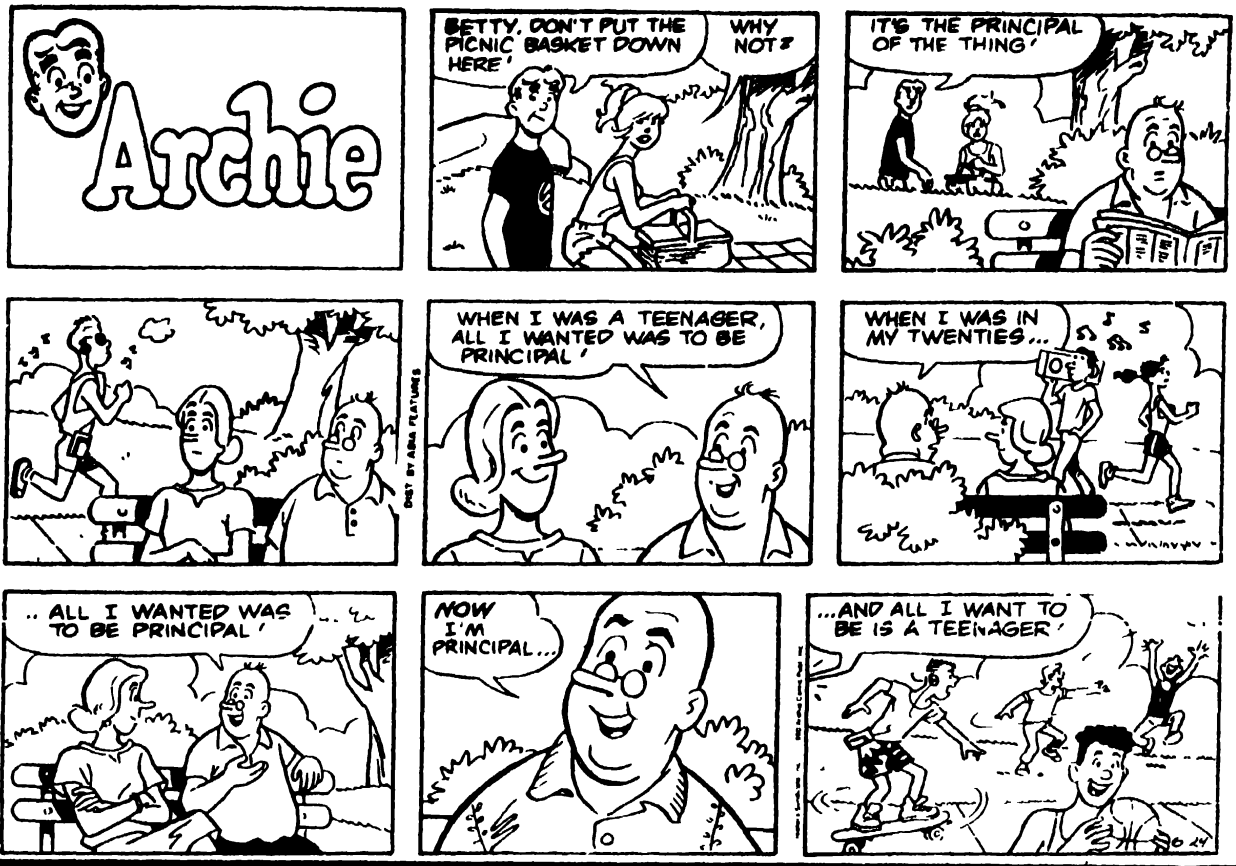


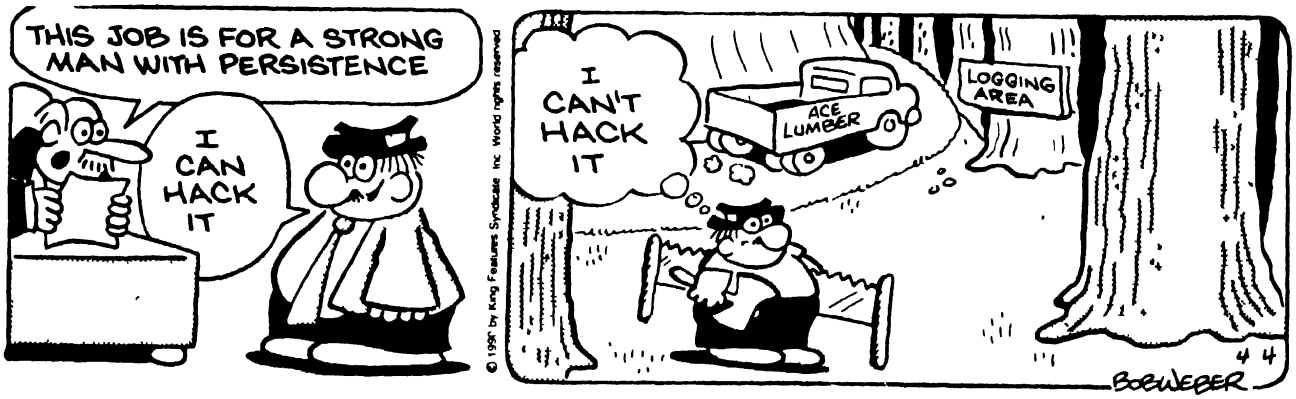




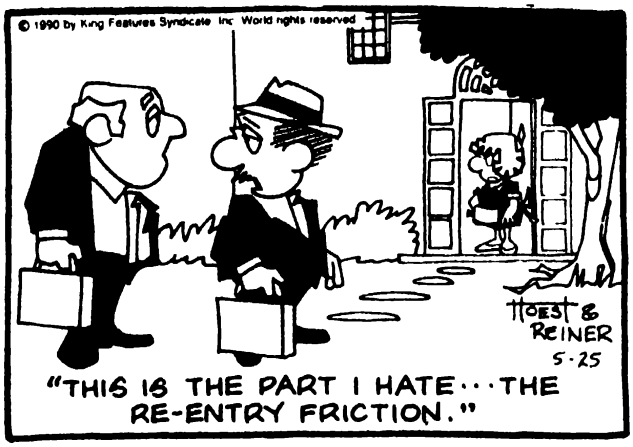
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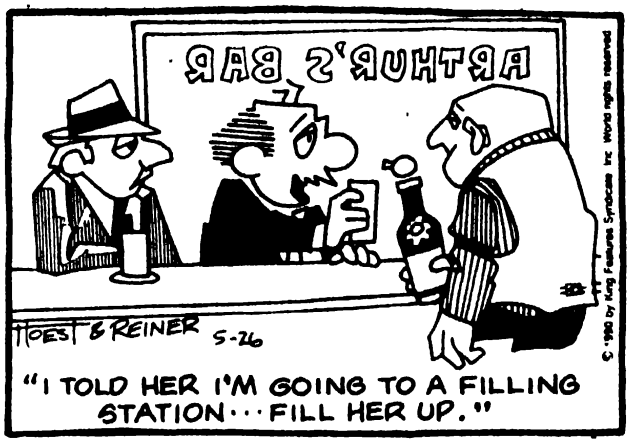



Archie
BETTY, DON'T PUT THE PICNIC BASKET DOWN HERE!
WHY NOT?
IT'S THE PRINCIPAL OF THE THING!
WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER, ALL I WANTED WAS TO BE PRINCIPAL!
WHEN I WAS IN MY TWENTIES...
.. ALL I WANTED WAS TO BE PRINCIPAL!
NOW I'M PRINCIPAL...
...AND ALL I WANT TO BE IS A TEENAGER!
DIST BY ABBA FEATURES

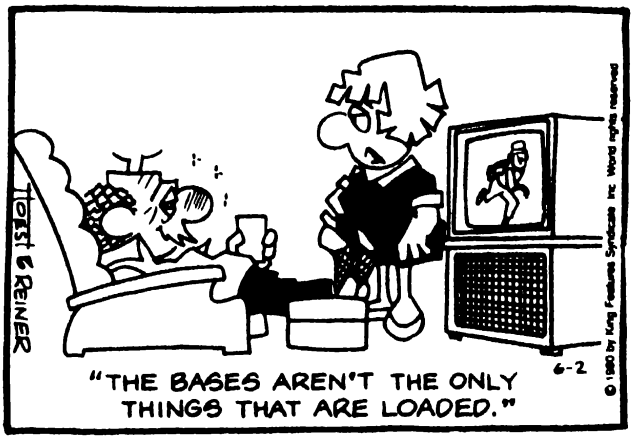

THIS JOB IS FOR A STRONG MAN WITH PERSISTENCE
I CAN HACK IT
I CAN'T HACK IT
ACE LUMBER
LOGGING AREA
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BOBWEBER 4 4


MOOSE! WE HAVE VISITORS
FRIENDS OF OURS?
BOBWEBER 4-5
NO, NOT EXACTLY!
BILL
BILL
BILL
BILL
PAY THIS BILL
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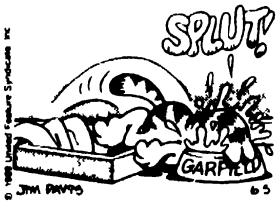


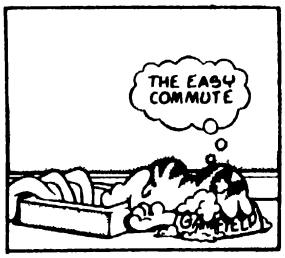




GARFIELD By Jim Davis

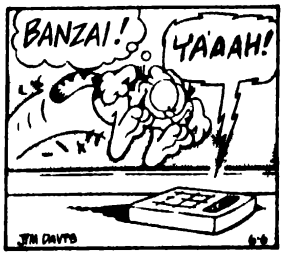


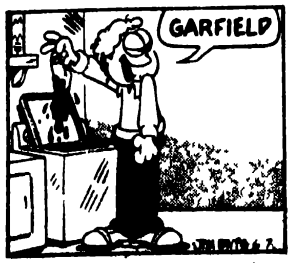


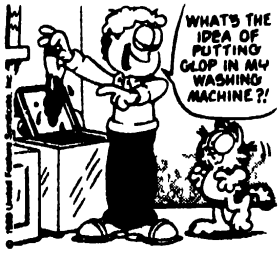














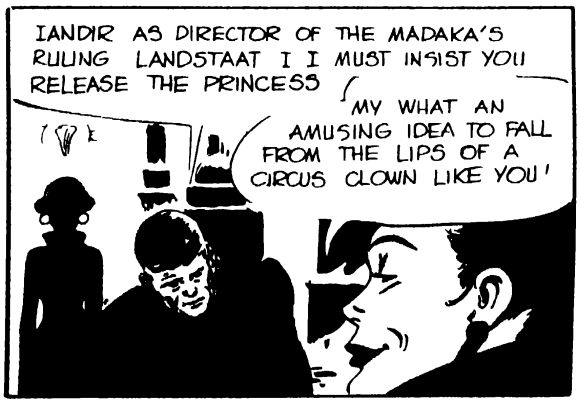

DEAR ME, YOU'RE AN UNCOUTH LITTLE DEVIL, AREN'T YOU?
CHOMP!
I BET YOU'VE NEVER EVEN GIVEN UP YOUR SEAT TO AN OLD LADY ON A BUS.
DON'T BE DAFT!
YOU MEAN YOU HAVE?
NO, I MEAN I'M NOT BETTING.
CHOMP! CHOMP!
WHAT TIME IS IT?
DENNIS, YOUR MANNERS ARE APPALLING!
OH, ALL RIGHT! WHAT TIME IS IT PLEASE?
DENNIS, DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ETIQUETTE?
NOPE
WELL, ONE OF THE FIRST RULES IS 'DON'T TALK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL'!
WHY'S THAT, THEN?
DENNIS, WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TEACH YOU ABOUT ETIQUETTE AND MANNERS?
ALL RIGHT.
RIGHT, YOU'RE AT A PARTY, THE HOSTESS-AN ELDERLY, RICH COUNTESS—SAYS SOMETHING YOU DON'T QUITE CATCH, WHAT DO YOU SAY?
SPEAK UP, YOU OLD BAT!
I SEE. WE'RE HAVING OUR LITTLE JOKE, ARE WE?
I TELL YOU, DENNIS, WELL-MANNERED MEN ALWAYS ATTRACT WOMEN.
THEY DO?
FOR EXAMPLE, HOW WOULD YOU ASK A YOUNG LADY OUT FOR THE EVENING?
WHISPER!
MIND YOU, I GET SLAPPED A LOT.





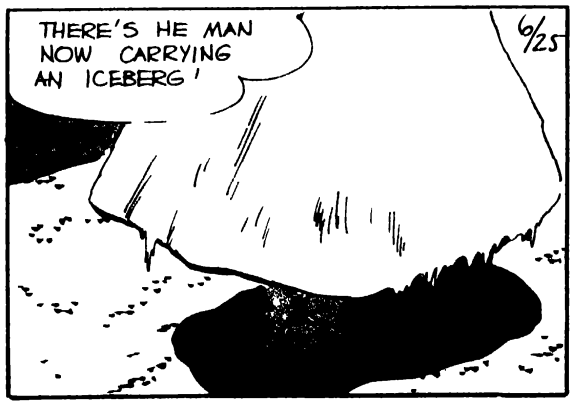








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Photograph: **Bindu Arora**



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that s a situation none of us would like to get into But then one can never tell can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

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250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

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Voicing Support

The article, 'Voice of the People' (June 3), was thought-provoking. Amitabh is Amitabh, for three reasons: his romantic eyes, his resemblance to Clint Eastwood and his voice. Director Mukul S. Anand of *Agneepath* should have thought twice before changing the voice of the superstar. Amitabh's romantic voice has been successfully utilised by Satyajit Ray in his historical film, *Shatranj Ke Khilari.*
Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

■ Amitabh Bachchan's experiment with his vocal chords in *Agneepath* may have flopped, but it should not be used as a weapon against such a legend. There was absolutely nothing wrong with his acting. The fault was with the direction. Amitabh is still the *Shahenshah* of Indian commercial cinema.
Siddharth Sharma,
Serampur

■ Whatever the fortunes of *Agneepath,* Amitabh remains the only Indian actor who could change his voice so successfully to suit the character he portrayed on screen. One of his earlier films, *Mahaan,* in which he played an old father and his two sons, he used three different tones. In *Agneepath,* too, he not only changed his voice but also his mannerisms. He is an actor with a multi-billion dollar baritone.
Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

■ In spite of re-dubbing, *Agneepath* has flopped and this shows that it is not only the change in voice but also the script that is responsible for the flop.
Sailesh Sundram,
Rourkela

■ After a long interval, I feel Amitabh has regained his popularity through this film. *Agneepath* has crowned the superstar.
Ashoke Sengupta,
Rahara (W. B.)

No to Vialli

The Colour Magazine became even more colourful and interesting with the timely publication of the articles on the World Cup ('The World Cup War', June 3). But you should have put Ruud Gullit or Diego Maradona on the cover instead of Vialli.
B.N. Bose,
Calcutta



Ruud Gullit: Head and shoulders above

So What?

Many of your readers have been decrying the increasing number of titillating pictures in the Colour Magazine. But not one of them has given you due credit for the more lively and colourful appearance of the magazine. If a few salacious items can take care of your circulation headaches, so what?

By and large you have been giving us a wide and excellent range of reading material from the National Geographic News Service articles to science, sports and very valid viewpoints. It seems a small price to pay for rich Sunday reading.
Diptendu Mukherjee,
Calcutta

■ The Post Mortem page of May 6 was excellently compiled giving us a concise selection of witty, teasing and conflicting opinions of the readers about the Asha-Pamella story (April 1). Such a page outshadows the articles published on later pages!
T.V. Sanjit,
Calcutta

Tibetan's Touch

It was wonderful to read your cover story ('Miracle Men', June 10). Central and state governments should encourage treatment by Tibetan medicine in the interest of the poor and the ailing.
Dhananjay Patro,
Bhubaneswar

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The Telegraph
8 JULY 1990

4 The Italia '90 final tonight will decide which is the best team in the world. And end the month-long international hysteria.

13 Do the much talked about strategies really make a difference?

14 Focusing on the world's most expensive legs



16 A photofeature on the riot of colour other than on the field.

SECTIONS

10 Quiz

11 Junior Whirl

12 Inner Eye

22 7 Days

25 Comics

30 Candid Camera

COVER STORY

AND FINALLY...







Cameroon's Roger Milla was straight out of a fairy tale

Salvatore 'Toto' Schillaci, Italy's brand new wa struck with lethal precision

Tonight, the month-long hysteria peaks. Tonight, the titans clash for the ultimate glory. Tonight is *the* night. Sanjib Banerjee recaps on the football feast which will only be repeated four years from now in the US

And finally, the party is about to end. It wasn't the swinging best and the evening showed the night when on June 8 the master of ceremonies choked on the aperitif.

Then, at the end of the first round, some boys got in ahead of the men as the best were filtered from the better. And when the music found a stuttering beat to the tempo it was out of tune for the samba. The Irish had a long ball out of turn, Cameroon were not dressed for the occasion and getecrashers stayed back for too long, some thought.

They were huddled together in little groups, as they always are at the start of a party. The handsome and the pretty showed only in the German and Italian corners. At the Argentine corner, there was a Maradona look-alike but the news was that the genius had not arrived.

The Brazilians blamed each other for having left their samba shoes back home, while the Belgians after a few nimble moves were caught flatfooted at the awkwardest of moments. The Spaniards came, looked around and left. The Dutch wanted a different conductor to begin with and when they couldn't have their way, refused to dance to the same tune. The Irish on the other hand were highly kicked that they had found the right address at last and made the most of their stay.

Roger Milla came in late, but he got Cameroon onto the floor very quickly. The Germans and the Italians flowed from end to end. Skuhravy kicked and jumped and Czechoslovakia were clearly having fun. Stojkovic was getting Yogoslavia into the mood, too. Gherorghe Hagi moved the best, but he had to leave early. Scifo was all grace before he tripped on England's Platt. Gullit and Van Basten were cramped for space, and Maradona didn't join in, he only gave a hand to the Soviets as they sulked and went home.

There was a mistake at the beginning—in the guest list. The Danes and the French, who had really hotted up things in the early days of Mexico of four years ago, couldn't come along. At Mexico we had missed the Dutch, but Denmark's open game which finally fell prey to *El Vutre* Butregueno's Spain, and the French artistry amid the staccato ball play of Europe took the 1986 finals to the launching pad where the genius of Maradona gave it wing. And there were so many others who would have taken it up in the absence of Maradona. Brazil had Zico and Socrates standing out in a brilliant team, France had Platini and Tigana and West Germany had the telling touch of an ageing Rummenigge. All these man had the mastery of overriding the vicissitudes of a rolling ball.

The overwhelming memory of last time's Maradona and the plebian presence of today's Maradona at Italia '90 has stopped another best man emerging from the shadows. There was a sparkle about Hagi's game that suggested impending stardom. But stardom is tied to the team's success and the Romanians did all the running but lost out to Ireland in the second round. To Hagi's credit, he came out the better in the battle of the No. 10s in that group clash with Argentina. Yes, despite Maradona being the other No. 10 on the pitch.

Yugoslavia's Stojvic twinkled a little bit longer, again the more creative on a field that Maradona bestrode. But at the end of the day the Argentines still kept a finger on the Cup they took home from Mexico without clutching it as the holders traditionally do. Belgium's Scifo had it all, the power and the grace, but there's little glory for one among a pack of also-rans. Klinsmann dazzled but there were far too

many bright stars in the German constella tion for him to really stand out The Italians toasted Schillaci with mineral wa ter amidst the alcohol ban of the match nights but genius is not always measured in goals as Donadoni and Baresi showed

If at all there was a man at these finals who lifted his team by his sheer presence or made commentators stammer in the rush of his every menacing touch it was Roger Milla The unlikeliest of heroes the 38-year-old scored four times in the run up to the quarter finals and created both the goals for Cameroon against England after always coming on as a halftime or second-half substitute Again, his status was linked, not as much to England's most embarrassing and undeserving 3-2 win in that quarter final as to Milla's continent of origin He could never be a star, he would at best be remembered as an enigma

The most hilarious of the parallels was Milla being compared to Paul Geetjens





Careca (left) and his fellow Brazilians tried to be what they were not and f

scorer of the US goal in England's shocking 0-1 defeat of 1950 at Bello Horizonte Cameroon downing Argentina was an "upset" because no one really cared to find out more about them till they landed in Italy They followed it up by beating Romania and even that didn't stop the know-alls from using the word "upset" with Cameroon's every good showing Fingers wagged at their inconsequential 0-4 battering by the Soviet Union That was no upset in anybody's book when it could easily have been Cameroon's Soviet coach Nepomniachy's way of paying obeisance to his mentor, Lobanovsky Cameroon got past Colombia in the second round, again, fewer saw Cameroon win-

Belgium's Enzo Scifo realised class was not enough to overcome grit and luck

ning it than Higuita losing it for Colombia So when Milla had the Africans up 2-1 against England, the British commentators had us believe another Bello Horizonte was in the making It just about summed up everybody's attitude towards Cameroon, there was a condescending note to whatever praise that was grudgingly thrown at them by the White man

Yet Cameroon was the brightest spot in the disappointing drabness that has been Italia '90 no real stars, fewer goals and the claustrophobic approach of closing up the backline before wanting to move upfront, if at all

The unkindest cut of all came from a fine art called Brazil Forever sentimental favourites of the unrepresented the world over, they had made a habit the



somewhere in between

last 20 years to seduce and then dis appear They came this time having drained the erotic from their game and perished to the solitary guile that Maradona rehearsed from memory They seemed wronged as Careca and Dunga got the post, but in this game the meter only ticks with goals and bonus points are not marked for the could-have-beens Brazil had lost it all on the blackboard of Lazaroni's training classes as they aped a style that the Peles and Garrinchas had striven so hard to keep at bay They came into the competition boasting a tight backline, an efficient goalkeeper and a pair of opportunistic strikers They were bare down the middle—and the Brazilian lady in the stands almost showed just how much during the half time of the Argentina match

The Germans pricked the Dutch bubble after Egypt, England and Ireland showed them where to strike, but lacked the sharpness to do it themselves The Dutch paid for their audacity Back home in Amsterdam, they had already prepared commemorative stamps for the Dutch world champions of 1990 Rijkaard spat at the hundreds of thousands of guilders as he took the lifeline of the Holland team down the tunnel with him just when Gullit was beginning to get back that touch of class On one treacherous evening Brazil and Holland took all the fun out of the show which had only just begun

Then the character left Colombia's Jose Higuita came dribbling to his midfield and waved his lot into the Cameroon penalty box They goalkeeper had so often doubled up as a defender and even a medio in the earlier games It made for a lot of fun to see him come out to tackle Matthaeus at the top of the box and a defender scramble to guard the goal His industry and showmanship complemented the casual elegance of Valderrama upfield But on that day Higuita had taken on Milla in Milla's own dodging game And Colombia were left stranded Higuita was one of a kind among a lot that generally throws up the most interesting of personalities But with two of the more famous goalkeepers suffering early disgrace, Argentina's Pumpido a broken leg to boot and Dassayav his place in the Soviet lineup, even Michel Preud'homme reneged on his pre-tournament promise of wearing sunglasses under the bar

Colombia's Higuita forgot his place—under the bar—and paid the price





Lothar Mathaeus leads the German juggernaut

Preud'homme's lot could not have seen any less of the colour or action even if they had their tinted glasses on. There never was too much of it, anyway. With the likes of Lazaroni abounding at these finals and the referees given more entry lines on the cards, playing time was cut to around 60 per cent on the average. And there was a plethora of freekicks that must have made at least those Brazilian experts run for the boots they have hung up. More so, as the conversion rate was at its pathetic lowest. If the shots were not banged into the ever so widening walls, they were high, wide and ugly. Only a Kubic shot or a Hwangbo Kwan improvisation linger in the memory though they will never outlast the taste of the Eder freekicks of 1982, not to talk of the timeless swerves of the Brazil of yesteryears.

In the absence of stars and flair, the focus shifts to the goals. The most expensive player, Italy's own Roberto Baggio, put the Cup on the way with a gem. There weren't too many of them though. Klinsmann had a scorching header against Yugoslavia as he flew to the ball and Platt did England a good turn with one of the most difficult of attempts. Gullit made a yard of empty space look as wide open as he got his only goal, against Ireland. The rest of the scoring came from mistakes or business-like finishing efficiency. Italia '90 cut out the frills that hugged football down the ages.

The frills showed only in one place. Gullit left more of a mark there than on the turf. There are more and more wearing the Gullit hairdo, with a Valderrama puffing it around a vanishing face. And Cameroon, who sported it more than the rest, were none the worse for it.

The 1990 finals have been rich in another area. It has set new standards in bonuses and player-trading. With Eastern Europe opening out and no Securitate at the Romanian players' heels, Italy splashed the lire and netted the best. The Spaniards had come player-shopping, too, and the footballers are now laughing all the way to the bank.

Innovations and revolutionary ideas have come up to succour the game as the ball rolls across the Atlantic in four years, to the faster climes of the United States. It does not matter so much now as to who takes the Cup to the next finals. Football has added a touch of that extra something to the *citius, altius, fortius* motto of the Olympic Games. It goes back to search for that all over again as the game breaks near-virgin ground and promises to float over the Pacific and into the Orient at the turn of the century. ■

BOURNE & SHEPHERD



Believed to be the oldest photographic company in the world, only a year younger than photography itself, Bourne & Shepherd (sketched above) is situated at 141, S.N. Banerjee Road in the heart of Calcutta. Company records show that in 1840 Mr Bourne came to Calcutta and set up a photographic studio. Later he joined hands with Mr Shepherd who also owned a studio in Simla. According to another version, Bourne & Shepherd had its origins in the 1860s in Simla and that the Calcutta branch was founded at 10, Chowringhee Place sometime around 1867-68.

Despite this controversy it may be safely assumed that Bourne & Shepherd is one of the oldest photographic companies in the world.

In the formative years of the company, Mr Bourne and Mr Shepherd travelled all over the country, capturing important personalities, places of interests, pensive moods, moments worth remembering and historical monuments. Before Independence, the company's clientele ranged from Governor-Generals and Viceroys to native princes and zamindars. One of the significant assignments of Bourne & Shepherd was to photograph the Delhi durbar during King George V's visit to India in 1913. As a mark of recognition, the company was awarded the Kaisar-e-Hind Medal, the monogram of which can still be found on its letterhead.

In 1870 Mr Bourne went back to England and 15 years later Mr Shepherd retired from his profession. Since then the management has changed hands a number of times, but the original name has stuck. Though no longer the country's premier studio, Bourne & Shepherd still strives to maintain its reputation.



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

"What is passion music?" asks Rose Thomas, Calcutta 16

From very early times it has been customary to recite the Evangelists' accounts of the *Passion of Jesus* as part of the Holy Week services The *Passion* according to St Matthew is read on Palm Sunday, according to St Mark and St Luke on the next Tuesday and Wednesday, and according to St John on Good Friday About the 12th century a certain amount of dramatic presentation was introduced to assist the congregation to follow the Latin more clearly The *Passion* was sung by three priests one sang the main narrative at a normal speed and medium pitch, another sang all the words attributed to the mob at a quicker pace and in a high voice, the third sang all the words uttered by Jesus in a slow, deep voice Performances of the *Passion* in this style can still be heard in many Catholic churches during Holy Week, for the most part the story is sung in a simple, inflected monotone

With the development of harmonised music, composers began to write settings of the words of the crowd, which seemed to demand a collection of voices, to be sung by the choir The earliest surviving settings date from about 1480, and there is an English setting written about 1490 by Richard Davy For the next 100 years or more a succession of great church composers produced these settings, the most famous being those of Lassus, Victoria, and Byrd In the Lutheran Church it became customary to use German instead of Latin words, and to use a simpler musical style for the crowd choruses the first *St Matthew Passion* written in this manner by Johann Walther dates from 1530

Almost parallel with this style of *Passion* developed another, in which the whole story, not merely the voices of the crowd, was sung by the choir Solo voices were not used, even for the words of Jesus Many composers, both Roman Catholic and Lutheran, wrote these fully composed *Passions* (sometimes called '*motet passions*'), but the most far-reaching developments were carried out by the Lutherans

During the 17th century many changes took place in music, both in actual style and in instrumentation, and this spirit of musical adventure also influenced the fully composed Lutheran *Passion* solo voices were used, recitatives and airs in the new style were written, an orchestra was introduced a more dramatic vein was considered permissible, and additions and alterations to the text of the Scriptures were allowed

In the period between Schuts and Bach the German *Passion* was strongly influenced by the Italian Oratorio, a kind of religious opera Many experiments were made, such as discarding the biblical words in favour of rhymed paraphrases in the sentimental style of the day The general atmosphere of the passion-oratories was sentimental and cheap Bach s *Passions* (The *St John Passion*, 1723, and the *St Matthew Passion*, 1729) returned to a severer and more dignified style Both use the actual Bible words for the main story while poetical texts are inserted for meditative arias and large choruses Old Lutheran chorales, wonderfully harmonised by Bach, are sung at suitable dramatic points throughout the *Passion*, summing up, as it were, the reflections of the listener on the sacred drama

J S Bach was the last and greatest exponent of the German Passion tradition, few settings of the *Passion* in that manner having been made since

CBS

11th Question: **Why are the following days considered unlucky by seamen in the West for a ship to start a voyage: The first Monday in April, the second Monday in August and December 31? (Dilip Verma, 13A Paddapukur Lane, Calcutta 20.)**

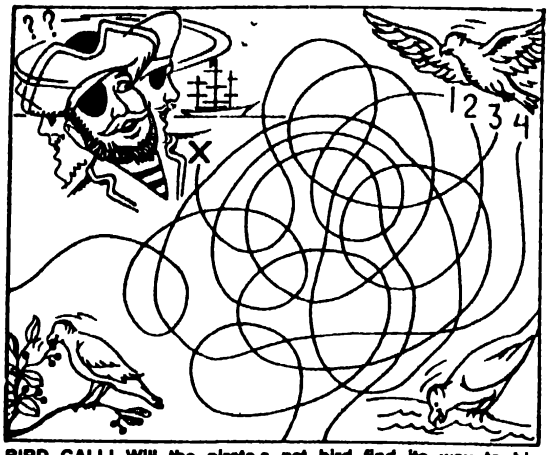
Ans: **The first Monday in April is believed to be the birthday of Cain and the day on which Abel was killed; the second Monday in August is thought to be the day on which Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed; and December 31 is the anniversary of the day on which Judas Iscariot hanged himself.**

QUESTIONS

1. Which singer's songs were banned on AIR and Doordarshan by V.C. Shukla's ministry because he refused to appear on a Sanjay Gandhi programme? (Surjit Barpanda, Bolangir 45)
2. What are the 'Silent Olympics'? (Mohan Kr Agrawal, Bargarh 29)
3. Which Indian Test cricketer was nicknamed "Nizam of Hyderabad"? (Subrata Halder, Triberi 3)
4. What was Thatcher's worst crisis in her 10 years' tenure in office? (Prem Kr Agarwal, Rourkela 1)
5. What is the 'Safety' Valve Theory' of the origin of the Indian National Congress? (Sailesh Kr Singh, BIT Sindri)
6. Which country's main source of income is selling postage stamps? (Kausik Kr Nag, Hooghly 2)
7. Who scripted the play and movie, *Mahabharat* of Peter Brook? (Deepikanta Thakur, Surla 17)
8. What was entitled *Classical Mongolia*? (Arindam Roy, Calcutta 12)
9. What is a pocket veto in the US? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral)
10. Rolls Royce cars have the famous 'silver lady' mascot. Only one Rolls Royce is not made with this 'silver lady'. What mascot does it have? (Ashok Kr Srivastava, Patna 20)

ANSWERS

10. St George slaying the dragon cast in sterling silver. It is the mascot on the Queen's Rolls Royce used on state occasions
9. A veto of a Congressional bill automatically effected by the President by not signing the bill before adjournment of the Congress.
8. Ronald Reagan's 1984 campaign slogan.
7. Jean Claude Carriere.
6. It was the first commercial record made in the year 1984 by computer. It was created by Robb Murray and is a well-known composer in Chicago.
5. Sam Maino.
4. Coal strike.
3. Vijay Hazare
2. Olympics for the deaf.
1. Amitabh Bachchan



BIRD CALL! Will the pirate's pet bird find its way to his shoulder, or will it fly off to somewhere else? You decide

• **WHO ZOO!** Drop a vowel and rearrange letters of each anagram to form the name of an animal 1 DO GO 2 GO EAT 3 NO OIL 4 HAS ORE 5 LACE ME

1 Dog 2 Goat 3 Lion 4 Horse 5 Camel



YOU NAME IT, IF YOU CAN
See how quickly you can find the one-word answer to this vintage verse riddle
To a word of assent, join the first half of a fright.
Then add what will never be seen in the night
By such a conjunction you may quickly attain,
What was here and departed, and won't come again
What is that?
P S You may find a relevant clue (or two) in the illustration shown above

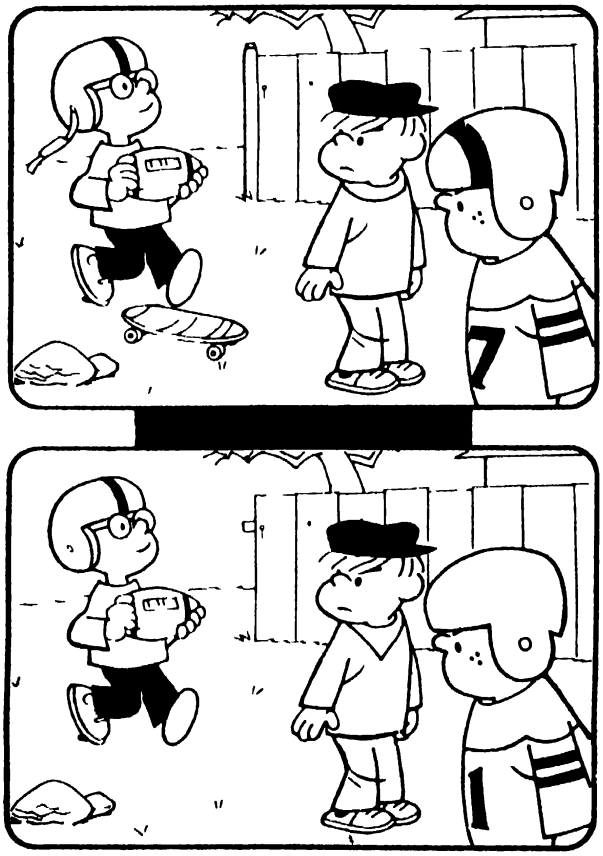
Answer is yesterday yes + ter (1 2 terror) + day

• **DASH BOARD!**
Challenge Replace each of six dashes in the figure below with the same odd numeral so that each three-number row (across, down and diagonally) will total the same amount—27
As you see, in all but one instance, dashes form two-digit numbers
Hint One can't fail, if you think about it

Replace dashes with ones to form 15 + 11 9 9 13 and 7 17 3

_5	_	_ _
5	9	_3
7	_7	3

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Strap is missing 2 Post is missing 3 Skateboard is missing 4 Collar is different 5 Stripe is missing 6 Number is changed

FUNSPOT



HEAT S ON! Hooray for the campfire and hooray for the hero who started it up Code 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Orange

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

VERACITY

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible twosome City rave

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Tremendous work pressure continues to dominate the week However, you will get your work done In romance, you will be aggressive and assertive but give your work the first priority Do not take customers and businessmen at their face value Remember, a bird in hand is worth fifty in the bush Health remains suspect as sun opposes Saturn

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Journeys celebrations rites, functions inspirational manoeuvres publicity and sales are the main trends of the week Romance comprises secret meets strong ties and passionate moments It is the right time to shoot for a contract or assignment Take necessary health safeguards

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Matters related to taxes gifts endowments, legacies, will, probate and transfers are the week s highlights Venus in your sign makes you chivalrous, idealistic and enhances your sex appeal Deals and assignments should go through despite some rivalry The Mercury-Saturn opposition causes discomfort, nervous tension and chest and health problems

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Success despite opposition is envisaged Do not worry do something about it In romance, you will have the charm to melt a stone as Mercury is in your sign according to Western astrology You will successfully negotiate financial deals and thus expect an influx of money Foreign and long-distance connections are emphasised Be tolerant and understanding, and your health remains fine

LEO

July 21—August 21

Rising expenses focus on job and profession, and health safeguards are the week s main trends A see-saw in romance, but you certainly have your moments of fun, frolic and favours Finances will be progressively better as the week advances, but keep an eye on your bank balance and cash in hand July 8 and 9 are



ideal for travel Your home calls for installation of gadgetry refurbishing, alterations and perhaps buying/selling of property

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Romance children grandchildren, scholastics, research, entertainment, creativity and travel are favourably signified Romance will be bitter-sweet, but most enjoyable and thrilling Opportunities of making a fast buck a promotion and perks as well as loans, funds and investments will be available

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The domestic scene has an extra dimension Health of parents, in-laws and elders may cause anxiety Romance will be marked by complications and perplexities but joys and surprises as well Money will flow in, so wait till August before raising a hue and cry In health matters there are too many irons in the fire for your comfort

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Important transactions, settlements, negotiations, trips, ties, visits, interviews and meets are predicted Romance will be action packed fiery and fantastic There is money to be made and spent too You may experience some health problems on July 14 and 15

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Financial transactions, buying/selling legal matters and a touch of romance make it a complex week Shifts and transfers are more than possible Romance will be exciting Take appropriate health precautions specially care of legs face head feet and stomach

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

It is a testing time, as important longterm decisions have to be made Cut away deadwood in any relationship Romance will be hot and cold but never dull and lifeless July 8 to 12 are favourable for financial deals The sun opposition Saturn means health posers, perhaps emotional matters have much to do with it

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Expenses, a change in the nature and scope of your work and travel plans are the week s highlights In romance, Venus helps you to turn on the charm Finances will be available to meet any unforeseen expenses and delays in payment and dues Meets, visits and conferences are on the cards

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

A promotion, more harmony and greater responsibilities for the elderly, and a nightingale singing a merry note for the young are indicated The accent is also on communication On the whole, a busy week Harmony and beauty make a pleasant romance

BIRTHDAYS

July 8

Full moon, Capricorn. Western astrology: Time to change and adjust or meet trouble head-on. You may not have much control over circumstances and events, it's best to chip away at troubles and difficulties and reduce them to manageable proportions. Healthwise it may not be trouble free.

July 9

Moon square Mars: You should do well after a couple of false or unsteady starts. The trick is to work to a schedule. There could be a substantial change in your work area. Be ready for responsibilities, hard work and a touch of romance.

July 10

Moon trine Venus: The Venusian influence makes for style, expenses and affairs of the heart. Money comes and goes, but that is all part of life. Your projects and plans [illegible] splendidly.

July 11

Moon [illegible]

July 12

Moon trine Pluto: Relations, [illegible] and progress are [illegible] A journey [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

TACTICS COME, TACTICS GO

Do tactics in World Cups really matter? It might seem something of a heresy to ask the question. After all, did not Total Football prevail in the wonderful World Cup of 1974 in West Germany? Was not Carlos Bilardo the dour manager of Argentina entitled to claim that his tactics of three at the back, five in midfield, not only won the 1986 World Cup but swept the world in consequence?

Do the carefully planned, much-debated strategies of football managers really work in the World Cup? Famous soccer writer Brian Glanville analyses

Did not the Brazilians have to change to 4-2-4 to win the World Cup in Sweden in 1958? Did not Alf Ramsey win the trophy for England in 1966 only after deploying his wingless wonders in a strict 4-4-2 formation?

Still I am not quite sure I agree with those critics abroad who insist that Bobby Robson's England tactics are rigid and unimaginative. I strongly feel that continuing to use, as he does, a four-man in a line defence and two wide players in midfield is a strategem which should have been consigned to the rubbish bin of history.

Such a strategy proved to be England's undoing in West Germany two years ago in West Germany. When Barnes and Waddle are the flank men, an enormously big burden rests on the two central midfielders Bryan Robson and Paul Gascoigne, neither of whom takes willingly or readily to the job of the old style defensive wing half back.

Indeed there is reason to believe that the pairing for Manchester United and England of Robson and Ray Wilkins was disastrous for Wilkins. Robson loves to go forward as a marauder. Without this England's attack is diminished. But it does mean that whoever plays beside him in a two-man central midfield has to sacrifice himself and stay back.

But what of the Brazilians? After years of employing the four in a line defence they introduced to world football in 1958, they have at long last gone over to the sweeper, usually Galvao. For quite a time the tactic appeared to work well. The new manager Sebastiao Lazaroni, who introduced it last year, was actually congratulated by the former World Cup manager Tele Santana.

But of late things haven't been going as well. Indeed the veteran Swedish centre-half Glen Hysen of Liverpool remarked a few days before the Brazil v Sweden match in Turin that the Brazilian defence is vulnerable!

Certainly it looked exactly that in a game lost in Italy to a far from formidable Umbrian select side. The defence looked worse still in Rio when, of all unfancied teams, East Germany ripped it to pieces, scoring three times.

I do not think the *libero* game is in any way natural to the Brazilians. Traditionally they love to attack, and it is what we saw when they played England at Wembley, some of that initiative is taken from them when what has been gained at the defence itself is still anything but impregnable.

The Brazilians embraced the four-in-line defence simply because they failed to master the zonal cover of the old third back game. Now the third back game, which was the true reality of the 1930s, but was not even detected by the Italians till 1939, has long since bitten the dust.

What of the Italian *catenaccio*? My own belief for some time has been that as a tactic it is out of date. This is a belief shared fairly widely now in Italy. Milan have become the outstanding team in Europe by throwing it completely out of the window and going over to a four-in-line defence and what they call pressing. This leaves that outstanding central defender Franco Baresi somewhere between the devil and the deep blue sea. For his club he plays as a central defender with licence frequently to go upfield.

For Italy, by contrast, he is obliged to operate as a sweeper and though he does sometimes go upfield with great effect he has to be somewhat more circumspect. The trouble is that his manager Azeglio Vicini still believes that the old Italian way is the best way.

Tactics come and tactics go. In the immensely exciting early 1960s Total Football was all the rage. Notionally at least anybody could do anything. The West German national team and Bayern Munich, the Dutch national team and Ajax played perhaps the most superbly exciting versatile football which the game has seen. Yet how long did it last? Not even the current West German international team managed by Franz Beckenbauer, the virtual inventor of the attacking sweeper and thus of Total Football, practises it now.

One last word. How much did Argentina's tactics mean in 1986 and how much was meant by one astonishing player Diego Maradona?

(International Herald Tribune)



Amya Tarafdar

Bobby Robson: Rigid and unimaginative



Franz Beckenbauer: Abandoning total football?



Sebastio Lazaroni: Curbing Brazil's natural instincts



PRICE

Multimillion pound transfer deals are now a dime-a-dozen, writes Soumitra Bose

Spend, spend, spend appears to be the policy of Gianni Agnelli of automobile giant, Fiat, patron and father figure of Juventus The top flight Italian football club has been the centre of attention after it gained control of the world soccer transfer market this summer Indeed, there has been something almost pathetic about the way a once dominant club had threshed about in its attempt to acquire players it has not been able to get

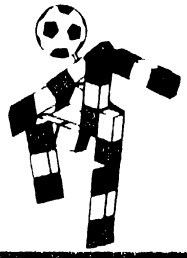
Two years ago, Juventus spent untold millions to little or no purpose Welsh striker Ian Rush was only one of several £3 million players who arrived in Turin (headquarters of Juventus) Like all the others, he failed

But Juventus made headlines this summer when they signed Italian striker Roberto Baggio, the jewel in the Fiorentina crown, for a ludicrously high 8 7 million pound sterling in the costliest purchase ever

The world record shattering deal had been in the offing ever since an Italian sports magazine ran a cover photograph of Baggio wearing a Juventus shirt The fee was £3 million more than the previous record transfer when PSV Eindhoven sold Ruud Gullit to AC Milan in the summer of 1987 Before that Diego Maradona cost Napoli £5 million in the deal with Barcelona in 1986

Baggio has signed a three year contract which guarantees a basic wage of £840,000 a year or £16,153 a week The transfer demonstrated the awesome financial power of the Turin club and their owner, the Agnelli family

Only a month earlier Juventus had beaten Spanish club Real Madrid in the race for Montpellier's Julio Cesar, the centre of Brazil's 1986 World Cup defence in Mexico But the Baggio deal put all that in the shade Ironically, he was initially not even certain of a place in the Italian eleven in this World Cup



Baggio's transfer came about under rather unusual circumstances for a club of the stature of Fiorentina The Florence-based club had lost $15 million last year because the renovation of the Florence Stadium for the World Cup had cut down the stadium's capacity Fiorentina had to go elsewhere to play their league matches Consequently, earnings from gate receipts fell sharply And when Juventus offered Fiorentina the handsome deal, it was too luring to turn down "The value they have put on me, worries me," said Baggio

Development has gone hand in hand with professionalism Ever since professionalism was recognised in 1885, financial dealings have come a long way Players from Scotland were among the first professional players and were also the pioneers of the passing game, in contrast to the English game where players dribbled their way to score goals

With the abolition of the maximum wage system in 1961, a new era began for the professional footballer In the sixties professional soccer finally changed from a low priced diversion for the masses into a high-powered branch of show biz Fulham and England international Johnny Haynes became England's first £100 a-week footballer, and others soon followed Today many second division players earn that much

Even gone are the days when George Best, one of Britain's highest paid footballer owned a house worth £30,000 million, and expensive cars, sign of a soccer star's affluence since the abolition of the maximum wage system In Best's case however, fortune contributed to the pressures that precipitated his premature retirement from the game

Some idea of the ancient structure of soccer, of the peculiar master and slave relationship that had existed for so long between club and player, can be had from the situation in England in 1959 At that time, the professional football league fixed the maximum wage that a player could earn at 56-dollar a week That applied to all players, from the biggest starts down to

Roberto Baggio: In the largest transfer deal ever



Diego Maradona: Still the highest paid ?



Amya Tarafdar



ON THEIR LEGS

the weakest of reserves. On top of that, the pro clubs had a reserve clause stipulating that a player once he signed for a club was the property of the club forever, unless they decided to trade him. The players had no say in the matter at all.

Today, besides basic wages, there are bonuses, advertising contracts and numerous perks. But even today England's highest paid footballers still have a long way to go before they can catch up with the highly rewarded stars of European and South American soccer. A case in point is Diego Maradona, arguably one of the finest footballers ever. He was one of eight children of a poor man who worked in a factory and lived in a slum. Maradona was a Cabecita Negra, a "black head," a contemptuous term in his country for Argentines of Indian blood. Today Diego is a King.

Maradona's basic wage from Napoli is a staggering £1.2 million a year, plus another £1 million for win bonuses, appearances and charity games. Total earnings including outside interests would be around £10 million a year. Back home in Buenos Aires, Maradona owns a mansion valued at £1.5 million, besides a seaside luxury home worth £400,000. In contrast, England's legendary Stanley Matthews, who reigned from 1930 to '65, started on a pay of £1 per week and ended at a meagre £50 a week, with an occasional £25 as appearance fee. Therefore, until we get to hear more from Baggio and Juventus, Maradona can still claim to be numero uno as far as financial deals in the soccer world are concerned.

It isn't very surprising that at least 130 foreigners (over 30 of them were in this World Cup) flock to Italy every year to play in what is certainly the most fiercely contested football league in the world. Dubbed as the "Italian foreign legion," these mercenaries from South America and Europe seem to be benefitting tremendously from membership to the legion. Every year, for the past one decade, Italian clubs have been doling out £200 million or thereabouts on their overseas players. Ironically, the Italian economy is far from being the stablest in the world.

But it has been largely due to the super-wealthy Italian clubs, generally run by super-rich families, that the cream of world soccer have been attracted to this Mediterranean country. Names like Agnelli and Silvio Berlusconi (the owner of AC Milan which pays roughly 1.7 million dollar each to Ruud Gullit, Marco Van Basten and Frank Rijkaard every year) sustain the glamour of Italian football.



The lure of hard cash has in effect upset the concept of "equality of opportunity" in European football. The equilibrium has been upset more than ever during this World Cup in Italy and the Romanians are making no bones about it. Italian clubs are lining up with cheque books in hand to net the big fish from Italia '90.

In fact, Juventus has already roped in West German Thomas Hassler from Koln in a solid £5 million deal during the championship. Others who have been traded during the World Cup are West German Karl Heinz Reidle from Werder Bremen to Lazio for £4.8 million, Yugoslav Dragan Stojkvic from Red Star Belgrade to Marseilles of France for £3.5 million and Spain's bearded striker Rafael Martin Vasquez from Real to Italian Club for £3.5 million.

Real have, however, neutralised their Vasquez loss by bagging Romanian ace Gheorghe Hagi for £1.75 million.

Among other stars to figure in the top ten transfers' market are: Lajos Detari of Hungary (of 1982 and 1986 World Cup fame) of Olympiakos of Greece for £4.7 million, England's Chris Waddle from Tottenham Hotspur to Marseilles for £4.3 million and Italy's Berti from Fiorentina to Internazionale, Milan for £3.5 million.

Coming back to England, where professional football first took off, financial deals between players (who negotiate through their agents) and clubs are as much in the news as Maggie Thatcher's on South Africa. Currently, Player of the Year John Barnes is the most sought after player in Ole Blighty. Such is Barnes' popularity in Liverpool that fans have launched a "Save Barnes campaign" to keep him away from the Italian and Spanish clubs which are dangling the carrot in front of him. Liverpool very recently won the first division league for the record 18th time and they would hate to part with Barnes.

Liverpool have already opened negotiations with Barnes. They have offered him £250,000 a year plus lucrative bonuses and incentives which could make him the costliest player in England. If Barnes stays, his expected salary could be around £6,000 a week. But that whopping £5.6 million for two years with Real or Juventus may just be too good to ignore. Should Barnes spurn the Liverpool offer, he stands to beat Waddle in the top ten transfers' chart.

Barnes apart, Liverpool midfielder Steve McMahon is being offered £4 million by Sampdoria, the current European Cup Winners' Cup holders.

The established stars aside, there are quite a few others in the running at Italia '90. Romanian striker Lacatus has already had a talk with Fiorentina and so has the powerful Czech striker Thomas Skhuravy. And why ignore the Makanakis and Hassans? The French clubs are already after them.

Rumours of transfers at undisclosed fees, followed by rushed trips by managers to register newly acquired players are all an integral part of soccer. So too are the disputes between clubs and players over transfers and contract renewals. They all help to make the transfer system one of the most controversial aspects of the game. ■

RAINBOW



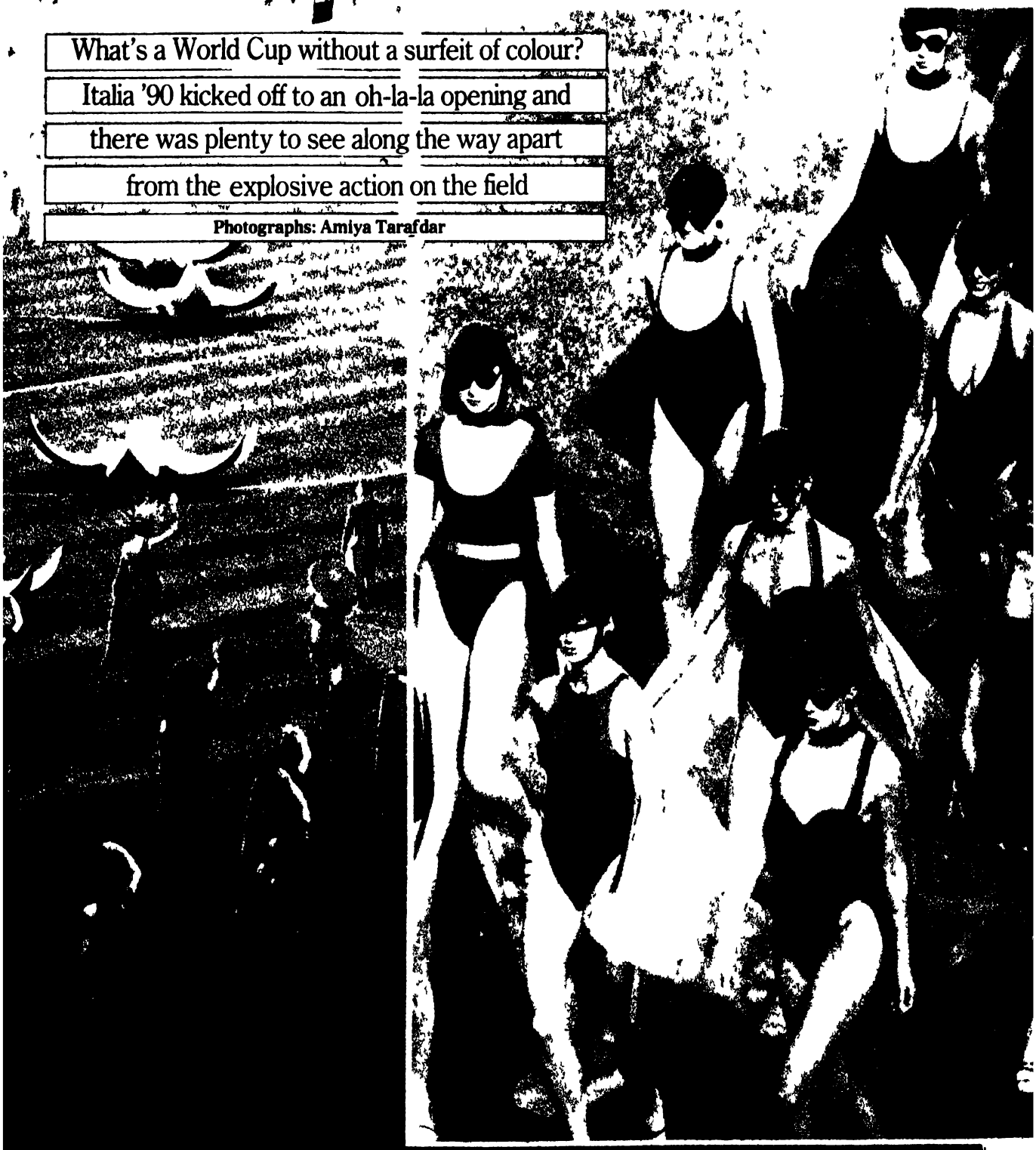
SNAP SHOTS





What's a World Cup without a surfeit of colour? Italia '90 kicked off to an oh-la-la opening and there was plenty to see along the way apart from the explosive action on the field

Photographs: Amiya Tarafdar






AANVALLEN!



Latin American football is out; the Africans are in, says Chima Okerie

At 38, most footballers have other things in mind than a desire to stage an international comeback. Roger Milla not only came out of retirement but helped Cameroon reach a stage of the World Cup finals where no other African nation has ever been before. And in so doing the Cameroonian striker, who delivered those knockout punches coming in as a second-half substitute, did African football one hell of a service. The demand for more than two African berths in the 24-team finals format will no longer seem an unreasonable one.

We Africans knew we were capable of rubbing shoulders with the best in the game. But the rest of the world, specially the big guns from Europe, just refused to take us seriously. Cameroon, and to some extent Egypt, have made the world sit up and take fresh notice of the phenomenon by the name of African football.

In Mexico four years ago, Morocco did well to qualify for the second round and gave West Germany the scare of their lives before losing in a penalty shootout. The Spain finals in 1982 had seen Cameroon drawing their three league games (including against ultimate champions Italy) only to be eliminated because of an inferior goal difference. Algeria had created a

flutter beating West Germany in the first round but then met the same fate as that of Cameroon So African teams doing well in the finals is no new development What is new is that extra bite these teams have shown and a burning desire to fight till the end against all comers

Cameroon, after having ensured a place in the second round, got thrashed by the Soviet Union but didn't let that result affect their performance against Colombia in the second round The Egyptians played the game of their lives against Holland (which was drawn 1-1), one of the pre-tournament favourites (who ultimately crashed out in the second round)—but missed out on what would have been a very well-deserved win Quite inexplicably, Egypt got into a defensive rut in their next couple of games and paid the penalty The one point against Ireland and England was just not enough to take them into the last 16 stage I'm quite definite Egypt would have made it to the second round had they played their natural game in their final two group ties

And believe me, there are at least eight teams in the continent which are capable of playing as well as Cameroon and Egypt, if not better There is very little to choose between these two and Morocco Algeria, Tunisia, Nigeria, Zambia Senegal, Gabon and Zaire Quite frankly, I was surprised when I first came to know that Egypt, and not Algeria, had advanced to the finals In the final knockout round in the African zone, Algeria drew goalless with Egypt and lost the return match 0-1 to go out on aggregate Algeria later went on to win the African Nations Cup, beating Nigeria 1-0 in the final Cameroon lost quite early in that competition, to Senegal Egypt made their exit in the quarter final stages All this to illustrate how close it is at the top

The skill was always there What was lacking was temperamental consistency and technical solidity Happily, both these aspects seem to be getting importance now This was apparent in both Cameroon and Egypt's play in Italy Cameroon were one up as far as temperament was concerned. And it was a revelation to see the two African teams trying to match the Europeans in technical play Egypt did it well against the Dutch but got carried away against England, letting Bobby Robson's side dictate terms

I have always maintained that if the Africans, who are as skillful as anyone else, manage to blend their natural skills with the technique of Europe, they can challenge any team in the world

I'm glad Italia '90 marked the beginning of a new approach in African football I just hope it remains like that and others take a leaf out of the Egyptian and Cameroonian books I won't stick my neck out and predict that before the century is over we will have a world champion from Africa But I'll say that given the right kind of backing from FIFA, we might see Africa staging the finals in another 20 years' time and, who knows, the hosts may even go on to lift the glittering Cup

The basic advantage of the Africans is that they are simple people willing to learn. They know Europe is the best place to pick up new techniques. And they don't mind going to second division sides in France or England. The money is not all that important to them The education is

Cameroon had a Soviet trainer guiding them during their World Cup campaign He was assisted by a national coach and the two worked together to help the Cameroonians attain the peak of their abilities That has been the trend in quite a few African countries of late They have been getting a foreign (European in most cases) coach to look after the technical side while the national coach has been overseeing other aspects If the two trainers get along well this system can work wonders as was the case with Cameroon But the possibility of the national coach having ego clashes with the foreign trainer cannot be ruled out And should that happen, the result can be disastrous I'll give you an example Nigeria had this very good West German coach Hoelner during the 1988 pre-Olympic camp He was supposed to be in overall charge. But he had problems with Paul the Nigerian coach who was to assist the West German There was total lack of communication. The players (I was in that camp) were totally at a loss. They didn't know whom to follow For the welfare of African football, I hope and pray this was only an exception rather than the rule Because the truth is we need European guidance to realise our potential fully



The Egyptians were another proof that African football had finally come of age

Football is *the* game in Africa Anyone who has not been to that continent will not know the following this sport enjoys on all the countries Now that African teams have proved their worth in the biggest stage of all one hopes the ruling world body does not take too long to give at least two more berths to Africa in the finals

The Latin American magic is gradually becoming a thing of the past However tragic that may sound, it is the absolute truth And if the decline in Latin American standard goes unarrested somebody has to replace them It could well be the Africans in the next, say, five or six years ■

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Appu Raja:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266), Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515), Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—4 shows

An unusual film on the life of a three foot dwarf, Appu, and the six foot Raja the title roles are played by Kamal Hasaan The film is directed by Singeetam Srinivasa Rao and the music is by Ilaiyaraja

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 311090) Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133) Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Ghayal:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956), Basusree (SP Mukherjee Road, 484808), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Jagat (Acharya Pratulla Chandra Road, 365108), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522)—4 shows, Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road, 355059), Madhuban (Regent Park)—3 shows

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the lead pair Also starring are Amrish Puri, Moushumi Chatterjee, Om Puri, Raj Babbar, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Shafi Inamdar and Annu Kapoor The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)- 10 45, 2 15, 5 30, 9

A silver jubilee hit, this teenyboppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is by Raamlaxman

• **Muqaddar Ka Badshaah:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141)—4 shows

Directed by T Rama Rao and with music by Viju Shah, the film stars Vinod Khanna, Vijay Shanti, Shabana Azmi, Amrish Puri, Kader Khan, Anupam Kher and Asrani

• **Naya Khoon:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Rupali (Asutosh Mookerjee Road, 474403)—4 shows

The chief attractions of this film are Govinda, Mandakini, Gulshan Grover and Saeed Jaffrey

• **Tum Mere Ho:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442)—12, 3, 6, 9

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla are the lead pair in this Tahir Husain film whose music is by Anand Milind



Neelam and Prasenjit in *Badnaam*

Kamal Hasaan and Gouthami in *Appu Raja*



Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—2 45, 5 30, 8 15

Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Deepankar De, Sanghamitra Banerjee, Shakuntala Barua, Indrani Dutta and Anup Kumar are the principal attractions of this Tarun Majumdar film whose music is by R D Burman

• **Badnaam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080)—2 30, 5 15, 8, Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)— 2 30, 5.30, 8 15, Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 271282)—2, 5, 7 45

Shibu Mitra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit, Shakti Kapoor, Shakuntala Barua, Subhendu Chatterjee and Soumitra Banerjee The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

Special Events

8-12 July: 4 pm to 8 pm
Chitrakoot Art Gallery presents an exhibition of paintings entitled, *Recent Acquisitions.*

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Gariahat Road; 755314).

8-11 July: 3 pm to 8 pm
An exhibition of paintings by Monotosh Mullick in the New South Gallery.

• An exhibition of paintings by Dr S. Sumida in the North Gallery.

10 July onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm
A week-long exhibition of paintings by Bhanu Dutta in the West Gallery.

12 July-onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm
A week-long exhibition of paintings by the students of Frank Anthony Public School in the South and New galleries.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302)

12 July: 5.45 pm
Krishnakali's cultural evening features Nemai Chand Boral, Amitava Chowdhury, Subhash Chowdhury, Dr Ramesh Mitra, Sumitra Sen, Shyamal Saha, Tapan Roy Pradhan, Bratati Banerjee, Mitali Saha, Debashis Sengupta and others.

At Sisir Mancha (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road).

12 & 13 July: 6.30 pm; 14 July: 11 am
Stagecraft presents 15 children in the children's musical fantasy, *The Beauty and the Beast*, directed by Rohit Pombra. Lyrics and music. Fauzia Marikar, orchestration: Tony Menezes.

At Vidya Mandir (Moira Street, 446420).

14 July onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm
A week-long exhibition of paintings, organised by Barasat Art Circle, in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1820; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300.

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132 / AI-1320 at 1300.

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7)· IC-232 at 1640. Arr (1 3. 6). 1G-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6). IC-843 at 0755, Dep (6). IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6) IC-844 at 1115, Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep., (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7)· IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr, (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. · (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2): KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7)· AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily) IC-273 at 1920 and IC-176 at 0845, Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500, Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250;Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1540.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7). IC 213 at 1030, Arr (3,5,7) IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6) IC-219 at 1120, Arr.(1,3,5,6): IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily) IC-221 at 1100, Arr (daily). IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4). IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily). IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6)· IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7). IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7)· PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6)· PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Air Fares

Following are the revised Indian Airlines domestic fares from Calcutta, effective July 1, 1990

Agartala (Rs 499), Ahmedabad (Rs 2212), Bagdogra (Rs 700), Bangalore (Rs 2241), Bhubaneswar (Rs 666), Bombay [Executive class (Rs 2874), economy class (Rs 2212)], Car Nicobar (Rs 2339), Delhi [executive class (Rs 2414), economy class (Rs 1856)], Dibrugarh (Rs 1045), Dimapur (Rs 982), Guwahati [executive class (Rs 855), economy class (Rs 660)], Gorakhpur (Rs 1005), Hyderabad (Rs 1890), Imphal (Rs 838), Jorhat (Rs 982), Jaipur (Rs 2155), Lucknow (Rs 1310), Madras (Rs 1942), Nagpur (Rs 1396), Patna (Rs 786), Port Blair (Rs 1890), Ranchi (Rs 568), Silchar (Rs 746), Tezpur (Rs 827), Varanasi (Rs 982), Visakhapatnam (Rs 1166)

ly): PF-706 at 1615.

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 1025.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-721 at 0930, Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-722 at 1805.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600 Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri —Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri-Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21-10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fri	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr —Sunday	10-40	5050

Sealdah

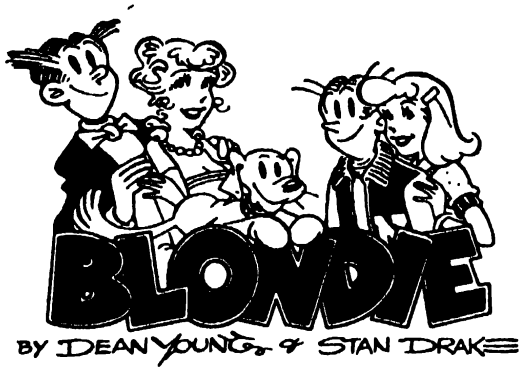
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

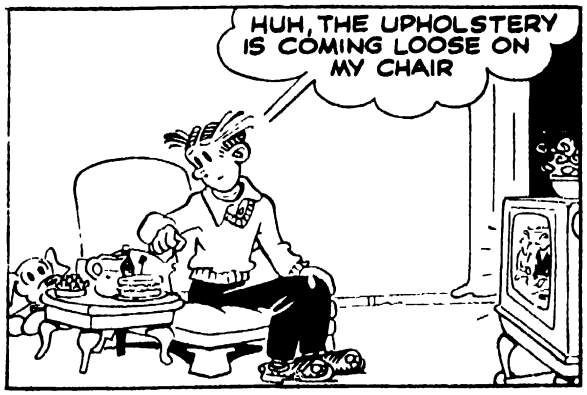
Howrah

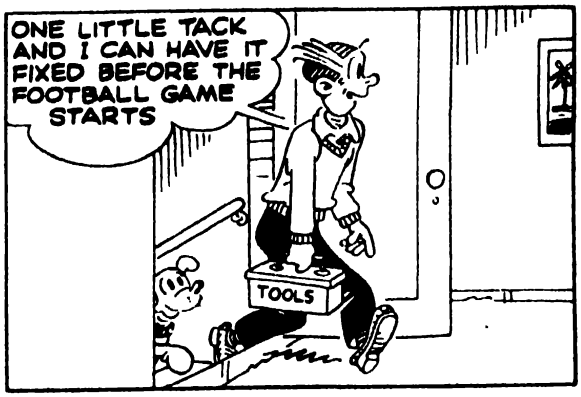
Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri — Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13-45	2609

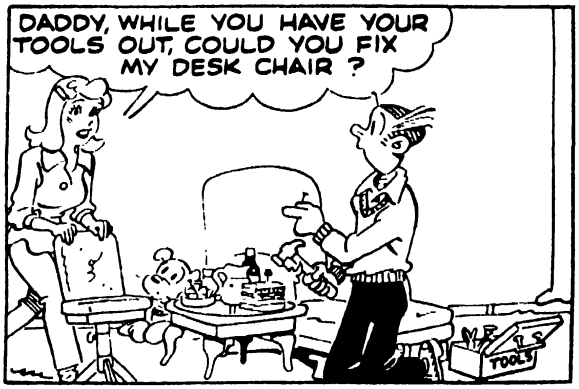
ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

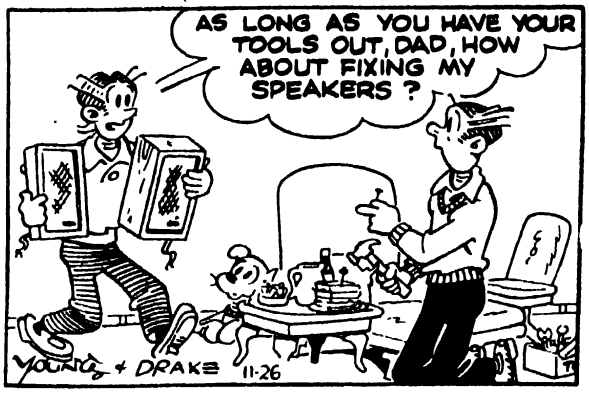

BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG & STAN DRAKE

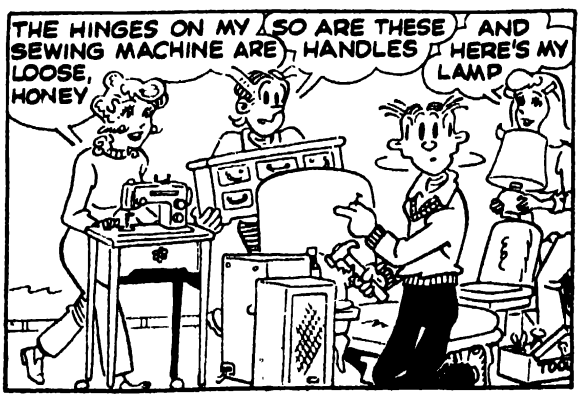

THE GAME SHOULD BE STARTING IN A FEW MINUTES
CLICK

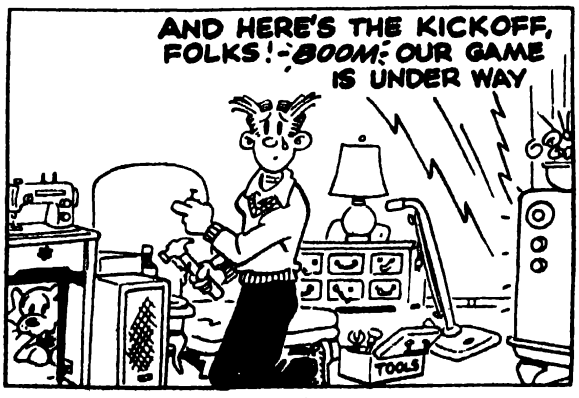

HUH, THE UPHOLSTERY IS COMING LOOSE ON MY CHAIR

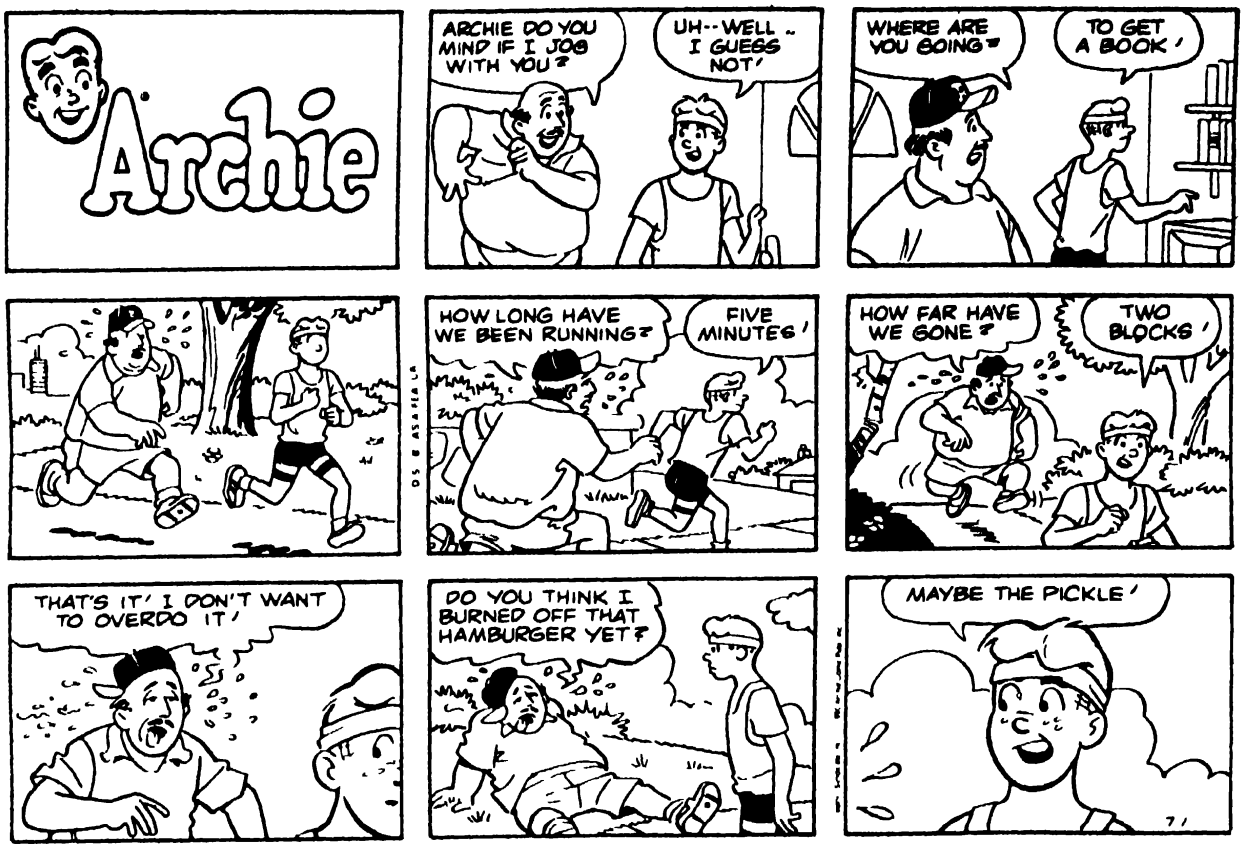

ONE LITTLE TACK AND I CAN HAVE IT FIXED BEFORE THE FOOTBALL GAME STARTS
TOOLS


DADDY, WHILE YOU HAVE YOUR TOOLS OUT, COULD YOU FIX MY DESK CHAIR ?
TOOLS

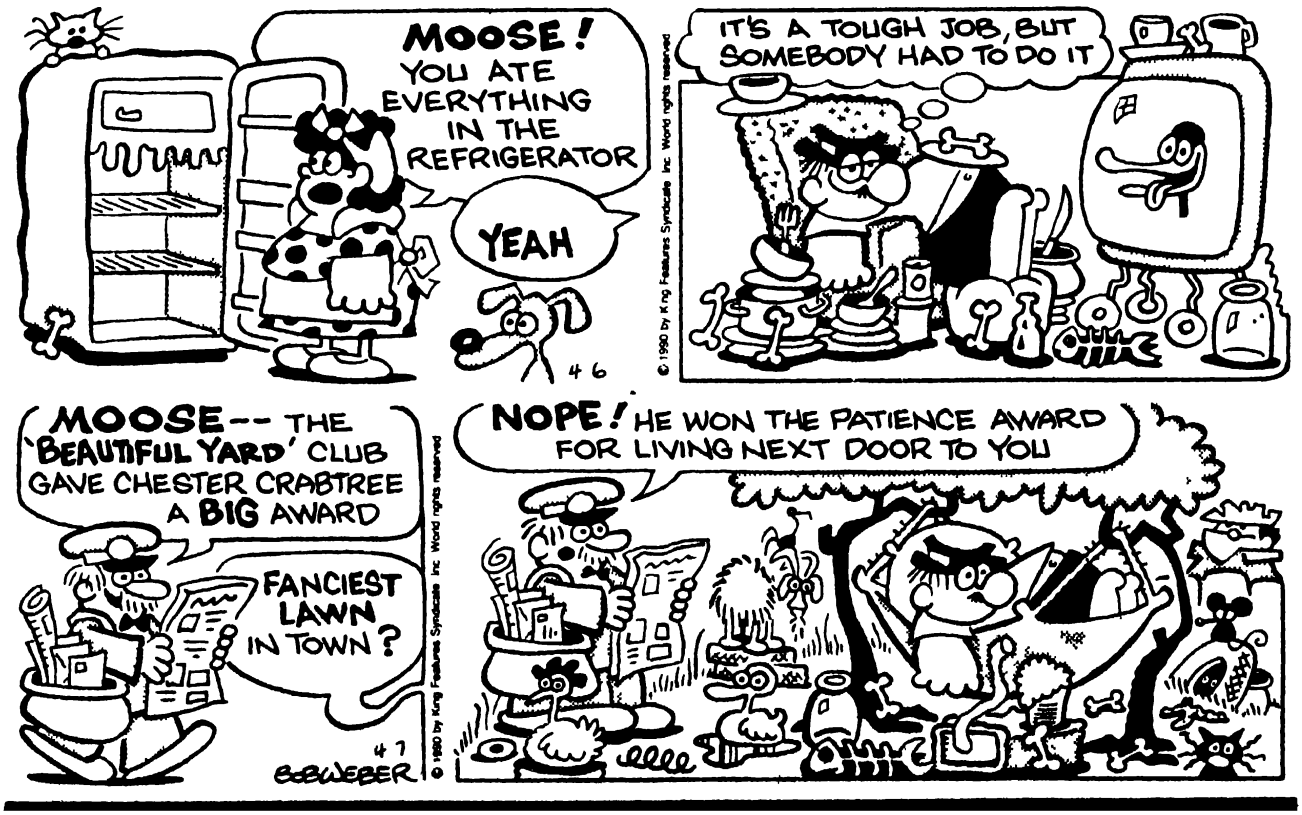

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE YOUR TOOLS OUT, DAD, HOW ABOUT FIXING MY SPEAKERS ?
YOUNG & DRAKE 11-26


THE HINGES ON MY SEWING MACHINE ARE LOOSE, HONEY
SO ARE THESE HANDLES
AND HERE'S MY LAMP
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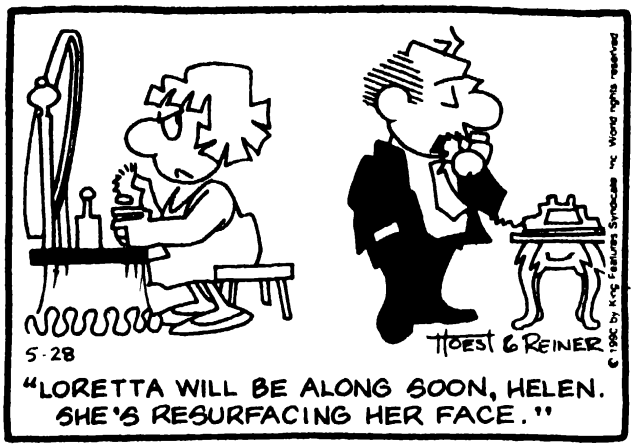

AND HERE'S THE KICKOFF, FOLKS! - BOOM! OUR GAME IS UNDER WAY
TOOLS



MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber



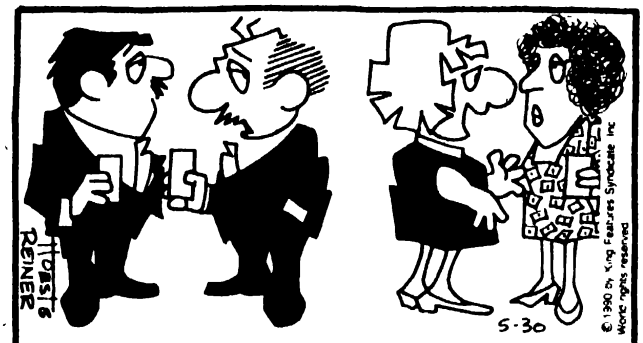
THE LOCKHORNS



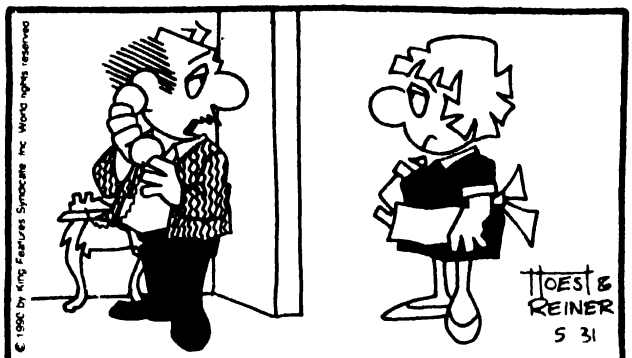
"LORETTA WILL BE ALONG SOON, HELEN. SHE'S RESURFACING HER FACE."



"THE TV HAS BEEN IN THE SHOP A WEEK AND HE HASN'T NOTICED IT YET."

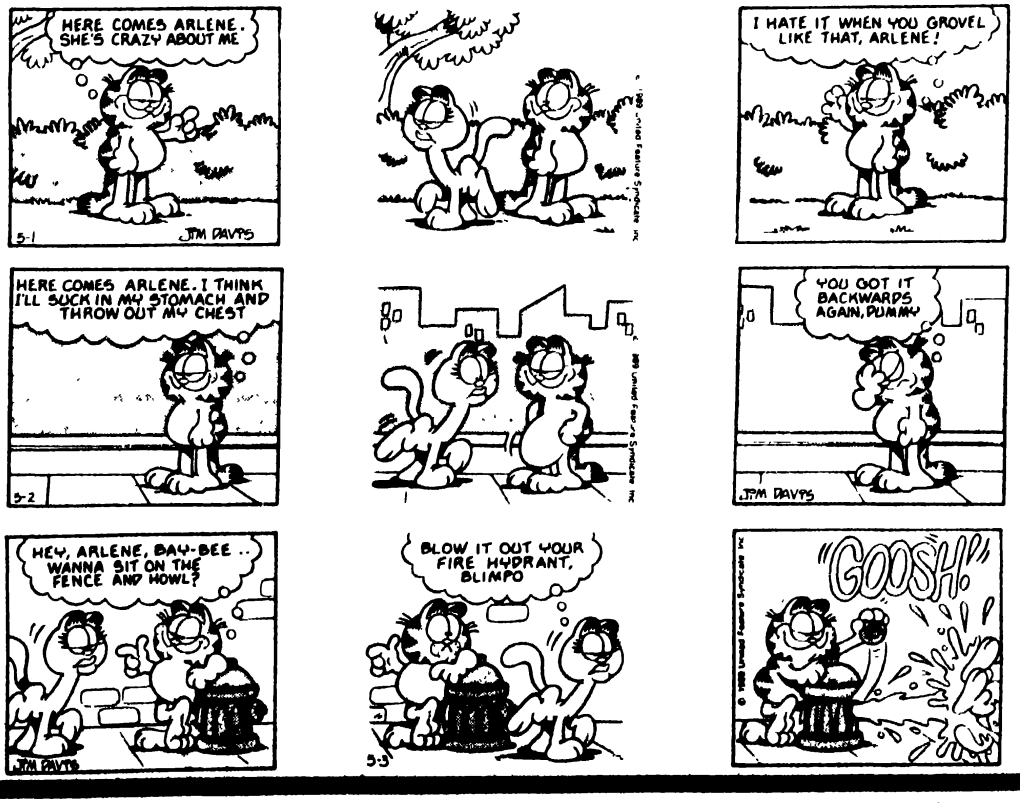


"SHE'S A SHOO-IN FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF HER GARDEN CLUB··SHE'S RUNNING ON A WORD-OF-MOUTH CAMPAIGN."



"THE BODY SHOP SAYS THE CAR IS READY··BUT NOT FOR YOU."

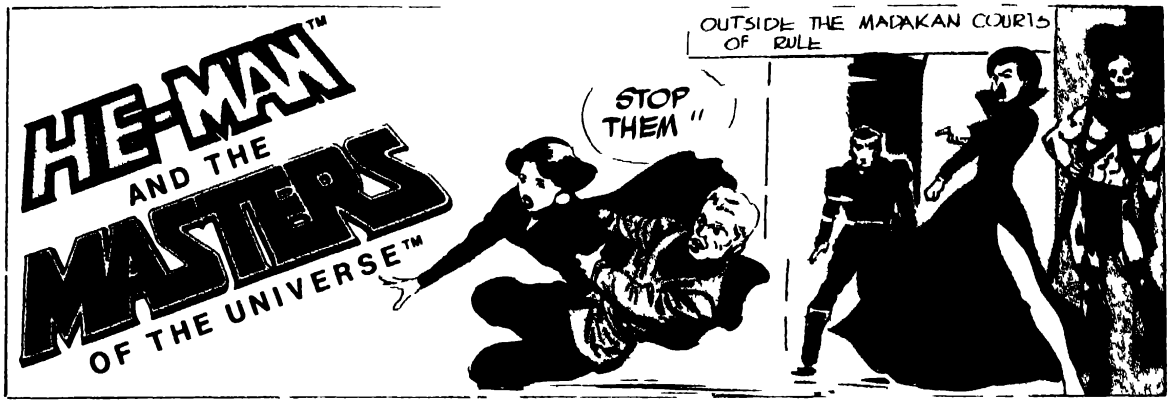
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP



HE-MAN™ AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™

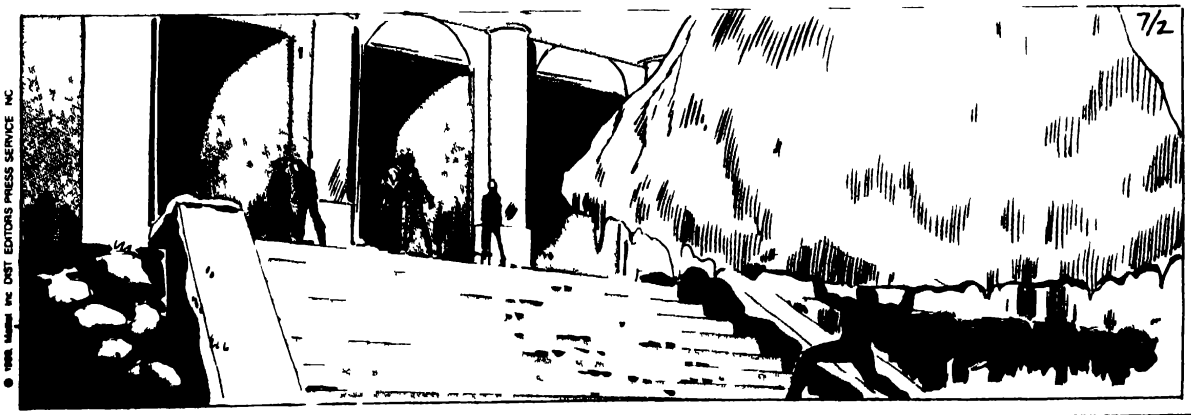












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You've got to hand it to the man with the best pair of feet in the business. If in the 1986 World Cup, Argentine captain **Diego Armando Maradona** used his left hand to score against England, this time his right hand stopped a Soviet goal. Some feat, that.
Photograph by AMIYA TARAFDAR



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that's a situation none of us would like to get into. But then, one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for With Mediclaim from New India. A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits. Including cover for hospitalisation at home, under special circumstances For a premium as low as Rs 200 per annum (at the minimum) It also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate.

Show how much you love and care for your family. Get New India's Mediclaim Policy. It offers you so much for so little!

Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Rs	Rs
200	10,500	3,100
250	17,600	—
350	25,500	—
600*	37,750	5,250
840*	52,750	7,400
1300*	82,500	11,500

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The Graf of Popularity

The Candid Camera (June 24) of Steffi Graf in the nude (*sic*) is shameful. It is amazing that Graf who has achieved worldwide fame in lawn tennis is indulging in gimmicks to cash in on cheap publicity.

Such gimmicks also affect a player's concentration on the game. The first warning bells were sounded when Monica Seles thrashed Graf in the French Open finals.
Siddharth Sharma,
Serampur

■ I have gone bonkers after seeing the sensational photograph of the sexy Steffi. She's got the zing.
Md. Attiq,
Calcutta

■ I was thunderstruck. I have become Steffi's latest fan. Please give us Sabatini now.
Md. Sayeed,
Calcutta

■ I was never a fan of Graf. Now I am mad about her. And Candid Camera is to blame for this. Curse be on you!
Anand,
Jamtara (Bihar)

■ Take a sports personality in Candid Camera every other issue. Sports magazines are too expensive to buy. So we would welcome that.
Abdulla Azad,
Hooghly

■ I was really impressed by Steffi as a model. For a change, it wasn't a political personality on this page.
Sandip,
Calcutta

■ Hail, the Colour Magazine! Now what about Sabatini or Madonna or Kitu Gidwani?
Debasis Maitra,
Calcutta

■ Now I want to see Gabriela Sabatini's photograph.
Lopa Ruben,
Bokaro Steel City

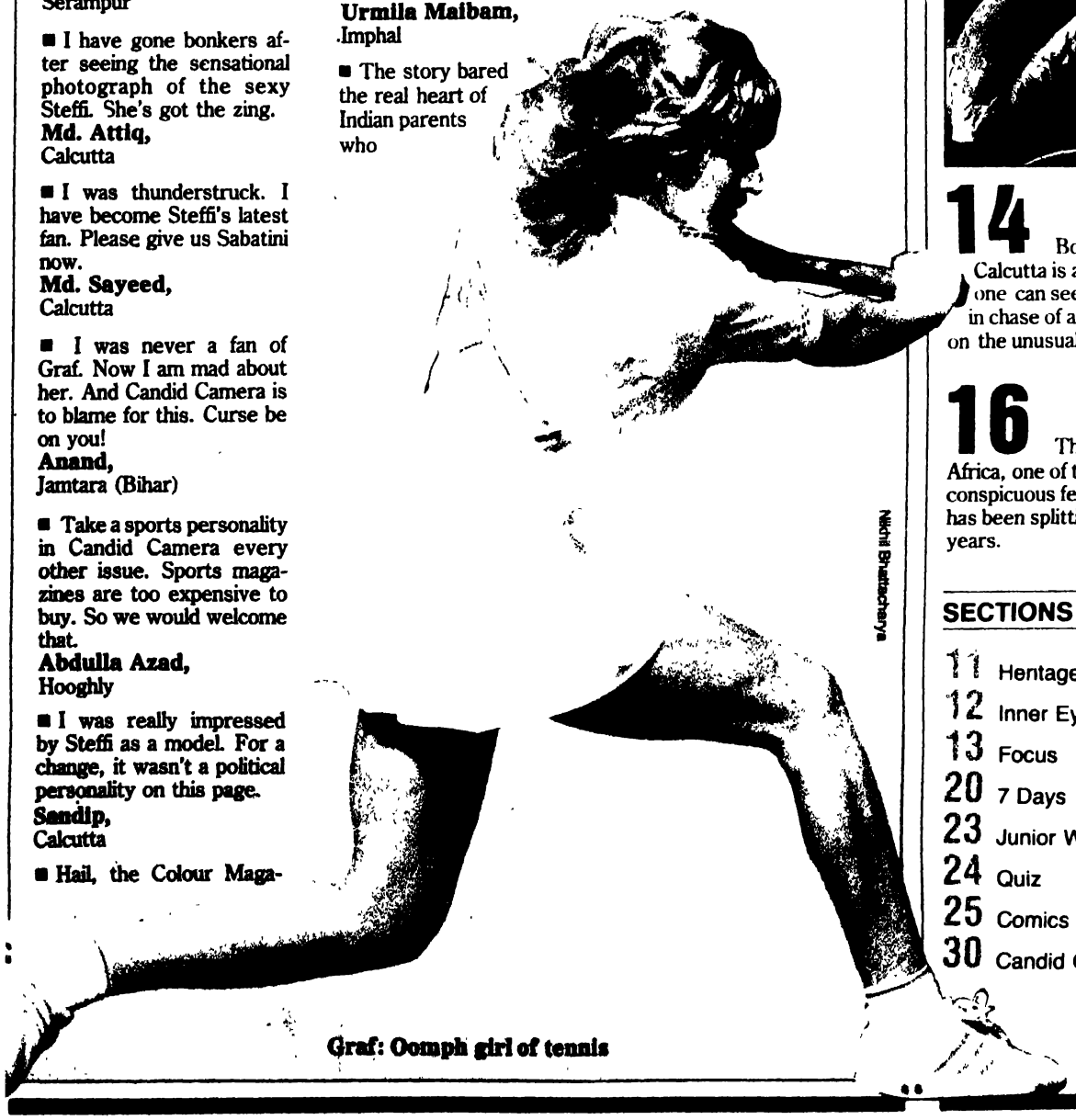
Patch of Evil

The cover story on child marriage ('Man and Wife', May 13) came as a real shock. If the government cannot convince people about the effect of such evil practices, it must use force.
Urmila Maibam,
Imphal

■ The story bared the real heart of Indian parents who may be superstitious but their affection towards their children is unrivalled in these days of self-centred society.
Tushar Chakrabarti,
Mazilpur (W.B.)

Better Than Her

The Post Mortem page of June 3 carried a sketch of Rekha which was captioned, "Rekha: Really *Khubsoorat*". I think the sketch by Anup Ray was even more beautiful than her.
N. Thakuria,
Guwahati



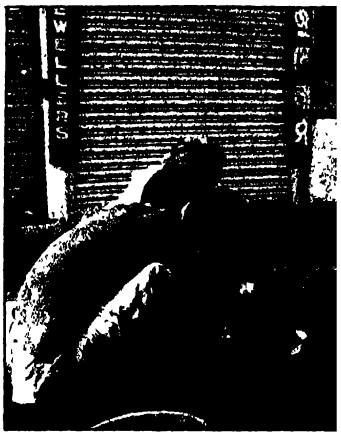
Nikhil Bhattacharya

Graf: Oomph girl of tennis

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The Telegraph
15 JULY 1990

4 People are increasingly going in for lucky stones to bring them fortune and protect them from the evil eye.



Deep Banerjee

14 Bowbazar in Calcutta is an area where one can see gold sweepers in chase of a dream. A report on the unusual profession.

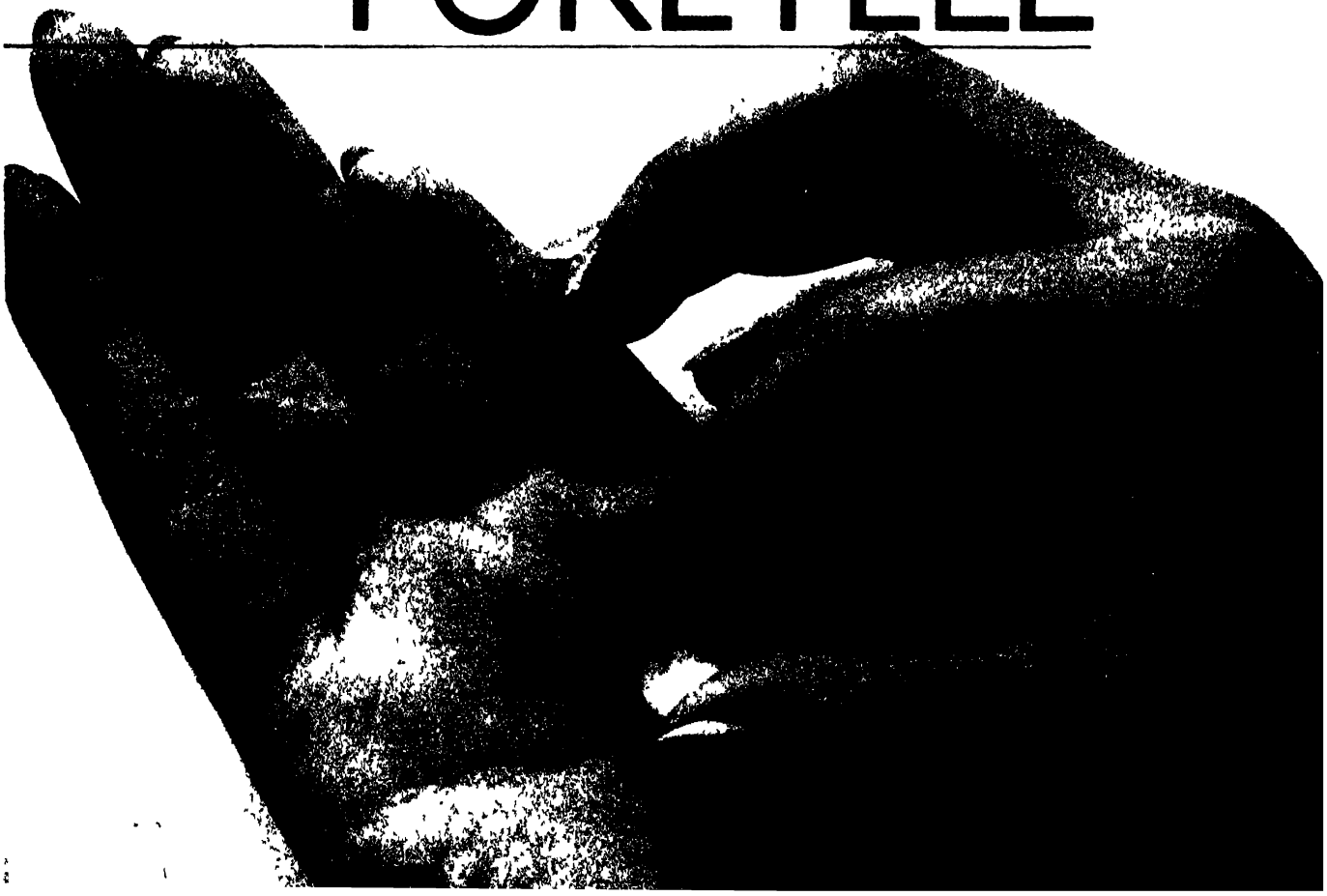
16 The Great Rift in Africa, one of the most conspicuous features on earth, has been splitting for 20 million years.

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30 Candid Camera

COVER STORY

WHAT THE STONES FORETELL



Karna knew his destiny. He knew he was going to die. Yet, he did not fight or try and transcend his destiny.

It's not that Karna had no option. When on the eve of the Kurukshetra war Kunti revealed his true parentage and asked him to join the Pandavas he turned her away. Karna had already consulted the stars that guide man's destiny. And he knew the outcome of the war. Yet like an epic hero he accepted defeat with equanimity. He did not want to switch sides for the sake of victory.

But how many of us can accept life's defeats like a tragic hero? We would rather be like Arjun if we could. And for that we would need a Krishna on our side. A friend, philosopher and guide who will steer the course of our battle bypassing the defeats.

But there are no epic dimensions in the battle for everyday life. Prosaic issues like employment, marriage, parenthood become very vital here. They certainly do not inspire Krishna to leave his heavenly abode to come to our aid.

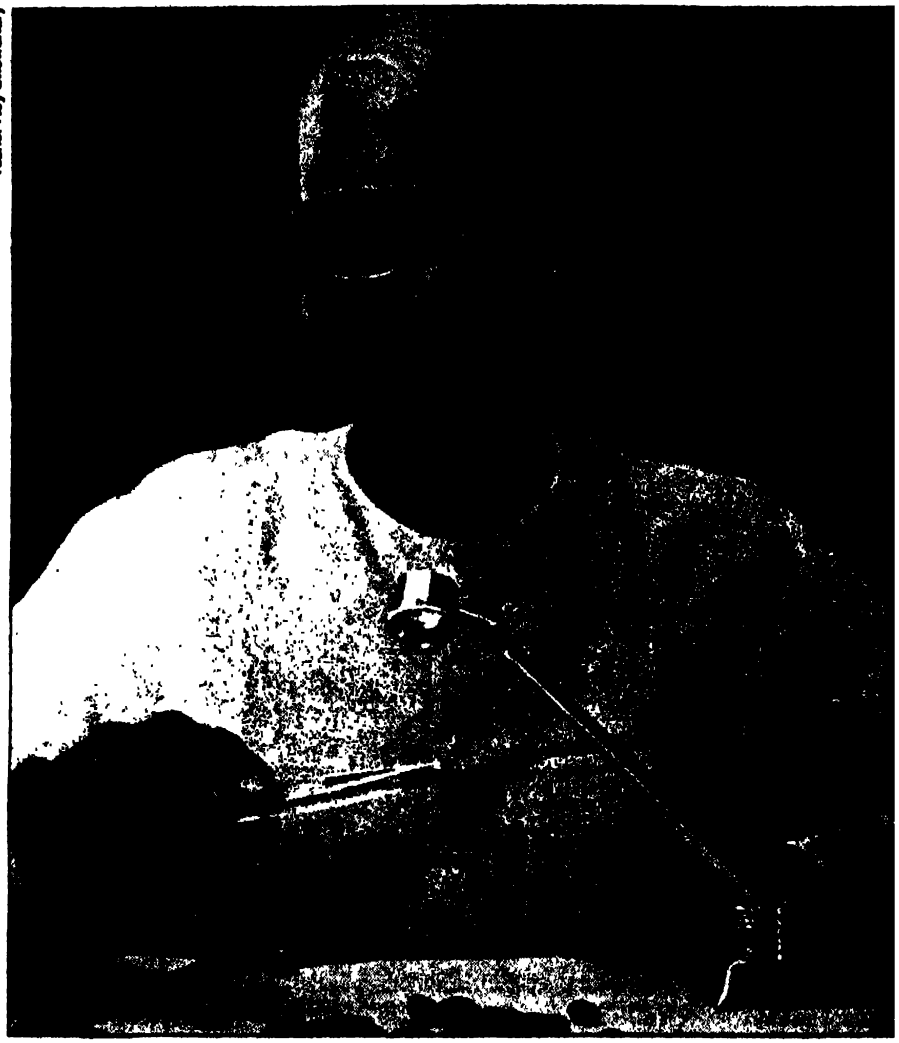
But the battle must go on. And defeats have to be overcome. The more society turns competitive, the greater is the incidence of defeat. And, therefore, the tendency to know what lies at the end of it all. What do the stars have in store for us?

Modern-day astrologers, therefore, play the role of Krishna in a way. With their repertoire of palmistry, horoscopes and gems that supposedly control the influence of planets, they soothe the spirt of our everyday, middle-class heroes. They inspire confidence for a fee.

It is only in moments of crisis that someone turns to an astrologer for help. And hope. How far the gems that the astrologers recommend are actually effective in changing the course of our life, one cannot say. But what is certain is that these precious stones when recommended by an expert do have the capacity to inspire confidence in an individual. Of course, he has to have faith in the whole process!

Sukhdev Goswami, the in-house astrologer at P.C. Chandra (Bowbazar branch), is an authority on the subject. A man long past his prime, he sports an attractive blue sapphire on his middle finger. "I started wearing this when I must have been in my early twenties." That was when he was looking for work. The astrology column he was writing for a Bengali magazine at the time did not fetch enough to make both ends meet.

Cover and opposite page photographs by Vivek Das; model, Bidisha Bhaduri; stones, courtesy P.C. Chandra Jewellers



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

Looking into the future

The New Stone Age has arrived. As we move towards the 21st century, more and more people are taking to planetary stones to secure their future. **Paromita Ukil** looks at this phenomenon

Almost as a last resort, he took to the blue sapphire. It was only then, he believes, that he started getting offers to write columns for other publications. Not only that, more and more people started coming to him for consultation.

Now things have, of course, changed for Goswami. He has left his days of struggle far behind. "Yet I wear this blue sapphire. I feel if I take it off I will lose my job," he says, admitting that it was in a moment of crisis that he had started wearing it in the first place.

And it is in times of crisis that the so-called prophesies of Nostradamus, the French seer who published his astrological treatises in 1555, have enjoyed their greatest popularity. During the first and second World Wars many people consulted Nostradamus' works and claimed that he foretold events of great import.

In 1974 when Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was in power, Mujibur Rahman Chisty, a seer from Bangladesh, warned the Pakistan Prime Minister of a dire fate. As Chisty later told *Asia Week*, Bhutto showed him the door, saying he believed in "brains and policies" to change the ways of the people, not "witchcraft". Chisty replied: "But it will be the brains in your head that will be

hanged by a rope in the jailhouse "

Bhutto had cause to remember Chisty's words not long afterwards—when his trusted lieutenant, General Zia ul Haq overthrew his government in a coup in 1977. The doomed leader was said to have written to Benazir telling her of the prescient sage from Bangladesh

But Benazir, with an intellect honed by education at Harvard and Oxford, was not predisposed to the occult But during her exile in the West four years before her triumph in the November 1988 elections young Benazir was sought by the mystic who told her that she was destined to lead Pakistan

"How can it be?" a sceptical Ms Bhutto asked, "when this dangerous man is there?" Zia had ruled with an iron hand for eight years and looked as secure as possible Chisty reportedly replied "When mangoes burst you will become the Prime Minister " A bomb planted in a crate of mangoes is one theory to explain the still undetermined cause of the August 17, 1988 air crash that killed General Zia, clearing the way for Benazir's ascent

Then around August last year, Chisty cabled Benazir with the warning that her life was in danger There actually were dark rumours of a coup at the time Benazir probably felt that it was time she fulfilled the promise the seer extracted from her to visit him in Bangladesh

Her state visit to Bangladesh last October provided the opportunity After talks with President Ershad and the obligatory banquets and protocol-signing ceremonies, Ms Bhutto boarded a helicopter to go to Chor Borkot, Chisty's village, for a 20-minute secret meeting with him Later, Ms Bhutto told newsmen in Dhaka "People make their own future, but when at a crossroad, one may need guidance "

And it is for guidance of this sort that our Prime Minister V P Singh is turning to Cabinet secretary Vinod Pande, known for his amateur skills in deciphering the stellar code Only recently, it was reported in the newspapers that V P Singh and a few other senior Union ministers held a closed-door meeting with Pande to rescue India from doom

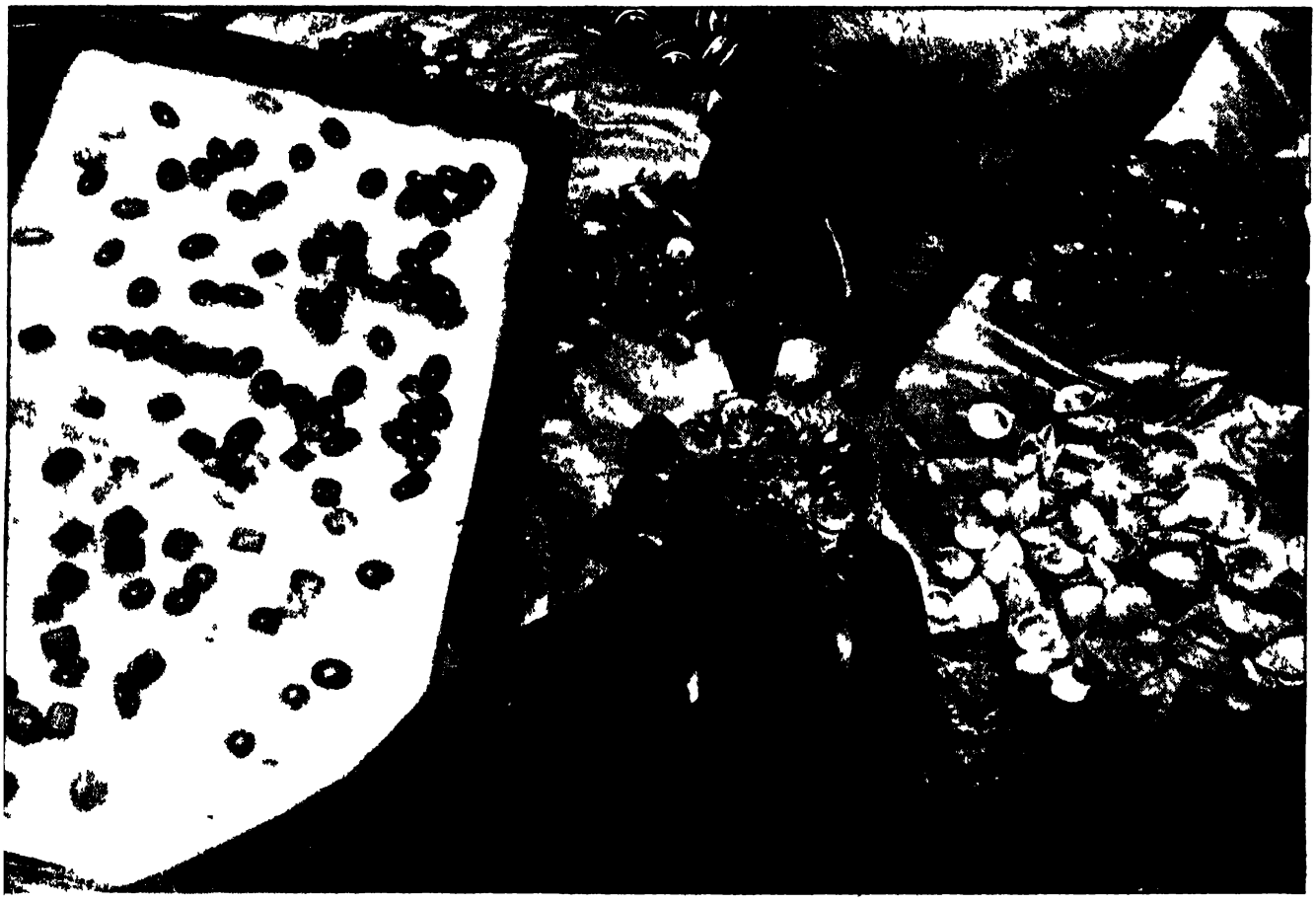
But the country's problems are not as simplistic as, say, a case of piles that it can be asked to wear a coral ring for cure For that matter, how does one determine the precise time of the country's birth, which is essential to make a horoscope of the subject That is why, Goswami believes, there is a lot of scope for inaccuracy in gimmicks like predicting the nation's future

In the case of an individual, it is much easier, of course For example, if a subject's Jupiter is not at a very ominous position in his horoscope, then he or she is likely to meet with success In a woman's case, weakened Jupiter can lead to late marriage So in such cases astrologers generally prescribe a yellow sapphire which has to be set in gold for maximum benefit

Saradindu Chandra, the in-house astrologer of M P Jewellers at Gariahat, thinks that it is the insecurities inherent in our society that drive people more and more towards astrologers Food, shelter and employment are not assured in our society and that, believes Chandra, is why he gets more clients who come to him for job security or to deal with their financial problems

Maharshi Haldar is one professional who claims to be a financial astrologer He charges Rs 51 for single brief questions and Rs 100 for a detailed discussion of finances He tells them when to buy or sell "People even come to me with mar-

Planetary stones jostle for space with shells on the pavement



Tapan Das

STAR CONNECTIONS

Sun: Influences the head and heart of man. As a result his fame and success depend on it. So an emerald is supposed to help when the two become elusive.
Moon: It has a strong impact on an individual's state of mind. In times of mental depression a pearl could help.

Mars: Diseases like measles, chicken pox, summer boils, piles, etc. are contracted under the influence of this planet. A coral is the remedy in these cases.
Mercury: This planet is supposed to influence academic pursuits. An emerald usually does not allow it to play tricks.
Jupiter: This planet determines an individual's knowledge and wisdom. Usually religious or political leaders have a strong Jupiter. V.P. Singh, for example. In case of women it influences marriage and motherhood. Yellow sapphire is the corresponding stone of this planet.
Venus: The literary and technological pursuits of an individual are dependent on this planet. If both Jupiter and Venus are not in a desirable position, then the individual is likely to suffer from diabetes. In that case both a yellow sapphire and diamond are recommended.
Saturn: One is usually apprehensive about this planet. It can be the source of wisdom as also of unnecessary delays and frustrations. A blue sapphire is this planet's corresponding stone.
Dragon's Head (*Rahu*) and Dragon's Tail (*Ketu*): These are responsible for last-minute hitches and disasters in a project. They can also bring in wealth if they wish to smile upon the individual. But then they can also cause cancer and piles. A coral or a cat's eye is usually recommended for them.

ket rumours and I tell them whether the insider reports are correct or not."

But people who come to Goswami at P.C. Chandra's usually have personal problems—either marital, love or career-related. Many prostitutes also come to him seeking his guidance regarding how to make their business flourish. "Earlier I used to see about 10 clients a day, but now I have been compelled to raise it to 20." And the jewellers have a separate bureau to deal with the numberless clients who call up everyday. They are each given a number and have to wait for at least a week before their turn comes.

But how reliable are these diagnoses and prescriptions: Is there any scientific basis to the entire process? Bejan Daruwalla, whose astrology columns in Sunday magazines command a cent per cent readership, feels that astrology cannot be taught. A knowledge of the subject helps, but what matters is intuition. He also admits that his predictions are only 70 to 80 per cent accurate.

Daruwalla had predicted the fall of Indira Gandhi and that her younger son would die in an accident. "I will be the first one to say," he said in an interview, "that I went wrong with Rajiv Gandhi. I had said that he would never become the Prime Minister, but he did."

Astrologers, like doctors, may not have absolute faith in their abilities. But then clients seem to begin by blindly believing in the astrologer and end up swearing by the stones that they prescribe.

Tripti Banerjee, for example, was troubled by the fact that her son had a constantly dripping nose and would frequently suffer from phlegmatic fever. So she took her son to the family astrologer on Free School Street who prescribed an oversized moonstone for the child. And ever since, she believes her son has kept better health. But each time the poor boy sneezes after a stolen sprint in the rain, her mother rushes to check if the moonstone is in place. Because there are chances that if the stone does not touch the subject's body, its remedial effect may wear off.

Ms Banerjee would, of course, have liked to give her son a pearl ring. But since that could have put the child in danger, thanks to thugs and pickpockets, she settled down for the semi-precious moonstone. And now such is her faith in the stone, each time she finds the neighbour's child suffering from common cold, she gently suggests: "Why don't you give him a moonstone?"

The entire Banerjee family, like many others in Calcutta today, has been indoctrinated into the planetary culture. If, say minor (or maybe not quite so minor) mishaps occur in quick succession, then they blame it on the planets. If the pump breaks down the first day, the car tyre gets stolen on the next and Mr Banerjee sprains his ankle in a neighbourhood pothole on the third, then his 12-year-old son is quite likely to say: "*Baba*'s Dragon's Head (*Rahu*) must be playing up now".

After all, that is what the child has been brought up with. About seven years ago, his father went through a critical phase: there was a CBI raid in the house when tension in the family was palpable. The Banerjees were scared that they would lose everything—their house, the family jewellery as also Mr Banerjee's job. "That was when I went to an astrologer for the first time," says Arun Banerjee. He duly sent him scurrying for all kinds of stones—emerald, blue sapphire, diamond and ruby. The strategy cost him a whooping sum, no doubt, but "the CBI officers finally dropped my case," said Banerjee. What is, however, not quite clear is which strategy was eventually more effective: the stones or the generous gift packets that lined the officials' pockets.

Like the Banerjees, income tax deputy commissioner J. Mullick also swears by his rings. Particularly the simple coral ring which he claims has cured him of piles. "I've suffered a lot. I've been to many doctors. But their medicine only gave me temporary relief." Then one day Mullick's astrologer friend suggested that he wear coral. Mullick took the advice seriously. "And since I started wearing the ring, I've had no problems," he claims emphatically.

"That can be explained easily," says Sukhdev Goswami. There is a high concentration of calcium in coral which is effective in curing piles, he says. Can stones cure a cancer patient as well? Goswami says he does not know. But if there is a coincidence he cannot do anything about it. "There was one mad boy who used to come to me. I prescribed some stones for him. His father claims that he got cured by me. But I am sceptical. You see, I am like a homeopathy doctor who cures 50 per cent of the patients with Belladona."

Goswami, however, believes that there could be a scientific basis to the planetary stones. "But we are not allowed to do research. Who will give us corpses to toy around with? Which cancer patient will come to us before going to the hospital?" As a result, astrology as we know today, still remains a divinatory art, or at best a pseudo-science that attempts to take a peek into the future—into man's destiny.

But ultimately, does it really help to know one's destiny? It cannot be denied that any dependence on planets and their corresponding stones for an individual's achievement is bound to take away man's enterprise. Not only that, knowledge of one's destiny can also complicate matters. Haven't the ancient Greeks taught us that?

If only Laius and Jocasta were unaware of their destiny they would not have abandoned Oedipus. Perhaps, Oedipus too then would not have had to live the humiliation of killing his father and taking his mother as his wife. ■

VOICE

Ventures Domestic

With more and more women abandoning the hearth to take up jobs, the need for domestic help has escalated manifold. Some women just cannot find the time to catch up on domestic chores, while other ladies are simply at a loss when it comes to the kitchen, laundry, or even catering to children. And cashing in on this inability and lack of time are several women in the city.

They have set up agencies that supply you with domestic help, complete with a fee paid in advance and a six-month (or a similar time span) guarantee, during which the servants are replaced free of cost if they succumb to the usual temptations— like stealing, eloping or misbehaving. Which, one hears, is what dometic help seem to do all the time that they are not glued to the television.



Sevika, at 7A Southern Avenue (near the Rashbehari crossing) is one such agency. Run by two sisters-in-law, the Mrs Dasguptas, it caters to the public demand for ayahs and nurses. Unlike some other agencies, no deposit is claimed from the public, but a percentage is deducted in advance from "attendants." Nurses are exempted from this charge. The salaries are decided on by the prospective employers and the worker; the agency withholds say in this regard.

Piping to Fame

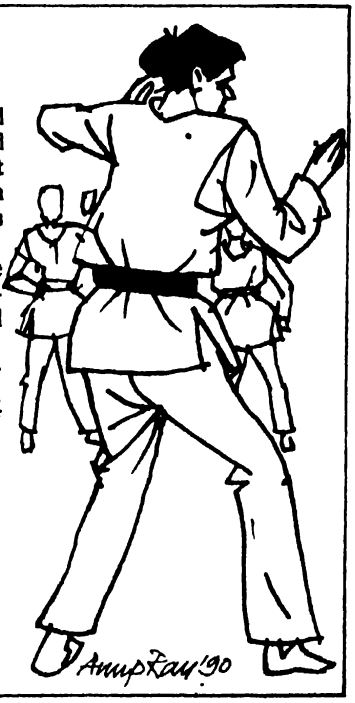


She gave her first concert at the age of eight, with a complicated recital in the *raag* Shankarabaranam, set to *misrajampatal*. Nothing very unusual in that,. considering she belonged to Kumbakonam, an important centre of Carnatic music. What is remarkable is the fact that at 68 today, she is still performing. Meet T.R. Navaneetham, hailed as *Kushal Isai Arasi* (queen of flute music), possibly the first Indian woman flautist to rise to fame, though there were others before and after , perhaps bestowed with talent but lacking dedication that marks a true professional.

T.R. Navaneetham has been performing, flute in hand, ever since her first recital. In the early fifties, she performed a duet with a maestro like Pannalal Ghosh at the Delhi station of All India Radio. She played a *pallavi* in Kambodhi, set to *triputataal*. Ghosh rendered the Hindustani touch to her Carnatic style. Today, countless concerts later (she performed recently in Bombay for the Vashi Gana Kala Mandir) she still refers to that duet as the most memorable in her career.

The very picture of concentration on stage, the cheerful flautist recounts her success without fuss. Initiated into music (although she started off traditionally enough, as a dancer) by Perunchen Muthupillai, she had an impressive list of gurus since then. She taught flute music first at Tirupathi Music College and subsequently at the Government Music College, where she breathed new life into the near-defunct flute department. In recognition of her contribution, the Tamil Nadu government bestowed the Kalaimamani award on her in 1969. But honours apart, the precision of rhythm which marks her execution of the flute not only belies her age but speaks of an artistry that is both beautiful and rare.

Black-belt Gatecrashers



Japan last week organised the women's international karate competition. All went well till the identification cards were prepared. It was discovered only then, according to a report in the *Asahi Shimbun*, that Pakistan (who else!) had entered a 16-member team, all male, for the meet. Not a single Pakistani contestant was a woman. The Japanese, of course, in their usual, mild fashion, simply said they were perplexed by this "unusual" entry. But probably the Japs are unaware that Pakistan holds the world record for keeping the status of its women at zero point, or they wouldn't be so puzzled!

Setting Priorities

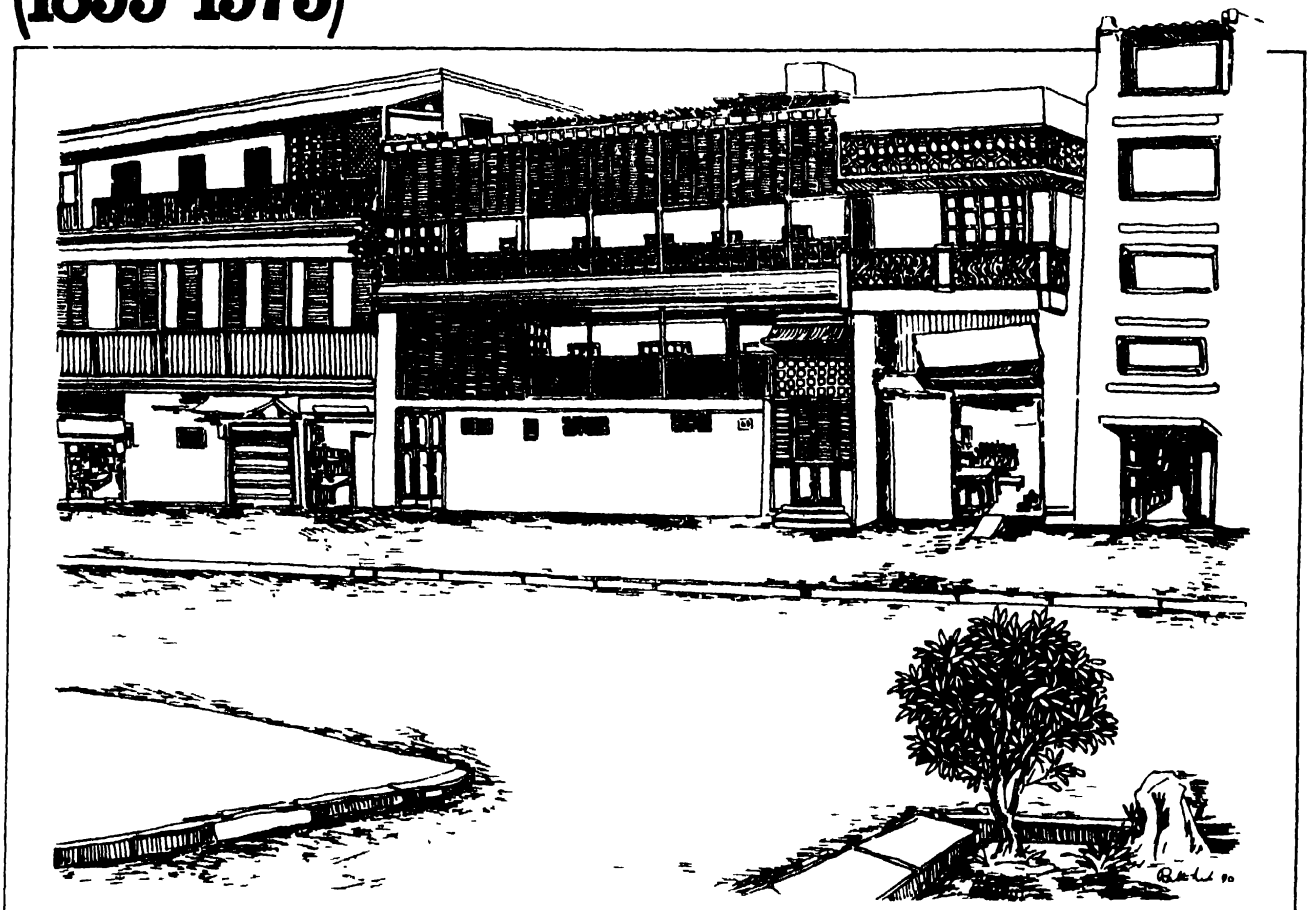
Speaking of sportswomen, one must laud the New Zealand women's waterpolo goalie, Debbie Somerville. Debbie is heading for the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta with the intention of training with Mother Teresa. She dropped out of her national team this week because she said: "It's time to get my priorities right. I need to get a career behind me, I wasn't really motivated anyway!" With 30 matches behind her, the Kiwis' loss of a veteran goalie will be a gain for suffering humanity, anyway.

And in the long run, Debbie will be, as they say, richer by far.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee



DEVI PROSAD ROY CHOWDHURY (1899-1975)



Born in a zamindar family of Tajhat in Rangpur district (now in Bangladesh) in 1899, renowned painter and sculptor Devi Prosad Roy Chowdhury had his schooling in Calcutta's Khelat Chandra Institution and later at Mitra Institution. His artistic talents blossomed under the able guidance of Abanindranath Tagore. He learnt life drawing and portraiture in western techniques from Italian painter Boiess. Abanindranath gave absolute freedom to his students which largely helped Roy Chowdhury to evolve his own style. Soon he began to teach at the Indian Society of Oriental Art.

However, Roy Chowdhury is better known as a sculptor. Early in his life, he worked under noted sculptor Hiranmoy Roy Choudhury from whom he learnt to 'build in' rather than 'carve in', and was greatly influenced by Rodin and Bourdelle. Gradually he came to occupy a leading position among the painters and sculptors of his time. His paintings were reproduced in *The Modern Review, Prabasi,* the *Studio* (London) and the *Studio International,* USA. In 1929, he was appointed superintendent (later redesignated as principal) of the Government School of Art, Madras.

During the three decades that he spent there, he did some outstanding works in painting and sculpture. His portrait of Tagore is a unique cubistic work with a rare sculpturesque quality. Among his works done in Madras mention may be made of *Green and Gold, After the Storm, Nirvana, The Palace Doll, Durga Puja Procession* and *Abhisarika.*

Roy Chowdhury's forte was casting rather than carving. Among the celebrities who posed for their portraits or monumental statues were Kumaraswami Shastri, Lord Erskine, Sir G.T. Boag, Sir George Stanley, Sir Archibald Campbell, Sir H.G. Stokes, and the Maharajas of Jeypore, Tranvancore and Cochin. His magnum opus is the colossal version of *Martyrs' Memorial,* assigned by Jawaharlal Nehru. His works are included in the collections of the National Gallery of Modren Art, New Delhi, Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad and in various museums abroad.

Roy Chowdhury was honoured with an MBE by the British government and in 1958 with the Padma Bhushan by the Union government. In 1953, he was nominated the first chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi. He was also elected president and director of the Unesco Art Seminar in Tokyo. He was awarded D.Litt. (honoris causa) by Rabindra Bharati University.

The sketch above shows his studio-cum-residence at 63, Sambhunath Pandit Street in Bhowanipore, south Calcutta.

CAN INDIA EVER MAKE

Oh yes, India most definitely can make it to the World Cup finals, but do we have it in us to translate that 'can' to 'will'? Football is a game all right and there have been wizards with the ball, but there can't be a magic that can propel an individual or a team to the top or the top bracket. Football, like all other sports, is also a science that is based on logical steps emanating from research, planning and practice.

Indian football at the moment is closer to the zero mark. To get to the World Cup finals we have to set ourselves a definite target, somewhere nearer six or seven on a scale of ten. We have lost a lot of time. Into the fifth decade after Independence, and only recently we have started getting encouragement from the government, through the Sports Authority of India. Before this there was little or no effort for a national sports movement. Even if you do not agree with the regimentation that made Eastern Europe a powerhouse in sports there is South Korea closer to us to drive home the point. Yet it is useless to just sit back and blame the government for not having formulated a plan for sports excellence.

There has been a deterioration in the standard of Indian football, but it is not the only sport to be so affected. In relative terms the general standard of Indian sport has fallen. (I acknowledge that there have been some eminent exceptions, but those have been more individual in nature.)

We need not compare Indian football to what we have been seeing over the last month in Italy. We will limit ourselves to assessing if India can make it to the World Cup finals. And how. India need not be worldbeaters to qualify for the finals, but surely we must be one of two best teams in Asia. That's how South Korea and the United Arab Emirates went to Italy.

Just as in economic development, where infrastructural bottlenecks and attitudinal problems are the real impediments, in sports too there are geographical, cultural and economic elements at play which often override the purely sporting factor. Football has two basic aspects to it: talent and physical ability. This talent is honed to skill and the physical ability provides the power on which the skill plays: the relationship between an electric bulb and electricity. Put differently, football is based on the 4S principle of strength, speed, stamina and skill. Add to that a touch of spirit and you have the basic recipe for the sixth S—success. We have a Krishanu Dey in India whose ball touch, passing ability and football sense is of the highest order. But the

Now that the excitement of Italia '90 has died down, it is time to sit back and think. Think hard. That would be the first step to the top, feels Pradip Chaudhury

difference between the Krishnu Deys of the world and the Viallis and Matthaeuses is the triple S of strength, speed and stamina. Maybe today the likes of Krishanu Dey are on the wane in India—unlike the seventies when we abounded in players like Subhas Bhowmick (someone blessed with more dash than the ordinary Indian), Sudhir Karmakar, Habib, Gautam Sarkar and Nayeemuddin, to name a few. But even with such talented players, we slipped down the ladder of Asian football.

The British brought the game to India in order to entertain. There was no planning, leave alone scientific thinking, to get the game really going in the country. Playing against the stronger, better Britishers, locals managed to attain a decent level. There was another thing playing alongside football when the Indians took on the British on more equal terms (even then the foreigners being more equal than the natives) in the pre-Independence days. With motivation, physical ability was often overridden by homespun skill or sometimes physical ability developed to be

Gautam Sarkar: Couldn't stop the decline





Krishanu Dey (left) : Skill without stamina

able to counter the foes. That is what took India to the top at the first Asian Games in 1951, a place we struggled to hold and then relinquished almost for good following the last gold in Jakarta in 1962. Iran were the other top team then with the east and south-east Asian teams still on the fringe. Across the continent to the west, the Arabs were getting their first touch of football. Iran have fallen mainly because of their uncertain political climate. The Koreans and the Chinese in the east and the West Asian countries have shared the spoils. On the world stage, the Asian powers have reduced the four-five goal difference and got it down to one or two (the UAE's bigger margins of defeat against Yugoslavia and West Germany at the '90 finals notwithstanding). In footballing terms, India now are at a four-five goal disadvantage against top Asian national teams.

How have the Asian toppers reduced the gap internationally? We Indians are in general a frail people. The West Asians started with the advantage of having a physique closer to the Europeans and

IT TO THE WORLD CUP?



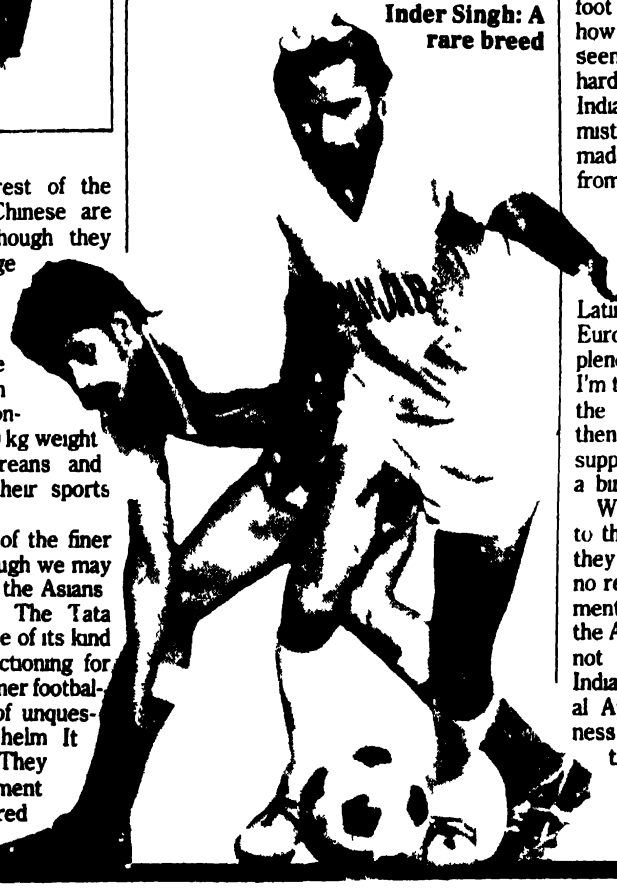
Latin Americans than the rest of the Asians The Koreans and Chinese are sturdier than the Indians though they started on a height disadvantage But take the average height of the comparatively smaller people of the east now making it to their national grade They have a minimum two-inch advantage over the Indian national players to add to their 10 kg weight advantage In fact, the Koreans and Chinese have programmed their sports policy that way

In India we possess some of the finer points of soccer, like skill, though we may be not better than the rest of the Asians But what of a programme? The Tata Football Academy, the only one of its kind in the country, has been functioning for three years now with two former footballers (until recently only one) of unquestionable competence at the helm It started with 16-year-olds They were given the best environment possible and were even assured of a future But now they are 19-year-olds—and yet to deliver. Maybe 16 was too late, a better age would have been eight to 11 Europe and Latin America in fact have nurseries for eight-year-olds

For a country as diverse as India there cannot be one set plan for developing football We should divide the regions into two schools of play North India, Maharshtra and Goa are closer to the European *gharana* and the south and east to the Latin American They have to be nurtured separately and according to their needs When we are talking in terms of foreign coaches, a Latin American could be sent to Punjab to teach them the finer points and a European to Bengal to toughen them up

An everyday example would illustrate my point about regional diversity Roll the ball to a boy from Bengal or Kerala and he will balance it a couple of times before returning it Throw it to a kid from north India and he will bang back the return Again there is the economic and the invisible factor at play In Punjab an aspiring sportsman will first want to be a Prithipal Singh or a Milkha Singh before he tries to copy Inder Singh By the time he finds out he has a knack for football he could be around 18 and by then has lost the flexibility of his shoulders so essential for a footballer In Bengal a young boy is more likely to try his luck with the ball than any other sporting implement—it offers him the best sporting future

Inder Singh: A rare breed



The other major area to be considered in Indian football is the eating habit, again decided by geography, culture and religion There is an awfully low protein content in the Indian diet, more often due to tradition than poverty Then there is the attitudinal block We are not a fitness conscious people We are basically made sportslovers, not sportsmen Nowadays the children who have access to facilities would rather pick up a cricket bat or tennis racket than take to the poor man's sport that football is A footballer does not have that status in society

By developing power where there is power and blending basic skill with it systematically could be the best bet for Indian football in the immediate future, even if most of the Bengal players get overlooked in the process After all, Maradona s skill shows only when he has the strength to shrug off the many defenders who spare no effort to put the spanner of a foot in his artistic works Why go that far, how much of Bengal's ball play has been seen when it has come up against the hard tackling long ball play of the tougher Indians? Here again we must not make the mistake that I think the West Asians have made By bringing successive coaches from Latin America, teams like UAE have tried to copy Brazilian football when they are built the European way They may imagine their physique to be closer to the Latin Americans, but West Asians like Europeans do not have the inherent suppleness that an Argentine or Brazilian has I'm talking about the muscles, especially in the legs, which can always be strengthened but never conditioned to be more supple beyond a point That, I suppose, is a birthright of the South Americans

We are really talking about India getting to the World Cup finals, and not on how they fare once they are there And there is no reason to believe that bettter management and planning cannot get us through the Asian rounds But for that please let us not sit back and sigh that 800 million Indians cannot produce one Olympic medal Apart from the futility of such hopelessness there is a big numerical mistake in that statement When we talk of India, we only have urban India in mind, and again just a fraction of urban India ■

ARIES

March 21—April 20

The personal and professional trends now converge and also clash, and therefore tact, timing and understanding will be required Romance will be hot and heavy as the moon conjuncts your planet, Mars Money will pour in Travel is more than a possibility Health matters require your attention

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Expenses will skyrocket Journeys and collaborations are foretold July 16-19 will be eventful Romance is certainly the area where you score Thanks to Venus deals and transactions will come through Look after your health dangers of operation and accident are there Childbirth, renovation and house-warming are round the corner

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Friends, wellwishers and supporters will help you in various ways Do not worry needlessly Wait a week or two for money to flow in Deals and contracts will be signed then In romance, your heart will hum and your body will thrum! Get your travel-kit ready Health shows a marked improvement

CANCER

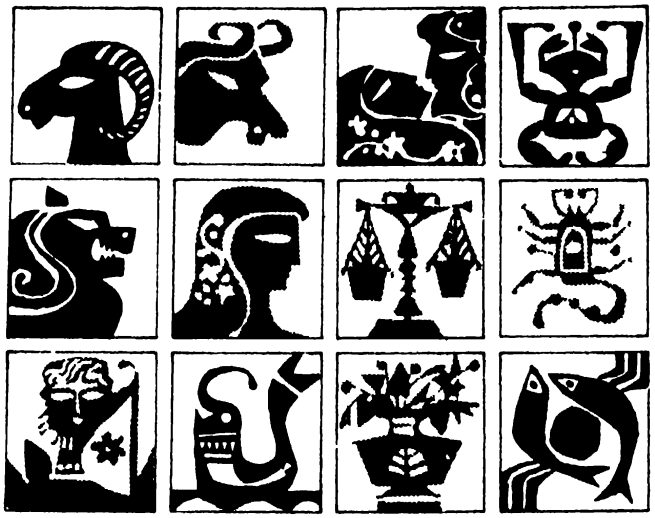
June 21—July 20

Work and rewards for crabs It is time to sally forth and take a few risks if you want to This week promises an exciting romance, the next week even better Your hard work ensures money and assignments The next week is important for travel, but it could very well begin now Take time off to relax There is no serious health problem at present

LEO

July 21—August 21

Travel, trade, sales, collaborations and deals are favourably signified as Mercury transits in your sign, according to Western astrology Those in import-export, finance, sales, distribution and management do an excellent job of it In romance, you will sing, dance, act and charm your way through Ceremonies, meets, conferences and functions propel you into a trip No major health hassles are indicated



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Funds, loans, transactions, mortgage and security will keep you mighty busy Shifts and transfers are probable The Sun-Jupiter conjunction signifies scope for expansion, promotion and progress You will have the satisfaction of requited love and thus be happy

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

There will be considerable opposition to your plans, but you will hurdle over it, enjoy yourself, have sparkling company and make remarkable progress in your work The mid-week is ideal for loans, funds, new ventures and enterprises The moon's last quarter guarantees an exciting romance

BIRTHDAYS

July 15

Sun conjunction Jupiter: While you have lucky breaks the going may not be as pleasant as you expect. It is best to keep on making sustained efforts and not rest on your laurels. Romance blooms but marriage may have a few posers and need a lot of giving.

July 16

Moon conjunction Mars: This conjunction gives you pep and go, and helps you to decide and make friends. You will clamber up the social ladder. Expect promotion, perks, changes in property and most certainly a better lifestyle. The heart will be a hunter.

July 17

Moon sextiles Sun: Your popularity soars and so does your income. Love invites you and you will find it irresistible. For some of you, a wish fulfilment is indicated. Therefore, work diligently and methodically. Take a few chances.

July 18

Moon sextile Mercury: Be discreet and even secretive if you wish to get more mileage. Journeys will prove lucky and eventful. Liaison, rendezvous, sales, commission and publicity are the outstanding features of the year. A year to love and be loved.

July 19

Moon semi-sextile Jupiter: You will have the initiative and tact to take on all comers. Journey and communication will lead to fame and fortune. Expect visits, interviews, meets and conferences to boost your prospects.

July 20

Moon opposition Uranus: Progress will be registered despite impediments and sudden upsets, so be brave and bold. You come into a better phase after August 19. Health safeguards are essential. The family applecart may take a topple or two. Do not worry much.

July 21

Sun opposition Saturn: Chip away at obstacles. This could be a difficult year in the sense that changes and adjustments are fated. It all depends upon your ability to roll with the punches. On the positive side, more money comes your way.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

A job-hop, focus on work, promotion and perks, and relationships with subordinates and colleagues are the week's main trends Mars opposes your sun sign, making for spills and thrills in romance July 16 and 17 are ideal for visits, interviews and conferences, and that may require a trip Immigration is possible, if so interested Learn to relax and enjoy a bit if work tires you out

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Children, hobbies entertainment and creative pursuits keep you mighty busy Collaborations and know-how will excite you Investments, funds, securities, loans and property are the areas that are activated Careerwise you do well There will be enough romantic activities for you The next 45 days are important for travel, perhaps more than you expect Visitors might drop in

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

The home and family take on an extra significance, expenses mount, July 16-18 prove memorable and love beckons you Thanks to Mercury, new outlets for income open out splendidly Romance will be bitter-sweet,but attachment is the name of the game Travel is more than a possibility

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Contracts, communication, contacts, trips, ties and a possible job offer are the highlights of the week In romance, your heart throbs to his/her heartbeat You will meet people who can boost your career prospects Commuting, correspondence and plans for a holiday are indicated

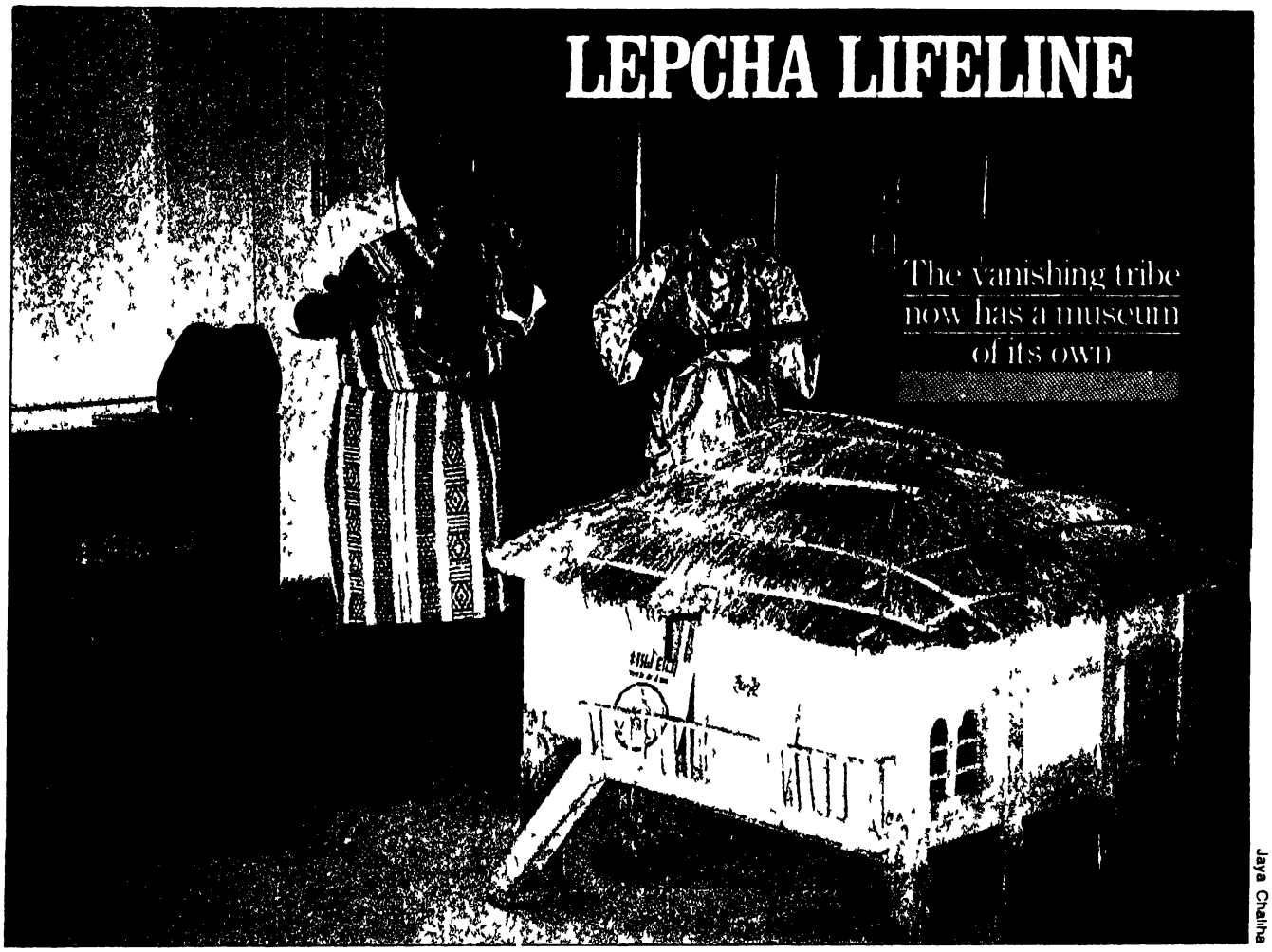
PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Buying, selling, shopping, investing, trading, brokerage and certainly hobbies and children consume your time and talent After a slow and hesitant start, you will score on the financial frontier Sweet memories, nostalgia and love knocking at your door constitute the romantic front The stars favour travel after a week, but July 16-20 also impel you to move.

LEPCHA LIFELINE

The vanishing tribe now has a museum of its own



Jaya Chaliha

Inside the Lepcha Museum, Kalimpong

In 1865 the British visited their newly gained territory—an extension of the already acquired Darjeeling area and found Kalimpong sparsely inhabited by a lesser known Himalayan tribe These gentle people are called Lepchas or Rong folk They are the children of Fudong-thing and Nazong Nyu, the first man and woman who disobeyed their Mother Creator Itbumoo

Mayel Lang, at the base of Mount Kanchenjunga , was the sacred land of their ances tors It extended across Sikkim, eastern Nepal, the Darjeeling district and part of Bhutan The Lepchas were driven southwards by hostile immigrants Their ancient traditions and customs have been diluted by intermingling with the people from these regions and from Tibet Today the majority are Buddhists and Christians

The Lepcha Association was formed in Kalimpong in 1925 well before the awakening of ethnic groups And now, Kalimpong's first and only museum, started in 1988, is an answer to their search to preserve their tribal life for post erity

A 10-minute walk on the Bagdhara Road to the south of the Meta Ground leads to the Lepcha Museum in Bong Basti The exhibits at the museum are few at present but create a curiosity about this "vanishing tribe" Some of the Lepcha Dharma Shastras are on view Another group of Lepcha traditional books include the *Karaonjan,* describing life after death It is read at funerals

The script is probably a derivation from the Tibetan It was standardised by the Baptist Mission Press, Calcutta in the second half of the 19th century

A model of a Lepcha house is interesting in that no nails are used in its wood and bam boo construction It is built on wooden stilts that rest on indi vidual circular stones

Wooden string instruments played with a bow or pluck ed –the Stsang and Tungbuk and a double flute, the Nibryak Plet accompany the melodious Lepcha songs and dances A Lepcha song book and casset te of folk songs by Sonam Tshering and his wife are available

The forest that provides all their needs is most precious to Lepchas The dried plants, both edible and medicinal, are yet to be labelled The multi use of the bamboo is displayed in different household items and bows and arrows The point of the bamboo arrow is painted with the deadly poison of the purple aconite

The highlight of the exhibits is the Ban pok or multi purpose knife that belonged to Gaybo Achuk, the last great Lepcha leader He was bet rayed and assassinated by the Bhutanese in 1754

The museum has been built by the Government of West Bengal on land leased from the Lepcha monastery On De cember 20 each year, the anniversary of Gaybo Achuk's birth, Lepcha songs and dance and archery competitons are held at the museum site

Visitors should not be deter red by the padlock on the door The Lama in the adjoin ing monastery will open up the museum and be a guide Entr ance is free

Jaya Chaliha and Bunny Gupta

GOLDSTRU

Early in the morning as the city's notorious red-light district in Bow bazar settles down to sleep, a group of men leave their homes and start sweeping the area's dusty streets in a never-ending search for a living and maybe a fortune

Bowbazar is a remarkably colourful place, its multifacted activities giving it an almost exotic air On the one hand, its notoriety as one of the largest and oldest centres of flesh trade in this region has by now travelled far and wide On the other is its long-standing fame as a great jewellery market

And most interestingly for two completely different and curious reasons the dust that lies all over this sprawling central Calcutta market is highly valuable

There is an ancient Hindu belief that when a man enters a brothel, he leaves the best part of his being on its threshold All the qualities, the gifts that God has en dowed him with And the dust that accumulates on the thresholds and streets alongside, with the passing of time, becomes rich with an enormous reserve of human energy and quality With the arrival of autumn, Brahmin priests gather the dust from the prostitutes' doorsteps with meti culous care to offer it to Goddess Durga, in a gesture of acknowledgement for all that nature has bestowed on mankind

The dust of Bowbazar is precious for yet another reason It contains in small, almost microscopic particles, one of the most valuable metals on earth—gold And the most familiar sight that one comes across everyday on these serpentine roads and lanes of Bowbazar would unmistakably resemble your image of a gold rush.

Armed with brooms, sieves and aluminium bowls, a group of men, in tattered clothes scour the narrow streets outside the dozens of jewellery workshops operating in Bowbazar, alongside the area's poorly paid prostitutes

They are the gold sweepers, who belong to the Neyara community, mostly Muslims from the north who came to India's largest city a century ago in search of work They found it on the streets of Bowbazar searching for tiny specks of gold wafted into the dust by the wind or carried on the clothes of passing goldsmiths

Here in the lanes you might meet a man called Abu Mohammad. Ever since his childhood, all that he had heard about his lineage and family was that his father and grandfather earned their living just the same way as he does Everyday at the crack of dawn, Abu Mohammad leaves his home on the outskirts of this bustling metropolis to join 300 other people on their daily quest for livelihood And by midday the entire stretch of the jewellery market is dotted with small heaps of dust which are later carefully carried off in large gunny bags to a processing centre, where the gold is chemically extracted from the dust The gold is then sold to the goldsmiths who buy it back at prices cheaper than market rates

"For generations my family has been doing this," says Abu Mohammad as he set out on his painstaking task "I quite enjoy the work, with its element of luck It's a



Salim Paul

Dilip Banerjee



back-breaking job but don't think we do it just for the sake of earning our bread Gold has a certain magic about it And it is this spell that has made us choose this strange way of earning our livelihood "

Be it the blazing summer sun or the nagging monsoon, it is that charm that keeps the Neyaras going, haunted constantly by the vision that all the dust lying on this road contains gold—in small microscopic particles—all over the place "With some hard work and efforts we can just make our living, perhaps some day a fortune," Abu Mohammad with strange glow of hope glimmering in his eyes

The source of this enormous and continuous flow of gold obviously is the jewellery shops and goldsmiths' work shops that line the market When the goldsmiths are at work minuscule particles of gold stick to their bodies and clothes And when they come out on the road for a cup of tea or just to stretch their limbs taking time off from the sweltering heat of their workshops, the gold particles drop and dissolve into the dust

"You may think the amount of gold escaping this way must be tiny But when hundreds of goldsmiths pass this way it's not," says Tayeb Ali, who has been in the gold-sweeping business for 60 years, and often made a small fortune The pickings are the richest in the run up to the Hindu festivals or months considered auspicious for marriages when a lot of gold jewellery is prepared for sale as gifts

There is gold to be found on the streets of Bowbazar. Real gold. Suprakash Ghoshal met a community that makes a living out of sweeping it up

"Sometimes we make as much as Rs 3,000 in a week during the festivals, says Tayeb Ali, though he admits that much of the time the work yields precious little But boredom never sets in disenchantment never drives the Neyaras away from their age-old profession For like Hussain Mohammed, many of the Neyaras have an optimistic view of things, based on their own sound logic

Says Hussain Mohammed, Look *sahib*, no matter if you are rich or poor the lure of gold is irresistible Some day you have to come here to these jewellery shops for the sake of someone Such is man's addiction to this shining metal that this gold mart will last forever And with it, we the Neyaras "

For the Neyaras the addiction passes on from generation to generation The Neyaras came to Calcutta in search of food and work The community stuck together through all their hardship and the main reason that they could do so was this addiction to gold The first day the young Neyara is brought to work and initiated to this strange life, the glitter of shimmering gold in the goldsmiths' melting pots casts a strange spell on his mind, and there it lingers for the rest of his life

The Neyaras are initiated to this lifelong quest at an early age At 10 or 12 the young Neyara starts creeping out of his shanty pre-dawn darkness still hovering above the city's deserted thoroughfares, and joins the elders in their long march toward the golden mart as if drawn inexorably by a mesmeric force towards an uncertain almost unreal future

On reaching their timeless, almost inexhaustible goldmine, he watches his elders sweep every nook and corner of the broad thoroughfare, the narrow serpentine lanes, even the tram tracks, now cold and quiet in the drowsy calm of these wee hours

The young Neyara picks up a brush, with long handle and hard steely bristles and joins his clan a group of relentless men groping about in the half light for rich pickings

But then nature often interferes, shattering the Neyaras' hopes, man's greed too helps to exploit the hapless fortune seekers Throughout the long nagging monsoon, the Neyaras helplessly watch their gold getting washed away in the persistent rain, "The heavy monsoons are the worst for us All the gold dust gets washed away and we can do nothing about it " laments Nasir Ahmed

But patiently they wait enslaved by their addiction though they are constantly aware that even after the monsoon the middlemen will come to take away a substantial portion of their hard earned cash a slice of their long cherished dreams

For the processing and the selling of the gold we often have to depend on these *dalals* who take away our gold at cheaper rates and then sell them to the shop owners at higher prices says Nasir Ahmed 'They've got the money the facilities and the contacts So, we suffer just as all poor people suffer Maybe this is the price we pay for our survival —for the *nasha*

So the dream lives on Despite all the hardships the passion endures The mesmerised Neyara waits for the rains to go, the middleman to take his pound of flesh and then once again returns to his work, pursuing a golden gleam that only he can notice twinkling in the Bowbazar dust As Tayeb Ali says wistfully 'I have this constant dream of a road full of gold waiting for me Maybe someday I'll find that road and buy a car ■

...o 30 ...on years ...ethed with volcan- ...converge here— ...ea and the Gulf of ...g centres. They ..., where ...or as the ...ican and ...n plates forming part of earth's crust move apart. But the spreading centres that lie off the Horn of Africa extrude their new crust as the Arabian plate moves away from Africa and collides with Eurasia.

Usually these processes occur under the ocean. But coastal mountains seal off this part of the Afar from Red Sea waters. Thus Djibouti offers the unusual phenomenon of oceanic crust being extruded as dry land. "As such, Djibouti is Africa's fastest-growing nation," geologist Ahmed Abdallah tells Stager. "We are expanding several centimetres a decade."

...d fissure, underlying the Gulf of ..., branches away from the rift at the Horn of Africa. This junction of the three systems is named the Afar Triangle, after the Afar nomads who live there.

The Great Rift in Africa is one of the most prominent features on the face of the earth. And the 20-million-year-old cracks ...y eve...

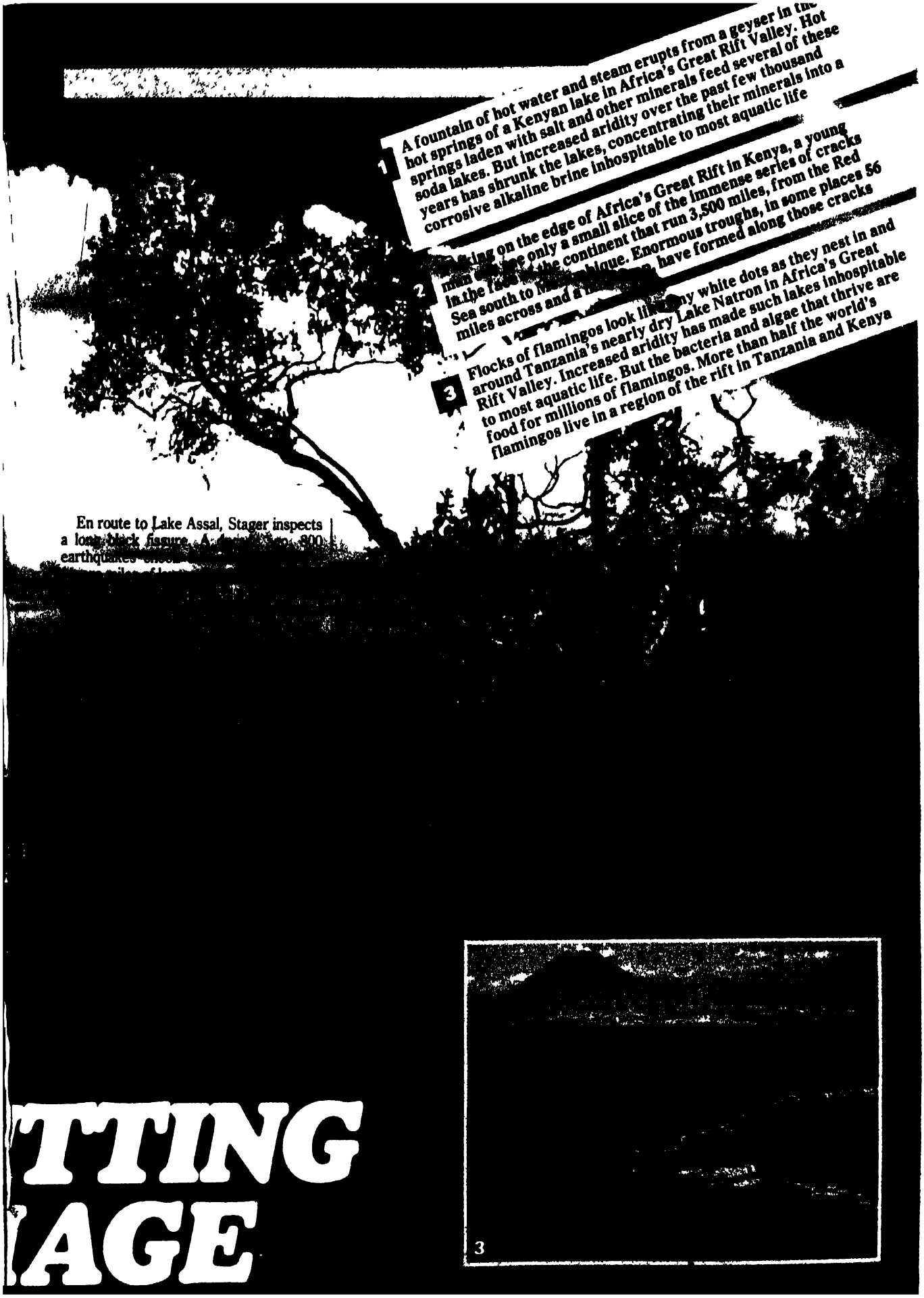
...ori ...e ...of ...Lake ...anzania

1



2

SPL
IM



1 A fountain of hot water and steam erupts from a geyser in the hot springs of a Kenyan lake in Africa's Great Rift Valley. Hot springs laden with salt and other minerals feed several of these soda lakes. But increased aridity over the past few thousand years has shrunk the lakes, concentrating their minerals into a corrosive alkaline brine inhospitable to most aquatic life

2 ...ing on the edge of Africa's Great Rift in Kenya, a young ...e only a small slice of the immense series of cracks ... the continent that run 3,500 miles, from the Red Sea south to M...bique. Enormous troughs, in some places 56 miles across and a ... have formed along those cracks

3 Flocks of flamingos look li...y white dots as they nest in and around Tanzania's nearly dry Lake Natron in Africa's Great Rift Valley. Increased aridity has made such lakes inhospitable to most aquatic life. But the bacteria and algae that thrive are food for millions of flamingos. More than half the world's flamingos live in a region of the rift in Tanzania and Kenya

En route to Lake Assal, Stager inspects a lon... black fissure. A ... 800 earthquakes ...

TTING AGE

3

cauliflowers knobble the shoreline For centuries these deposits have drawn the Afar nomads They pile their camels high with salt, which they sell to the tribes of the nearby Ethiopian Highlands

"How do the nomads do it?" wondered photographer Chris Johns, who accompanied Stager "The average human couldn't survive here, let alone work '

"The Afar are a tough, resourceful and fiercely independent people who nurture their reputation for collecting human testicles as trophies," Stager writes

At Lake Abbe on the Djibouti Ethiopia border, a forest of cream coloured spires, some nearly 100 feet high, rises from the land Hot springs have built these conical deposits over the ages Meanwhile, climate change has forced the lake's retreat from the springs Today Abbe faces total dessication

Abbe is fed by the Awash River, which flows north from the Ethiopian Highlands Ethiopian farmers are now diverting the Awash for irrigation, and the lake loses more water than it gains The Afar nomads are losing the largest water hole in the desert

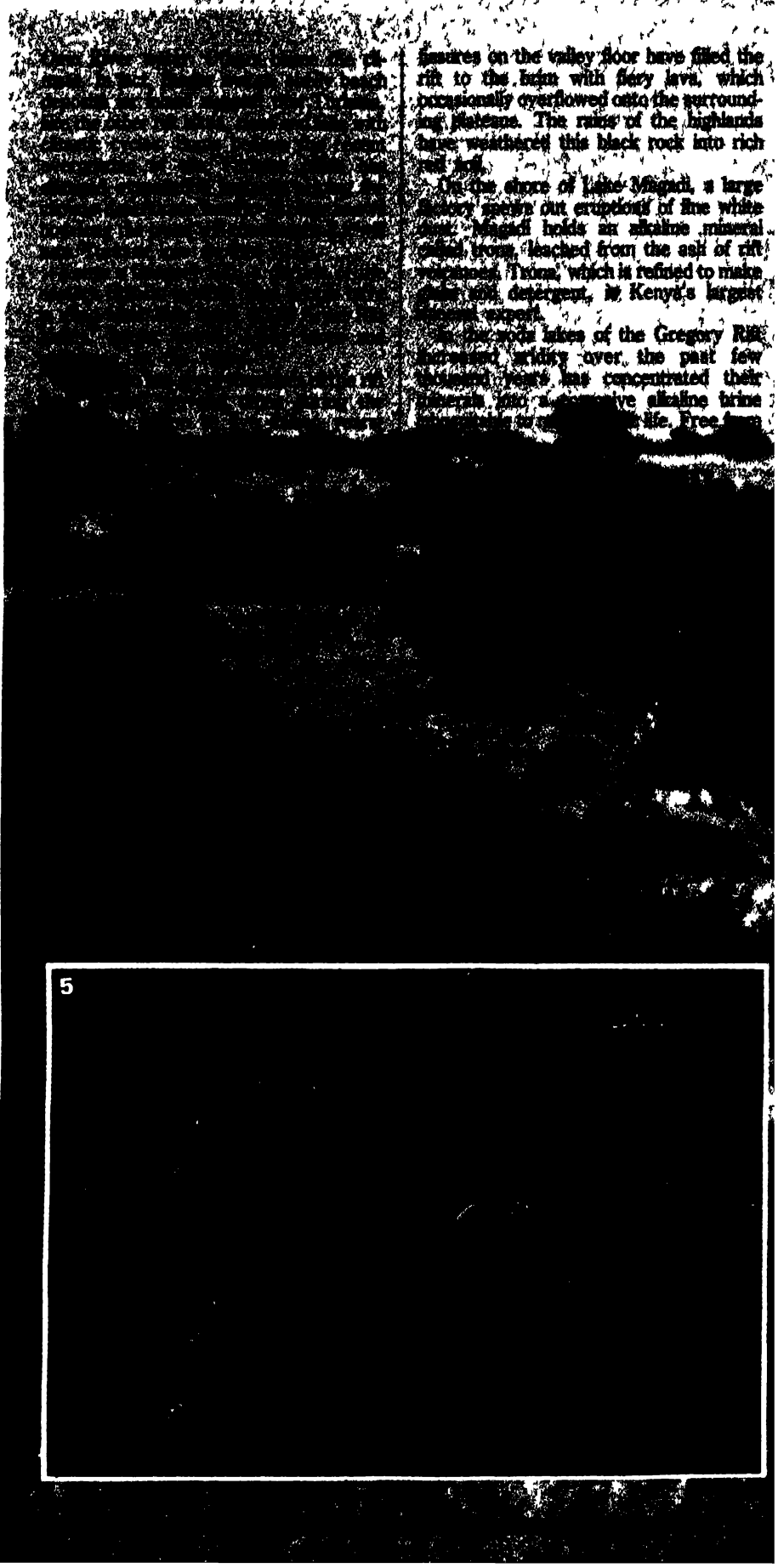
Some 155 miles up the Awash from Lake Abbe, at a place in Ethiopia called Hadar, river erosion has exposed the site where one of the earliest known hominids walked between three million and four million years ago, when the climate was more hospitable Here anthropologist Donald Johanson found the famous fossil Lucy

Long before Lucy heat from the earth s mantle bowed the crust like a great dome, lifting Ethiopia s Highlands The dome eventually cracked, which formed the 300 mile long trough of the rift zone in Ethiopia Magma later rose up in a series of volcanoes from the Afar Triangle to Tanzania

Although plagued in recent years by drought, the moist, cool highlands are normally an agricultural island in a desert sea The highlands feed great rivers with their rains A lake much larger than Assal or Abbe bears the name of the nomadic people along its shore- Lake Turkana in northern Kenya Turkana, like the Afar Triangle to the north and Olduvai Gorge to the south, holds a rich lode of information about the early stages of human evolution At Olduvai George Louis and Marv Leakey discovered many important hominid fossils

On the western shore of Turkana their son, anthropologist Richard Leakey, and his associates excavate fossils of homo erectus, a predecessor of homo sapiens, modern humans Across the lake lie the rich fossil deposits of Koobi Fora

Turkana is shrinking Some blame Ethiopian irrigation schemes that divert



competition, bacteria and algae thrive. They in turn support millions of pink flamingos. More than half the world's flamingos live in the Gregory Rift.

Many of East Africa's game preserves are either in or along the rift on land too dry or rugged for agriculture. East Africa's largest caldera, Ngorongoro in Tanzania, contains one of the planet's greatest game preserves.

Just as the Gregory is a land of fire, the western rift is a land of water, Stager writes. Some of the world's deepest lakes fill its troughs. Placid Lake Kivu, whose steep, plunging walls are reminiscent of Scandinavian fjords, fills the rift between Zaire and Rwanda. But Kivu also is chemically similar to Lake Nyos in Cameroon,

Tanganyika's riches are underexplored. There may be good reason, Stager feels. Crocodiles, aquatic snakes and parasite-laden snails [illegible]. And hi[illegible]

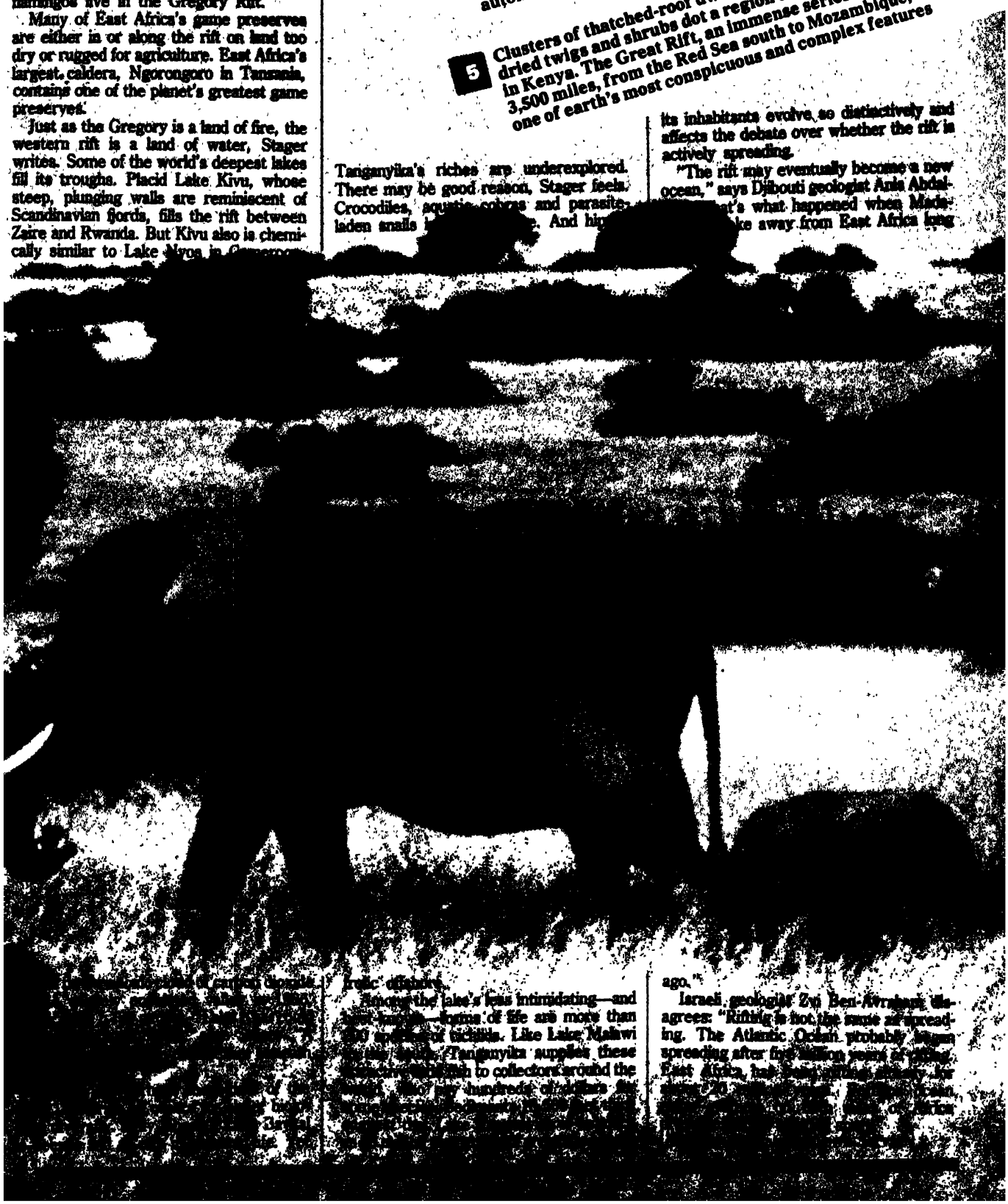
its inhabitants evolve so distinctively and affects the debate over whether the rift is actively spreading.

"The rift may eventually become a new ocean," says Djibouti geologist Anis Abdal[illegible]t's what happened when Mada[illegible]ke away from East Africa long ago."

Israeli geologist Zvi Ben-Avraham disagrees: "Rifting is not the same as spreading. The Atlantic Ocean probably began spreading after five million years of rifting. East Africa has been rifting almost [illegible]

4 Many of Africa's game preserves, such as this park in Uganda, are found either in or along the Great Rift, an immense series of cracks in the face of the continent. But all along the rift the elephant is rapidly disappearing. Poachers armed with automatic weapons have wantonly disregarded park boundaries

5 Clusters of thatched-roof dwellings surrounded by fences of dried twigs and shrubs dot a region of Africa's Great Rift Valley in Kenya. The Great Rift, an immense series of cracks that run 3,500 miles, from the Red Sea south to Mozambique, ranks as one of earth's most conspicuous and complex features



[illegible] fishes.

Among the lake's less intimidating—and [illegible]forms of life are more than [illegible] species of cichlids. Like Lake Malawi [illegible], Tanganyika supplies these [illegible] to collectors around the [illegible] hundreds of dollars [illegible]

7 DAYS

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

• **Appu Raja:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266), Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) Ujjala (Russa Road 478666)—4 shows

An unusual film on the life of a three foot dwarf Appu and the six foot Raja, the title roles are played by Kamal Hasaan The film is directed by Singeetam Srinivasa Rao and the music is by Ilaiyaraja

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 311090), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133) Indra (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—4 shows

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher



Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla in *Tum Mere Ho*



Sunny Deol in *Ghayal*

• **Ghayal:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956), Basusree (SP Mukherjee Road, 484808), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 311522) –4 shows, Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 249828) Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road, 355059), Madhuban (Regent Park)– 3 shows

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the lead pair Also starring are Amrish Puri, Moushumi Chatterjee, Om Puri, Raj Babbar, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Shafi Inamdar and Annu Kapoor The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Maine Pyar Kiya:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383)—10 45, 2 15 5 30, 9

A silver jubilee hit, this teeny-boppers' love story stars Salman Khan and debutante Bhagyashree The film is directed by Sooraj R Barjatiya and the music is by Raamlaxman

• **Muqaddar Ka Badshaah:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141)—4 shows

Directed by T Rama Rao and with music by Viju Shah, the film stars Vinod Khanna, Vijay Shanti, Shabana Azmi, Amrish Puri, Kader Khan, Anupam Kher and Asrani

• **Naya Khoon:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Rupali (Asutosh Mookerjee Road 474403) 4 shows

The chief attractions of this film are Govinda, Mandakini, Gulshan Grover and Saeed Jaffrey

• **Tum Mere Ho:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442)—12, 3 6, 9

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla are the lead pair in this Tahir Husain film whose music is by Anand Milind

Bengali Films

• **Aapan Aamaar Aapan:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—2 45, 5 30, 8 15

Tapas Paul, Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Soumitra Chatterjee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Deepankar De Sanghamitra Banerjee, Shakuntala Barua, Indrani Dutta and Anup Kumar are the principal attractions of this Tarun Majumdar film whose music is by R D Burman

• **Badnaam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080)—2 30, 5 15, 8, Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—2 30, 5 30, 8.15, Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose

Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Shibu Mittra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit, Shakti Kapoor, Shakuntala Barua, Subhendu Chatterjee and Soumitra Banerjee. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

NEW RELEASES

Hindi Films

• **Jurm:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383), Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561).

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Vinod Khanna, Meenakshi Seshadri, Sangeeta Bijlani and Shafi Inamdar. The music is by Rajesh Roshan.

• **Laila Majnu:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200)—4 shows; Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680)—3 shows.

Special Events

15 July onwards: 4 pm to 8 pm (except Monday)

Citylife—an exhibition of sketches on Calcutta by R.K. Laxman.

At Birla Academy of Art & Culture (Southern Avenue)

15 July: 4 pm; 16 July onwards: 10 am to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Ganesh Chandra Basu

At Tagore Art Gallery (Calcutta Airport)

15-20 July: 3 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings, organised by Barasat Art Circle, in the New South Gallery.

17 July onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Soma Dutta, Aloke Roy and Moloy Halder in the West Galley.

19 July onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm

A week-long exhibition of paintings, organised by Bangiya Bijnan Parishad, in the North Gallery.

• A six-day exhibition of paintings by Basudev Halder in the South Gallery.

• A week-long exhibition of art and crafts, organised by West Bengal Foundation of Deaf, in the New Gallery.

21 July onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm

A 10-day exhibition of paintings by Malayananda in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

21 July: 6.30 pm

Padatik Dance Circle presents a Kathak recital by Ramaprasad Chattopadhyay.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 446087).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6) IC-843 at 0755; Dep (6). IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115, Dep. (6) IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920. Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620. Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820. Dep (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840. Arr. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6). IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2) KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2) KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1920 and IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily). IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7). IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250;Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1540.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4): IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030; Arr. (3,5,7): IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6). IC-219 at 1120; Arr (1,3,5,6): IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.



ly) PF-706 at 1615

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-716 at 1025

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2 4, 6) PF 721 at 0930 Arr (2, 4, 6) PF 722 at 1805

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-723 at 1045 Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-724 at 1950

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-725 at 0550 Arr (2, 4, 6) PF 726 at 1040

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta Dep (1, 3, 5) PF 737 at 0600 Arr (1, 3, 5) PF 738 at 1100

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Departure Time		Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	2312
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	2304
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep -Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgir (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arri —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 15	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21 10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri ——Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fr	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050

Sealdah

3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6 15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed, Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Departure Time		Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7 25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4 30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri — Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6 55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2621	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4 15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri —Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati Howrah Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	
	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep Fri & Sun Arri Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays)

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



ARK GANG! Nine animals, two birds and one fish appear in this picture. How quickly can you locate all 12 creatures?

•SPOT CHECK! At a certain place in the Western United States, boundaries of four states meet Can you name the four states? P S Utah is one

The states are Utah Colorado Arizona and New Mexico

1 ___ END	7 ___ END
2 ___ END	8 ___ END
3 ___ END	9 ___ END
4 ___ END	10 ___ END
5 ___ END	11 ___ END
6 ___ END	12 ___ END

LOOSE ENDS

One dozen six-letter words ending in END are listed above You are asked to puzzle out the first three letters of each Definitions

1. **Be present.**
2. **Climb a hill.**
3. **Stretch out arms.**
4. **Attach.**
5. **Hold the fort.**
6. **Pay out money.**
7. **Displease.**
8. **Place trust in.**
9. **Plan to do**
10. **Be imminent.**
11. **A close chum.**
12. **Age-old story**

P S 1—10 are verbs, 11 and 12 are nouns

No fair peeking

1 Ate 2 Asc 3 Ext 4 App 5 Det 6 Exp 7 Off 8 Dep 9 Int 10 Imp 11 Fri 12 Leg

• **SOME CREW!** Half the workers of the office force were out to lunch at 12:30. Since then, 25 have returned and seven others have gone out so that there are now twice as many back at work as are out to lunch.

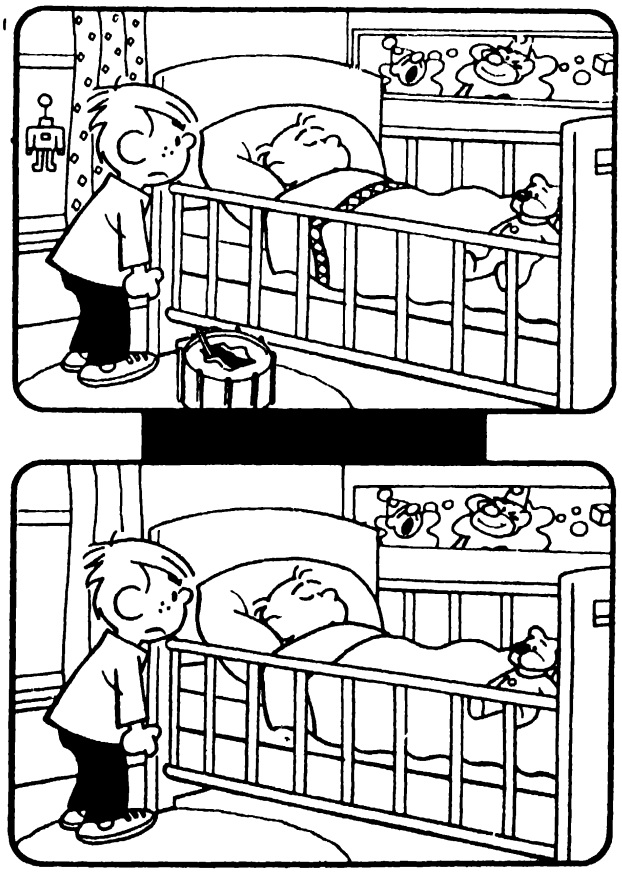
How many workers are in the office force?

Hint: Let X equal one-half the total number.

If X equals half the total then $(X + 18) = 2(X - 18)$, then $X = 54$, and $2X = 108$ the total number



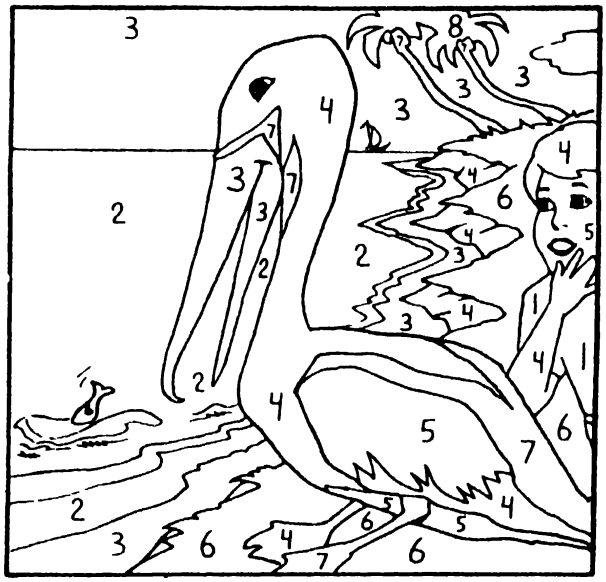
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Difference 1 Robot is missing 2 Curtain is different 3 Drum is missing 4 Bedcover ham is missing 5 Frame is missing 6 Teddy bear is smaller

FUNSPOT



AT BAY! Beware, little fishes, there's a hungry pelican about. Apply these colors neatly: Code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

HEDONIST

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible Hedonism Does, Hint



The question, "What is common to the following rulers Philip of Macedonia, Caligula and William of Orange ?"
comes from J.K Joseph, Siliguri, who tells us that they were all assassinators.

So we provide some details

The warrior king of Macedonia, Philip, having alienated his son Alexander and his wife Olympias by threatening to wed one of his concubines who would present him with a "legitimate heir," attended a wedding feast, jeopardising his life by sauntering in front of his bodyguards to show his confidence in the people The assassin Pausanias raced up to him and drove a dagger into Philip's side. The murderer was promptly killed before he could make any confessions, though it was widely assumed that the assassin was in the pay of Olympias, whose 20-year-old son, later to be known as Alexander the Great, was assured of inheriting the Macedonian throne

The demented and obscene emperor Caligula was undoubtedly the most obstreperous of all the Caesars. His cruelty was only matched by his insanity. During his almost four-year reign, Caligula, who suffered from epilepsy, slept only three hours a night, and, in a half-somnambulistic state, roamed the corridors of the palace screaming commands for the sun to rise. He proclaimed himself a god, ordering any who displeased him murdered, often administering poison to the victim himself (he ordered his father-in-law, Marcus Silanus, to cut his own throat with a razor, stating that Silanus was plotting to seize power) A sadist, Caligula often ordered the canopies removed during the gladiatorial combats when the sun was at its hottest, commanding the suffering spectators to burn at his pleasure; he more than once whimsically closed the granaries of Rome to starve his subjects for the joy it would bring him. He once led an enormous army to the sea, ordering his befuddled soldiers to "dig for shells," so he could collect mussels.

On January 24, AD 41, two colonels in Caligula's guard, Chaerea and Sabinus, who had been constantly ridiculed by the emperor, repeatedly stabbed him to death, many of the Praetorian Guards gleefully rushing forward to redden their swords with the blood of the monster. "I am still alive!" Caligula shouted as he squirmed on the marble floor of the palace.The soldiers then stabbed him into silence. He was 29.

William of Orange, the prince of the Netherlands, who vowed to protect Dutch citizens accused of heresy by the Spanish Inquisition and marked for extermination, was himself ordered assassinated, Philip II of Spain offering a reward equivalent to $1 million to any assassin who could take the prince's life. This prompted several wild attempts upon William but the prince miraculously survived Then, on July 10, 1584, one Balthazar Gerard entered William's court, requesting a passport. The request was granted and Gerard, instead of leaving the palace, hid in a small anteroom. When William entered this room Gerard shot him once. William shouted to his running guards: "My God, have pity on my soul! My God, have pity on these poor people!" He died before anyone could reach him.

Gerard tried to escape the palace but was quickly apprehended and taken to prison, where his joints were dislocated on the rack and his body was "seamed and scarred with flames." Gerard showed no emotion at his torturous execution. He mounted the scaffold with seeming indifference. One report had it that, on the scaffold, before a huge throng, Gerard's "right hand was burned off by a red-hot iron (the hand that committed the deed of regicide was invariably destroyed first), yet, although suffering the most excruciating agony, not a groan escaped his lips. Red-hot pincers then tore his flesh from his body in six different places. His abdomen was next cut open and the bowels torn out. His legs and arms were then chopped off close to the trunk of his body. He yet lived. He ceased to breathe only when his heart had been cut out and thrown in his face. Finally, the head was severed from the body, and the sentence had been executed." Gruesome!

CBS

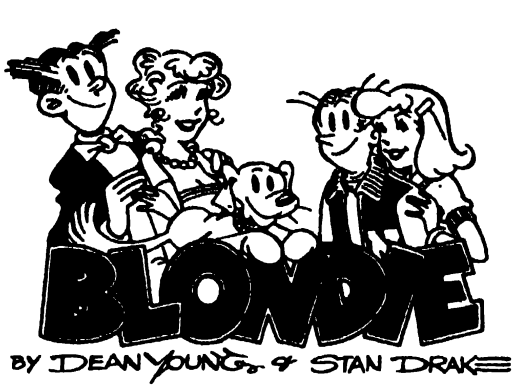
11th Question: **Among drug addicts, what is the ice-cream habit? (Vikas Singh, c/20, Sec-18, Rourkela-769003, Orissa.)**
Ans: **A small irregular habit of taking drugs.**

QUESTIONS

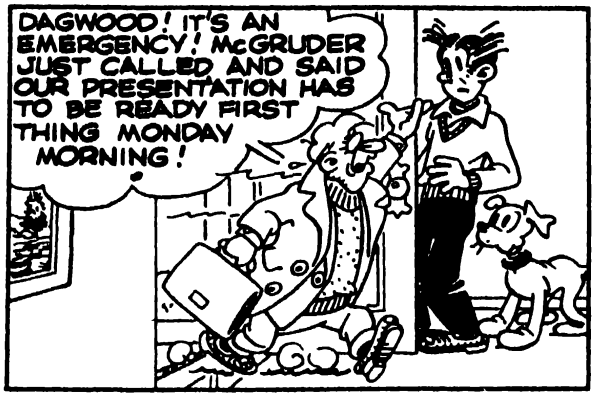
1. Where in an aeroplane would you find a "joy stick"? (Dipankar Dasgupta, Rourkela 3)
2. Who said, "Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can read"? (Ismat Afrin, Burdwan 51)
3. Who first suggested the idea of using the sun's rays to light the flame at Olympia and carry it to the Games, by a relay system? (Jitendra Kr Biswal, Bargarh 28)
4. *Return to Earth* is whose autobiography? (Lalitendu Pradhan, shuba Bhubaneswar)
5. When Yuri Gagarin came to Bombay for the first time he greeted Raj Kapoor by saying what? (Surjit Barpanda, Bolangir 45)
6. In American slang who are scalpel slaves? (Niraj Kumar, BIT Sindri).
7. He has the distinction of being the first Arjuna Award winner of the country as well as being the only athlete to hold as many as four national records at one time. Identify him. (Mohan Kr Agarwal, Bargarh 26)
8. Why is the name of 'Bush House', office of the BBC, written on the house as 'Bush House'?
(Shailesh Kr Singh, BIT Sindri)
9. Which Bengali sang as a playback singer for the film *Gandhi*? (Subrata Halder, Tribeni 3)
10. What is honeymoon bridge? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral 5)

ANSWERS

1. Mark Twain.
2. Dr Theodore Leonald.
3. Edwin Aldrin, the second man on the moon.
4. Amara Noor.
5. Women going from plastic surgeon to plastic surgeon just to get beautiful.
6. Gurbachan Singh Randhawa, who held the record of 14 seconds in 110 metres hurdles, 6' in the high jump, 210'-3.5" in the Javelin Throw and 6912 points in Decathlon in 1964. He was placed fifth in the 110m hurdles at the Tokyo Olympics in 1964.
7. In old England, there was no letter U and its sound was denoted by V.
8. Himangshu Goswami.
9. Any of several varieties of bridge for two players of cards.



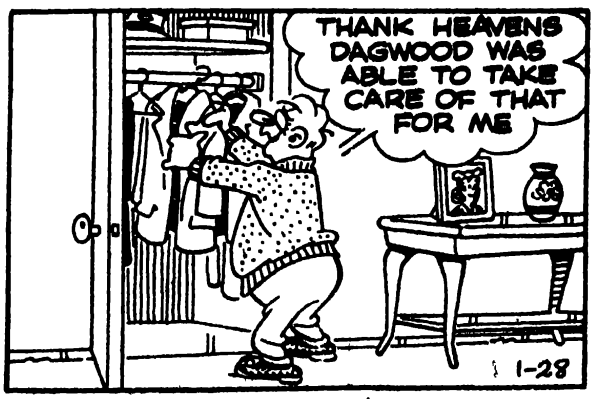












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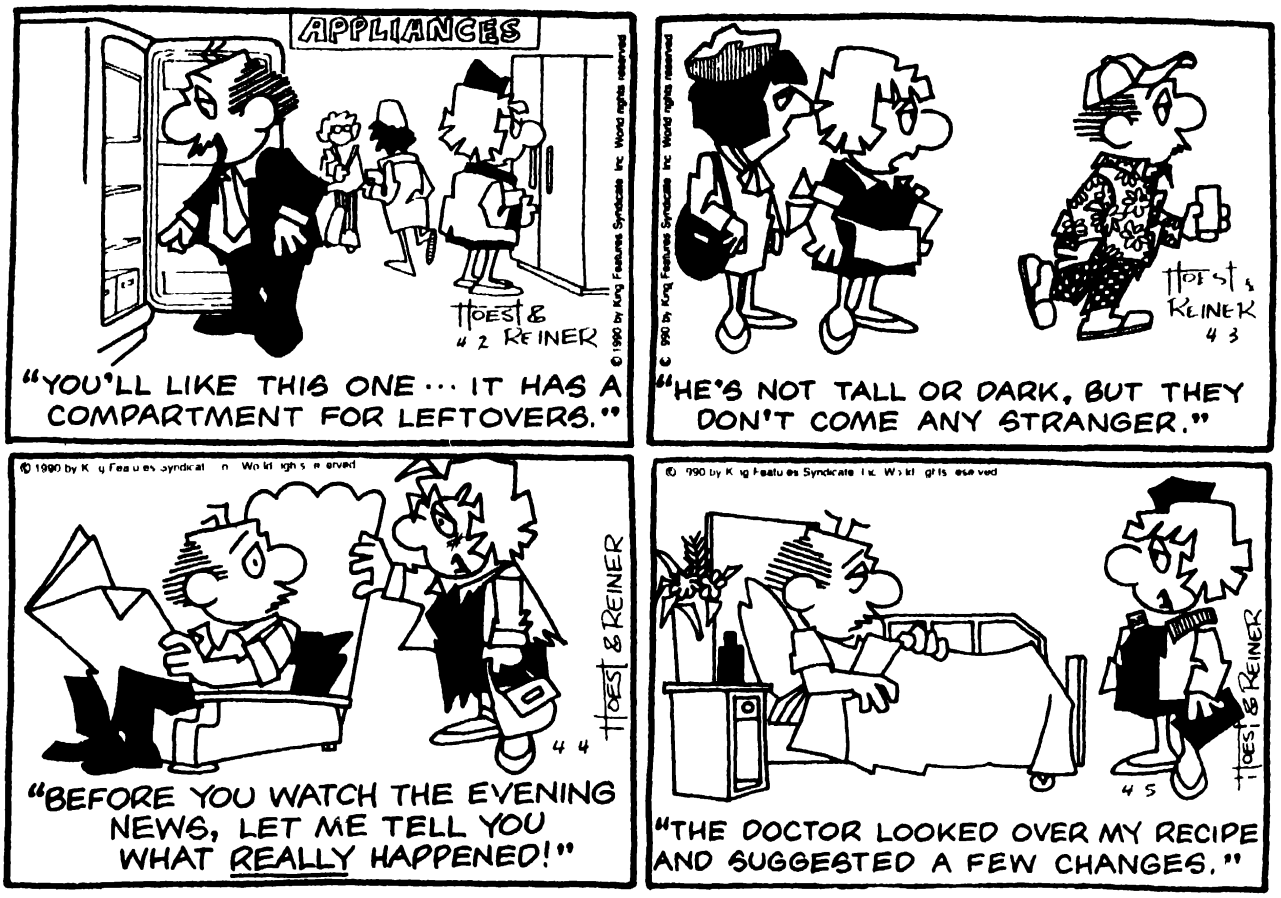


ARCHIE

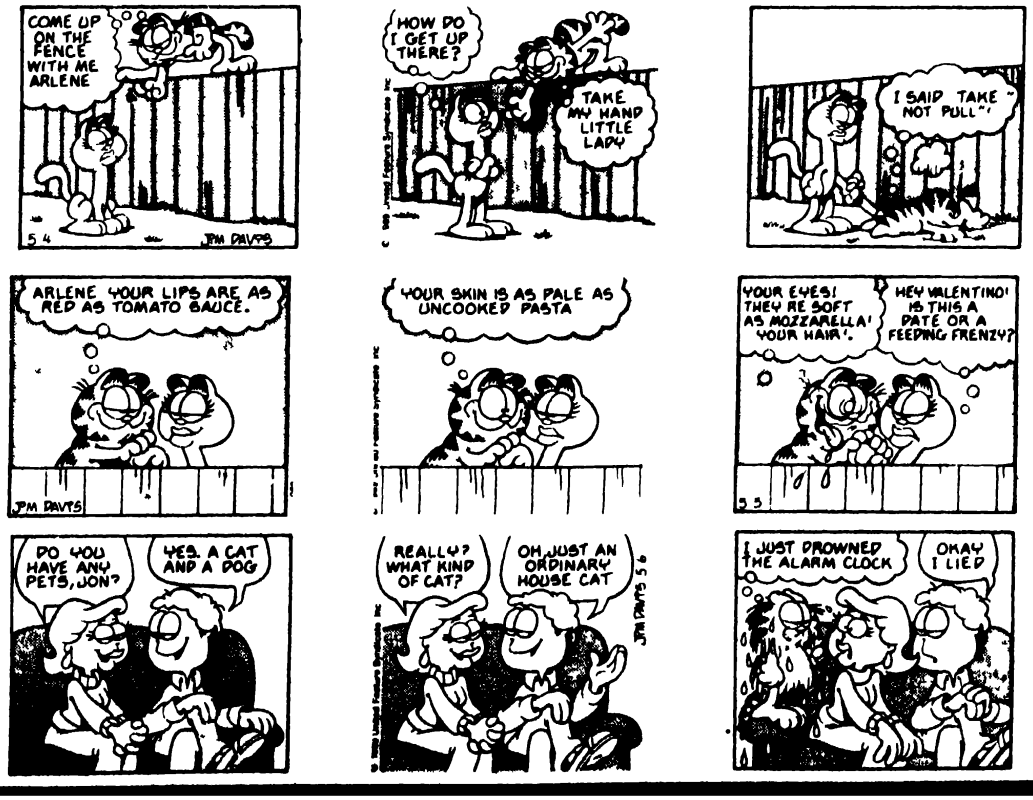


MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber



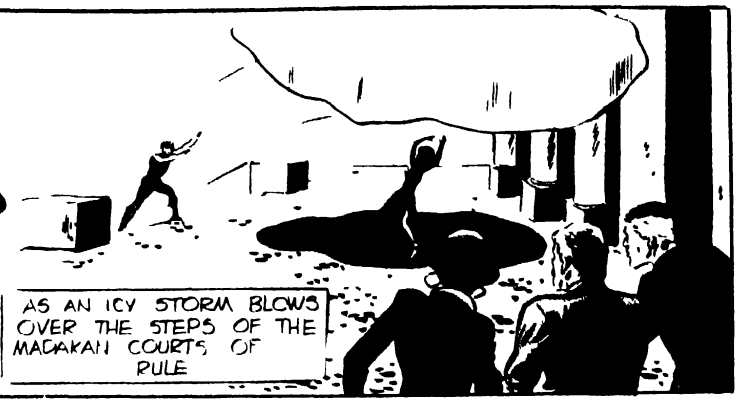


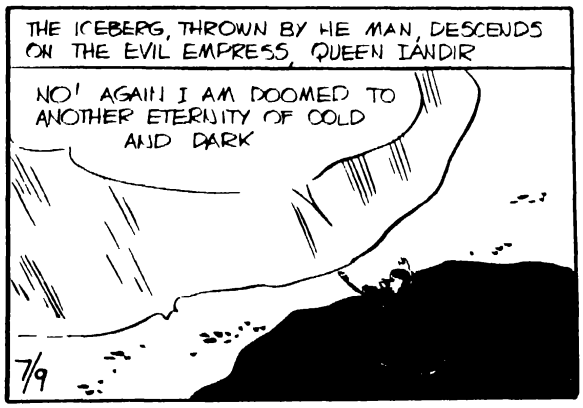
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



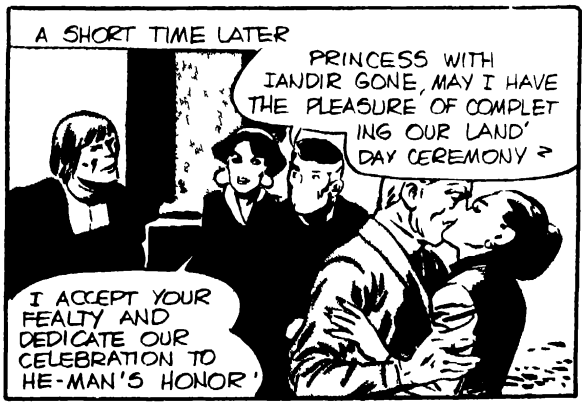

ADMIT IT, ABDUL. YOU'RE THE SPY, AREN'T YOU?
YES, I DID IT.
DON'T DENY IT! WE CAN PROVE IT!
YES, I AM THE SPY.
OWN UP ABDUL! THE GAME'S OVER! WHY NOT CONFESS!
I DID! I AM! I ADMIT IT!
HE'S A TOUGH COOKIE ALL RIGHT, BUT I THINK I CAN CRACK HIM, SARGE!
SPLAT!
SO SOON WASN'T THE SPY AFTER ALL?
NO.
YOU'RE SURE?
YES.
DENNIS, THERE ARE NO SECRET MESSAGES IN YOUR ALPHABET SOUP.
THIS IS THE BEST IDEA I'VE EVER HAD! PURE GENIUS!
THERE MIGHT BE ONE TINY SNAG BUT THEY'LL NEVER NOTICE IT!
THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPONS— I'M TAKING OVER THE FORT!
DON'T BE STUPID.
THEY'VE NOTICED IT.
YOU MUST BE JOKING!
NO— THIS IS A SIEGE!
BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE— YOU!
I HAD A FEW CALL-OFFS.
HERE ARE MY TERMS FOR ENDING THE SIEGE.
FIRST, GIVE UP YOUR ARMS, THEN A TOTAL SURRENDER OF THE FORT AND A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF YOUR TROOPS FROM THE AREA.
NO!
HOW ABOUT A QUID AND I'LL GO AWAY?

HE-MAN™ AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™













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STARTING TOMORROW, A NEW ADVENTURE
A WORLD IN THE BALANCE !!



He never opened his mouth when he was with Rajiv Gandhi; he won't now that he is with V.P. Singh. That, at least, you can say in defence of **Arun Singh.** Military matters are at his fingertips and, for a man of his principle, it's only his "deep interest" in it that has made him say yes to the other Singh. Photograph by SONDEEP SHANKAR



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that's a situation none of us would like to get into. But then, one can never tell, can one? A minor accident in a careless moment. Or a major ailment one never dreamt of.

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Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
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250	17,600	—
350	25,500	—
600*	37,750	5,250
840*	52,750	7,400
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POST MORTEM

Photo Grat

[illegible]

Ashok Kumar Patnaik,
Durgapur.

■ Thanks for the Grass picture of Shah Rukh Khan. It was very much like the [illegible] model in a swimming suit in India.

Ashok Kumar Patnaik,
Durgapur.

■ Thanks for the Grass picture of Shah Rukh Khan. It was very much like the [illegible] model in a swimming suit in India.

Ashok Kumar Patnaik,
Durgapur.

■ Thanks for the Grass picture of Shah Rukh Khan. It was very much like the [illegible] model in a swimming suit in India.

Ashok Kumar Patnaik,
Durgapur.

■ After that long list of politicians, the photograph of the movie queen was such a relief. Instead of obscure persons like those of Asha (Our Parish, April 1), this sort should be published.

R. Dutta,
Calcutta.

■ You seem determined to prove to Shah Rukh Khan's admirers that you are [illegible] to us. Why else would you waste photographic space on persons in [illegible] occasions.

Shah Rukh Khan Club,
Calcutta.

■ Grat's picture was terrific. But why did you have to spoil our Sunday by giving a cover story on the [illegible] magazine in your issue of [illegible] (The Telegraph, April 1)?

Sunil Banerjee,
Calcutta.

■ Keep it up! Who wants to see [illegible] pictures of film stars, especially [illegible] Dutt.

[illegible]

A Different Amitabh

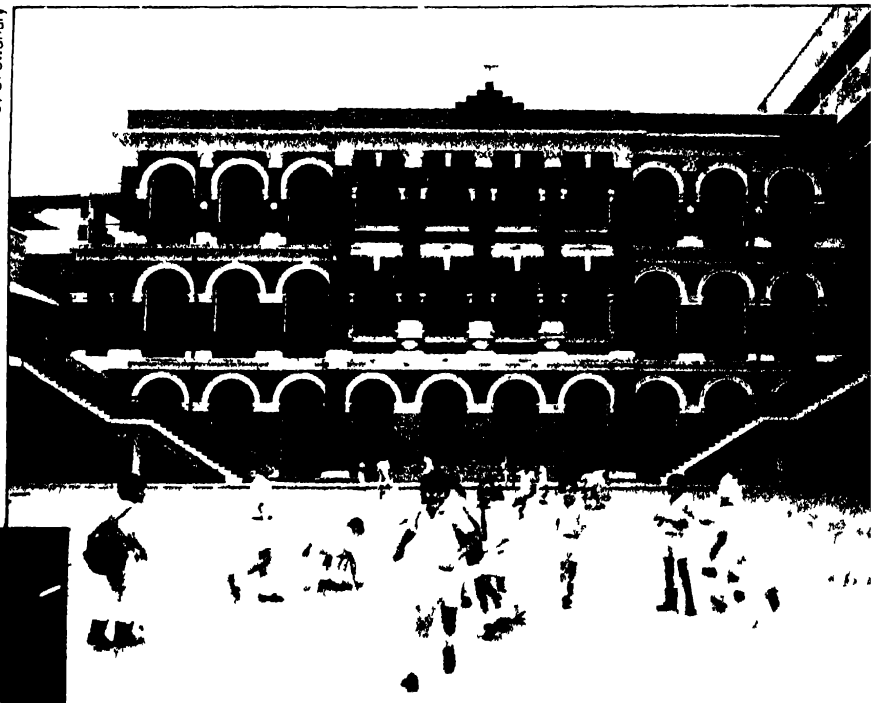
I fully agree with Anil Gupta that Amitabh Bachchan [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

To Serve, With Love

It is exactly a century since the Christian Brothers of Ireland arrived in this country to serve and to teach. **Yana Banerjee-Bey** visits their oldest institution, St Joseph's College in Bowbazar

For 94 years, the three storey red brick building of St Joseph s school has stood off Bowbazar Street its graceful facade erected in what was the most congested area of British India s capital For even longer a hundred years precisely the Christian Brothers of Ire land have taught and fed the poor children of the area and it is the centenary of their arrival in India that St Joseph s is com memorating with a year long celebration already underway

But the institution s origin which dates back to 1839 was not only humbler but intriguing as well That year a Mrs Cooper was murdered in her house at 68, Bowbazar St one night The case was never solved but it is recorded that Mr Cooper (who may have had a hand in the crime) could live there no longer and



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

The Provincial headquarters



Br C.J. Harrison (right). End of an Irish connection



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

Br E.L. Miranda, the first Indian principal



A picture of boarders and day scholars reproduced from the October 1892 issue of the Calcutta fortnightly, *The Empress*; courtesy St Joseph's College

rented the house to be a school for poor Catholic boys and girls It was known then as St Francis Xavier's Day School In time, the numbers grew and in 1855 the boys section was moved to 69, Bowbazar St where St George's Free School stands

In 1864 a pay section was opened The differentiation between the pay and free sections in a way marks the foundation of St Joseph's and the school celebrated the 125th anniversary in 1989 Boarders began to be taken in (This stopped in 1944 to create space for more day scholars) In 1872 it became officially St Joseph s Boarding and Day School The girls by then looked after by the Loreto nuns, were shifted next door where they still are In 1896 the three-storey building was officially opened and the next year Mr Cooper's old house had to be demolished following damage in an earthquake and the present church of St Francis Xavier was built on the site The free school which had been housed in the Cooper upper storey, moved to the St George's building where it remains

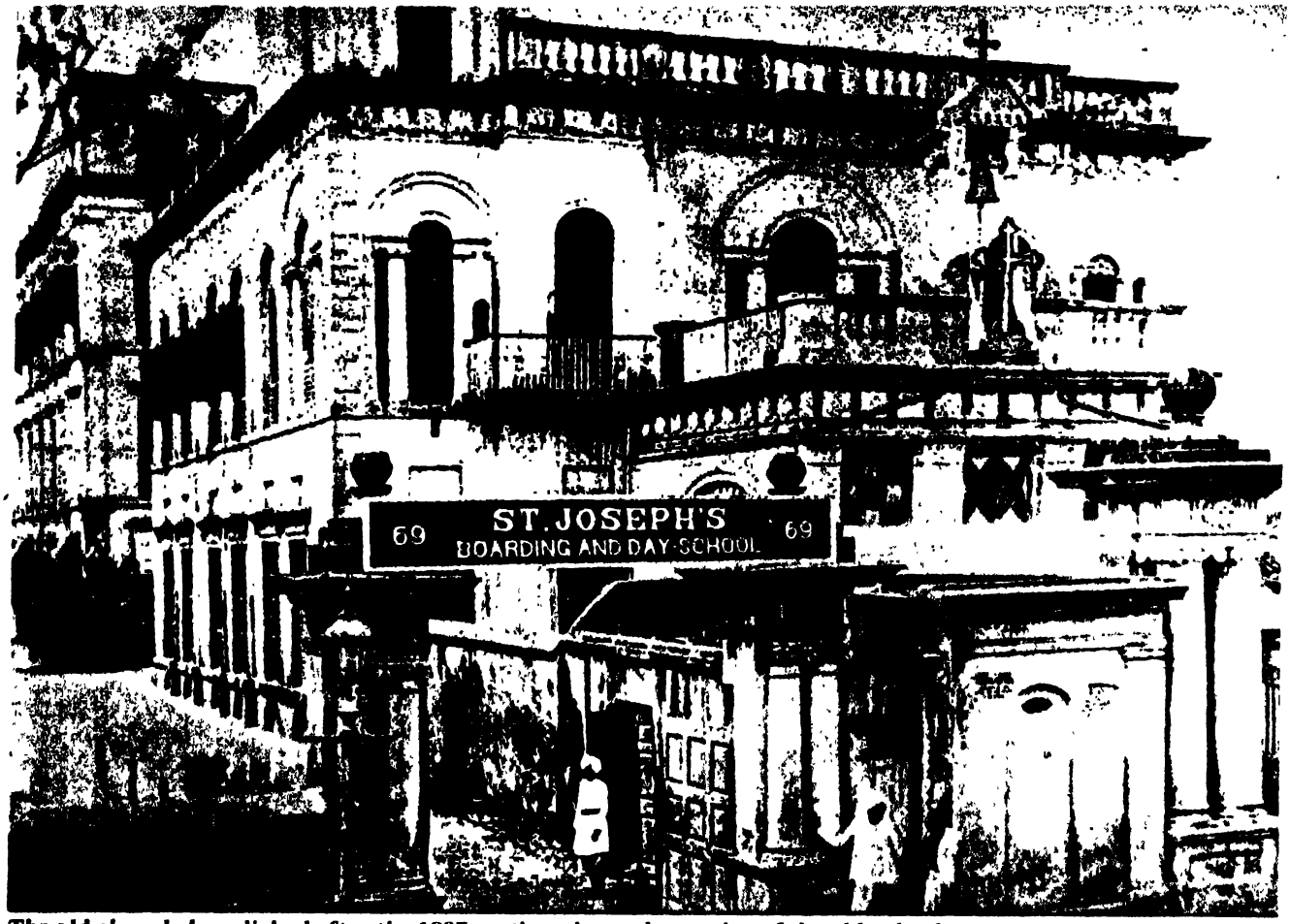
But St Joseph s growth did not end there In 1924 it was elevated to college status. Subsequently, wings housing laboratories and extra classrooms were added to the main building And, in January this year, St George's became affiliated to the Open School scheme

As interesting as the origin and growth of the school is the founding of the Christian Brothers, whose association with St Joseph's began in 1890 The story goes that the wife of a 27 year old Irish businessman, Edmund Rice, was thrown from a horse and died after giving birth prematurely to a daughter who turned out to be physicaly and mentally handicapped Rice found solace in starting a school for poor boys in a rented stable But teaching rough, indisciplined youths was not easy and his paid assistants deserted him Undeterred, in 1802 he founded a society of men who would devote their lives to teaching the poor In 1820 the Christian Brothers were formally approved by the Pope

In 1848 Archbishop Carew of Calcutta arranged for the arrival here of two Irishmen, who were not strictly Christian Brothers but had been trained by them They formed the nucleus of what came to be called the Calcutta Brothers and which amalgamated with the parent body in Ireland in 1891 after the arrival of the first Christian Brothers in India the year before

Today there are about 130 Christian Brothers in India, running about 20 odd schools From the early days, a large number of the Brothers have been native Calcuttans and today 85 per cent of them are young Indian men many of them principals St Joseph's, which remains the provincial headquarters, has just got its first Indian principal, Br E L Miranda, a robust young man of just 30 who comes to Calcutta after stints in Goa and Asansol Originally from Bombay, Br Miranda's forte is literature and an informal, easy-going manner He has taken over from the 66 year-old and remarkably athletic Br C J Harrison (he enjoys cricket, hockey, tennis handball, swimming and roller skating) who completed 50 years in the organisation this January Br Harrison, a skilled administrator with degrees in English education and engineering, has steered the school for seven years He has been, with ex-vice principal Br Brendan MacCarthaigh—an immensely popular teacher with a special interest in English and value education and a clarinettist in his spare time—the best representatives of a fraternity (there are nine Christian Brothers in Bowbazar) known for its good humour and uncloistered outlook Adding homeliness to a genial house is an engaging dachshund named Tim

The Brothers have a fund of stories and not all the best ones are personal accounts, funny as well as sad There is



The old chapel, demolished after the 1897 earthquake, and a portion of the old school

the one about how, when India was at war during the Forties, the two Christian Brothers' schools in Asansol, St Patrick's and St Vincent's, were taken over by the army to serve as hospitals. The staff and children were shifted to St Michael's, Patna, and "the Brothers had to start from scratch" when they were allowed to return after the war. And, 30 years ago, when the Brothers opened a school in Goa, they lived and taught in a half-complete building for two years. "After classes they would have to start planning how to cook dinner." But the best story is one linked with India's freedom movement. In Patna in 1942, a Br O'Malley had the misfortune to be accosted by a crowd shouting, "*Angrezi hatao!*" He prudently decided to lend his voice to the slogan and the delighted processionists chaired him shoulder-high the rest of the way.

Ironically, the approximately 1450 seats in St Joseph's are in demand today because, parents feel, it is one of the good English-medium boys schools in the city and not because of its emphasis on value education. This anxiety on the part of parents notwithstanding, the school has not changed its criteria for admission and may turn down applicants with good academic records because "they can get into other schools. We want the ones whom no one else will have"—the slow learners, the failures.

St George's, which takes in poor children free of cost and supplies meals and medical care, has about 450 students—not all of whom last till the Open School scheme examination. "Malnutrition in early childhood causes brain damage so these children can't study very far," explains Br Harrison. St George's, which is a special school because there are no formal examinations till Class VI, has a separate principal and staff aided by the government which also provides a small capitation grant. Able students from St George's are shifted to St Joseph's to continue further studies, while vocational training is provided for the others.

In St Joseph's, poor Christian boys, SC and ST candidates, twins, brothers of pupils or of girls in Loreto, Bowbazar, sons of old boys, are accommodated as far as possible. The parents' values have to be taken into account to ensure there is no conflict between home and school as regards extensive value education classes, welfare activities, an annual social service week, involvement with the poor and illiterate of the neighbourhood and prayer services and retreats.

Happily, going by Br Harrison's words, parents feel a part of the larger St Joseph's family. About three-fourths of the money spent on repainting the historic building both in and out, cementing the playing field, adding an intercom system, besides other additions and alterations to prepare for the centenary, were raised by parents. "And now, they are so proud. They can show it off and say that they took part in doing it," says Br Harrison. Parents have also been a constant feature of the celebrations and other events, from that of Br Harrison's golden jubilee to the two musicals, *Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat* and *The Friend of Boys* (on the life of Edmund Rice) as well as the open-air mass which inaugurated the centenary celebrations. Also present was old boy Hashim Abdul Halim, Speaker of the West Bengal Assembly, who now sends his sons to the school.

Coincidental with the school's refurbishing, Gopi Mohan Bose Lane, on which it stands, was cleaned and repaired by the corporation—making outgoing school captain Jaspreet Singh Pal say his memory of his last months at school will be of a spick-and-span SJC and its neighbourhood. Though old boys probably remember, with far more affection, such things as the "obsolete water cooler...and the red building chipping with age", commemorated in a poem by another outgoing Josephite, Gaurav Kapoor. However, as misty-eyed old boys must surely know, the school motto, "*Viriliter Age*" (Act Manfully), should not give way even before nostalgia. ■

GODMAN ABOUT TOWN

Godmen keep popping in and out of the news, and as they are making headlines again I'll tell a little story you may find amusing

It goes back quite a while, to the time when Shriram Vasudev and I were first in school and then at college We were so close that the others called us "the twins" We weren't much good in class, but he was a fine sportsman and might have been selected for the Olympics if he didn't have so many distractions I basked in his popularity and when we passed out—both of us by the skin of our teeth—we swore eternal fealty

Then he went his way and I went mine In due time I was taken into the Foreign Service and he floated a film company with the money his father left him In fact, when I passed through Bombay before going abroad, he threw a party in my honour at which all the city's beautiful people were present and also, it seemed—despite prohibition—its entire stock of Scotch whisky When around midnight I went up to him to say goodbye, he had to be helped to his feet by two lovelies of the film colony, and when he tried to embrace me he nearly fell flat on his face "So long, fella," he said in the Hollywood manner, slurring his words

The years went by, and towards the end of my tour in the USA I went to Boston to pay a farewell visit to friends in the media Chris Campbell, who had been bureau chief of the *Christian Science Monitor* in Washington, pressed me to stay overnight "Tomorrow's Sunday," he said, "and I'll show you some of the countryside In the fall, it's something to see, with the trees all colours, of red, brown and green Besides, there's one of your countrymen around you might want to meet He's a sage or some such thing, but they all call him the Guru He's put up a temple about 30 miles from the city limits which he calls the House of God."

It was indeed a lovely drive, and on the way he told me more about the holy man "People ascribe unusual powers to him," said Chris "They come from all over New England merely to have his—how do you say it?—*darshan*. He looks deep into their eyes, mutters a few words of prayer, and they say that a strange peace descends on them They think he's wonderful"

I've seen some imposters in my time—the world of holy men is full of them—and again I smelled a rat But couldn't disappoint my friend, so I went along with his story

"I thought this type of person is concentrated on the West Coast," I said to him "Whatever made him choose the bleak climes of Massachusetts, where one can get snowed under for months on end!"

Chris Campbell shrugged his shoulders. "The competition, I guess," he said "California is already overcrowded with seers, as you must know. But this fella hasn't done too badly The place I'm taking you to cost more than a million dollars to build, and it came all from his followers Oh, he does the usual good deeds—charities hospitals and such like—but he feathers his nest at the same time He travels quite a bit holds meetings here and there and everywhere, and never fails to pack 'em in

Soon the rolling countryside gave way to reveal a cluster of modest dwellings, amidst which were the usual drugstore, motel and cinema, and on the fringe a monstrous pagoda-style building, gold spire and all, standing out from the rest like a sore thumb" "This is it," said Chris as he pulled up alongside a line of Cadillacs and Chrysler Imperials. "Looks like we're just in time for today's prayer meeting"

and what he turned out to be



There was a hush as we entered the hall People in their Sunday-best squatted uncomfortably on king-size Persian carpets, making a mess of their handsome designer clothes. There was the smell of incense. Somewhere a cymbal clashed. A conch-shell called.

Then a curtain parted and the holy man entered, holding his right palm in a straight line from his nose as if about to execute a coup at karate Ashes were smeared over his forehead, overpainted with vermillion marks He was clad in saffron-coloured robes, as were the two attractive blondes who accompanied him, one on each side, two paces behind Everyone folded hands and bowed low in their seats I did likewise

When I raised my head and looked at the figure reclining against a bolster on the rostrum, I fould myself looking at the visage of—could I be mistaken?—my old friend Shriram. He had developed a slight paunch and grown a Vandyke beard, but this was surely my companion of so many boy hood years Or was it?

The Guru again raised his right hand and uttered a sonorous "Om!" Then he sank his chin on his chest as if in meditation When he opened his eyes, he fixed his gaze on his audience, one by one, as if trying to identify each individual Following each such inspection, he seemed to mumble some kind of gibberish and then a long-drawn-out "Om!" and passed on to the person next in line

When at last he settled on me, there was a pause before he intoned the regulation verbiage I thought I saw a flicker of a smile on his lips and a twinkle in his eyes And then he winked at me!

Now there was no doubt whatsoever This was my boy hood friend, all right This was Shriram Vasudev—or I was the Reverend Martin Luther King.

P.L. Bhandari

This Tuesday, a decade will have passed without one of the greatest singers of our time, **Mohammad Rafi.** A selection of some songs from his treasure trove



Main yeh soch kar us ke dar se utha tha...

(Film: *Haqeeqat*; music: Madan Mohan; lyric: Kaifi Azmi)

I got up from her doorstep thinking to myself
That she would stop me, she would cajole me;

The way her hood fluttered in the wind, I thought
That she would hold me back and sit me down again;

I began walking away in a manner so
That she would beckon and call me back.

But she didn't stop me nor cajole me;
She didn't hold me back nor sit me down again;
She didn't beckon nor call me back,
And I kept advancing till
I drifted away from her.

Chhoo lene do nazuk honthon ko...

(Film: *Kaajal*; music: Ravi; lyric: Sahir Ludhianvi)

Let it touch your delicate lips,
This is nothing but a goblet;
[illegible] is the most beautiful reward
[illegible] has blessed us with.

Don't go away like this and
Lose these enchanting moments of youth;
This is the fondest message
Of a restless, throbbing heart.
Let it touch your delicate lips,
This is nothing but a goblet.

It is an old habit of the world
To provoke the evil within;
Yes, this is [illegible]
Take it as a blessed thing.
Let it touch your delicate lips,
This is nothing but a goblet.

Aap ke haseen rukh pe aaj naya noor hai...

(Film: *Baharen Phir Bhi Ayengi*; music: O.P. Nayyar; lyric: Anjaan)

Your lovely visage today has a virgin glow,
If my heart beats faster, that's no fault of mine.
Certainly, your eyes have said something
So if my heart beats faster, that's no fault of mine.

Within your cascading hair is this blossom-like
As the morning light comes through dark clouds
As far as the eye can see [illegible] is nothing but a [illegible]
So if my heart [illegible], that's no fault of mine.

Your eyes are lowered coyly, but have a touch of wantonness,
Your suppressed smile hides a bolt of lightning;
Your fresh youth is itself on a high,
So if my heart beats faster, that's no fault of mine.

Wherever your feet alight, the season changes,
And a full-blown spring courses through you
Ah, who else has the magnetism you have, my love,
So if my heart beats faster, that's no fault of mine.

Ai watan, ai watan, hum ko teri qasam...

(Film: *Shaheed*; music and lyric: Prem Dhawan)

We kept falling by the flame of freedom but sang undaunted
That life is what you lose for your motherland.

.....

Oh motherland, we swear by you
That we will shed our blood for you.
What are offerings of flowers at your altar,
We will place at your feet our heads, oh motherland...

From Punjab and from Maharashtra,
From U.P. and from Bengal,
In the tray of offerings we bring
Flowers of every hue, from every branch.
Whatever our names, our mission is one,
We will light up one lamp from another, oh motherland...

It matters not if we remain or not,
But we will for sure light up your path;
What if we mingle dust to dust,
We will emblazon you for sure with stars.
We will give you our blood
To ruddy your gardens with, oh motherland...

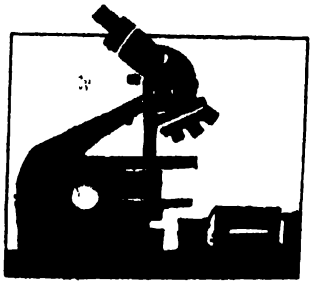
If a foe dares to covet you,
We will rest only after he is worsted,
The alien footprints upon your earth,
Those alien marks we will wipe clean.
Now whatever barrier comes in our way
We will demolish and destroy, oh motherland...

Bid us sweet farewell, dear friends,
We move on to keep our promise;
The wrist that wore a sister's love-bond
Now wears handcuffs, and so we move.
What if we don't see the spring of tomorrow,
We will usher in the spring for you, oh motherland...

Don't cry mother, for you are Bhagat Singh's mother,
Not even death can snatch your son;
Anyone can mount a mare and bring home a bride,
Not everyone can climb the scaffold readily.
We lovers have courted freedom and
One day we will bring the bride home, oh motherland...

When the coffins of the martyrs are lifted from the earth,
Do not shed tears for us, oh countrymen;
But when you celebrate the hour of freedom,
In that hour do not forget us, oh countrymen.
What if we can't return to your world,
We will come back to you as memories, oh motherland...

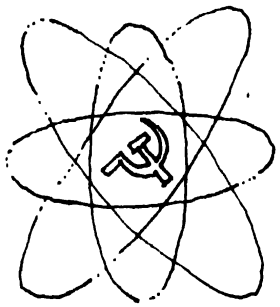
Translated by Anil Grover



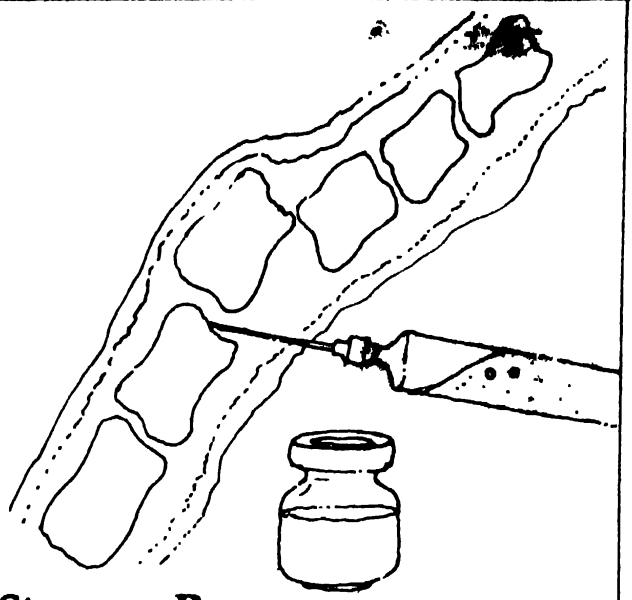
HORIZON

Science and Glasnost

Glasnost, Mikhail Gorbachev's prescription for transforming politics, has now cast its shadow on scientific endeavour too. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has received a large number of requests for assistance in re-examining operations as well as planned nuclear power units in Eastern Europe. Moreover, governmental authorities in the requesting countries are seeking the advice of international experts before moving ahead



with their nuclear programmes. Such requests to the IAEA are not unique, but according to a recent newsletter of the agency, this year has noticed a significant increase in such requests. The countries that are looking forward to the IAEA for help now more than they did earlier are Czechoslovakia, Rumania and of course the USSR. Besides, Poland is eager to get her energy planning reexamined properly. Will the inspection blow off the lids on safety lapses on the part of Communist rulers of yesteryears?

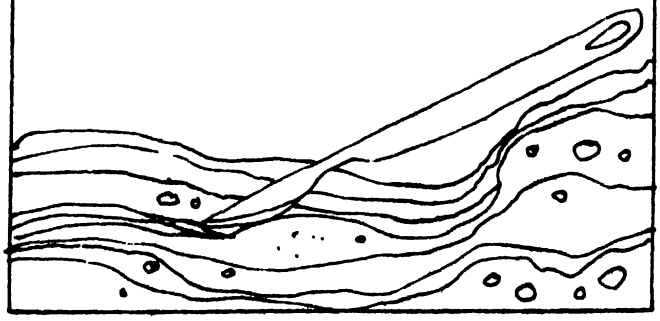


Stronger Bones

Researchers in the US have come out with a new treatment to strengthen bones and significantly reduce fractures in elderly people plagued with osteoporosis, the world's most common bone disease. According to a news item in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, a two-year study showed that treatment with a non-hormonal drug called etidronate greatly reduced the rate of spinal fractures, especially among women. Researchers said that etidronate stopped bone loss by inhibiting the natural process of decay in a complicated chemical reaction. Not only that, it builds up bone mass.

Surgical Jet Knife

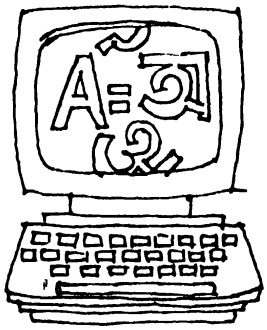
A Japanese company has developed a high pressure water-jet for surgical operations by blowing out water through a nozzle to work like a scalpel. The system, called aqua jet knife, consists of a hand piece that cuts by means of the force of the water-jet and a pump that produces the high pressure. An incision can be made in the desired region by blowing out a suitable chemical at a tremendous pressure. The advantage of the aqua jet knife is that it cuts an affected region without damaging blood vessels. It is particularly helpful in liver surgery as blood vessels are damaged in conventional surgical methods.



Illustrations: Anup Ray

Foetal Forecast

Doctors in the UK and Italy have come out with a new technique to determine the sex of a foetus by merely testing blood samples of would-be mothers. The fact that cells from the foetus pass into the bloodstream of the mothers through their placenta helped researchers devise the technique. Blood samples of 19 pregnant women were tested for analysing chromosomes. The 12 women, found with male chromosomes in their blood samples, gave birth to boys. While doctors expect the method to be an important preliminary test to determine genetic diseases in male babies, feminists fear it would lead to female foeticide in greater numbers.



Computer Translations

Computer experts at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore have developed a programme to help computers understand Indian languages. The Rs 1.4-crore project, according to a report in *Electronics Today*, is being supported by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and consists of language processing programmes. It has already developed computer translations from English to Kannada, Tamil and Hindi.

Compiled by Pathik Guha



HIRENDRA KUMAR GANGULY (1911-)



The doyen of the Lucknow tabla *gharana*, Hirendra Kumar Ganguly (better known as Hirubabu) was born in April 1911 in Calcutta. He studied at North Suburban School and Scottish Church Collegiate School and College. An honours graduate in philosophy, he took his law degree in 1933 and four years later passed the attorneyship exams. He began his career as a legal practitioner at the Calcutta high court and later became the company registrar there. He retired as the company liquidator in 1969.

A life, born for music, could not be cloistered by a profession. Hirubabu represents the old gentleman-musician tradition which is now almost extinct. A thoroughly amateur practitioner, he excels in the detailed presentation of the tabla solo in the style of the authentic Lucknow *gharana*. Hirubabu took his first tabla lessons from his father, Manmathanath Bose, also an amateur tabla player and patron of music, and later from his father's guru, Nagendranath Bose who was trained by the renowned Babu Khan. The final polish to Hirubabu's expertise was given by none other than Khalifa Abid Hussein Khan. The correct sequence of items in an authentic tabla solo can be gathered from Hirubabu's rare recitals. He had the rare disctinction of accompanying stalwarts like Baba Alauddin Khan, Enayet Khan, Hafiz Ali Khan, Chhote Khan, Girijashankar Chakraborty, Ali Akbar Khan and Ravi Shankar.

Besides his musical acumen, Hirubabu was an active worker of the Congress, a councillor during 1943-48 and chief whip of the Congress Municipal Association. He was also involved with the Scout movement.

There are no commercial recordings by this legendary tabla player. Awards hardly inspire this dedicated amateur. But for the records: he has been honoured with the West Bengal government's Allauddin Khan Memorial Award, among others. The Calcutta Corporation gave him a civic reception in 1962.

The sketch above shows his residence at 6 Banamali Chatterjee Street in north Calcutta.

INNER EYE □ Bejan Daruwalla

ARIES
March 21—April 20
The week s highlights are loans funds buying, selling, leasing financing, investing and, of course the continuation of the home and property trends of the last week Romance will be hot and hectic thanks to the moon s first quarter A lot of mental travel and possibly a major move or a shift or a transfer are on the way

TAURUS
April 21—May 20
The week s main trends are romance marriage ceremonies, property, communication contacts and final triumph, as Mars swishes away in your sun sign Response receptivity and rewards are assured in romance Many splendid financial opportunities to go ahead will be available Collaborations links ties and commuting are the names of the game Minor throat infections may worry you

GEMINI
May 21 June 20
Job opportunities and a new high in profession business and free-lancing so grab the goodies and invest wisely Romance promises an excellent going Loans and funds will be available Your health should hold up pretty well and thus allow you to do the things you want It is time to beautify clean polish and renovate the house

CANCER
JUne 21—July 20
Have fun make money socialise and rest assured that you will triumph In romance you will be adorned felicitated and cherished Your financial graph shows an upward trend and you could close deals to your immense advantage Venus in your sun sign according to Western astrology indicates plenty of movement and that includes creativity and imagination

LEO
July 21—August 21
Property office new business expansion architecture tremendous work pressures and heavy expenses are the salient features of the week You will have your share of romance but best to concentrate on your work On the financial front you will be buying selling, investing and preparing yourself for the future



VIRGO
August 22 Sept 22
Mercury in your sun sign indicates travel news messages auspicious events bargains trade offs and plenty of entertainment The Mars-Neptune trine assures you of love and being wanted and that is what life is all about You are on a solid financial wicket People from distant places will have a hand in your scheme and affairs Your health remains fine but elders are advised to go in for regular checkups Elegance and style will characterise your home

LIBRA
Sept 23 Oct 22
Your purse will be full favours will be granted your work reaches a new high and more importantly excellent prospects for the balance of the year Get the finance and romance will follow Happy rewards greater satisfaction and maybe a job-hop in the near future are likely Distant places and new pastures will lure you to travel Health remains sound as a bell Important and useful changes in the home and family are indicated Never mind the expenses Go ahead!

BIRTHDAYS

July 29
Moon conjunction Pluto Home, property, parents, in-laws will have the first right on you. You will make money, go on a journey and have a celebration A year of chop and change which eventually proves advantageous and lucky.

July 30
Moon sextile Neptune Opportunities to travel, expand and be wonderfully different and creative will be available. Those in property, the arts, science, research, entertainment, land, building and leasing do remarkably well.

July 31
Moon trine Jupiter, Success in litigation, games of chance, romance and finance is predicted. So develop confidence in yourself. A year of pelf and progress for Leons

August 1
Moon trine sun Travel, ceremonies, functions and new pastures are indicated for Leons. It would be advisable to take a few chances as nothing ventured nothing gained, applies to you.

August 2
No strong aspect Your wishes will be granted if you strive with grit, determination and imagination. Travel, trade, sales, publicity, teaching, religion, law and medicine are the suggested outlets and avenues for Leons

August 3
Mercury trine Uranus. Your work area will be highly activated. It is time to hone in on professional job and business skills. Love too will not be denied.

August 4
Despite a few hurdles and obstacles you will emerge the winner, given tenacity and determination. Letters, calls, mate and partner may bring some bad news.

SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 20
The moon s last quarter in your sun sign means greater self-confidence, more responsibility, perks, status, honours, riches and awards Journey, letters and calls figure in romance and ties On the financial side, invest pick up a great bargain or a discount No major health problems except dangers from sharp tools, implements hernia and possible operations Travel is more than a possibility

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 21 Dec 20
Ceremonies auspicious events religious rites collaborations publicity boosts new assignments loans and funds are favourably signified You will have just the right dose of romance Travel is a dominant feature You may have a feeling of uneasiness but stop worrying needlessly

CAPRICORN
Dec 21 Jan 19
You will spend enjoy contact the right people invest use joint funds or finances and prepare for a major shift or move A wish fulfilment is possible in romance Investments trading commission buying and selling constitute a busy financial week Travel with a stop over is indicated also a lot of correspondence and calls

AQUARIUS
Jan 20- Feb 18
Power pelf new opportunities and a job-switch are indicated in work and at play Also opposition paradoxically enough Romance will be available in plenty Health shows a marked improvement August suggests travel links and even immigration if so interested It is time to do up the home pay attention to kids and take care of elders

PISCES
Feb 19—March 20
Romance marriage friendship collaborations, long-distance connections, travel publicity boost and work opportunities are the main trends of the week Your heart will speak the language of love and the response will be terrific and complete You shall have adequate money and perks A side business or overtime will rake in extra cash Travel is more than a possibility

YOUNG MASTERS



Only the third Indian to win the Junior Wimbledon, Leander Paes is the 17-year-old who could be King of the Court. SANJIB BANERJEE met the champ

In this late 20th century rat race, when sport has long ceased to be laid-back fun, the champion so often loses the man in him as he picks his way down the miasmal labyrinth to success Now and then comes a character—a locker-room euphemism for a joker—but jokers come in only for comic relief, they hardly stay back to play the lead Rarer than these characters come some champions who carry the human touch to the sporting field It's not enough to call Ian Botham a cricketer or Vijay Amritraj a tennis player Just as it is unfair to introduce Leander Adrian Paes simply as the junior Wimbledon winner of 1990 He's much less dramatic than that Leander Paes is an everyday person seeking to be the man he should be ahead of the champion that his tennis could make him

Leander is a remarkable young man—he's a 17-year old allright, but no boy—who hasn't picked up the cynicism that comes with growing up On court he is forever pumping the air after killing a point and the moment he steps beyond the tramlines he has shrugged off the bony victor to become refreshingly ordinary You are almost tempted to question his priorities as he says, "I'll try to do my best in tennis It is important, but maybe not as important as trying to be a good human being " An old world flavour amidst today's winner-takes-all madness "Every person is talented in his or her own way Not many discover themselves, and there are so many who can't help it even if they do Everyone is not the best, you seek your level and have to be happy with it All of us strive to be the best, but all of us can't fit up there We get so narrow minded, we can't handle defeat I never want to lose the full picture " You almost don't feel like talking tennis anymore with this 17 year-old It s a different person from the bubbly boy who, you had imagined, would go a-caper on his triumphant jaunt

He is not soft, far from it Leander will never have the contented elegance of Ramesh Krishnan When did Leander think he could make it? "I never thought I couldn't make it," he whispers and keeps the "I haven't made it yet" line to himself

It's the spirit that has carried him when he could just as easily have tripped on the flaws in his tennis

'That's it,' says his father Dr Vece Paes, "that's where the parents help, trying to play down the advantage every one has ascribed to Leander for having eminent sportspersons for parents in hockey Olympian Vece and basketball international Jennifer Sporting talent is not passed down genetically the doctor emphasises We could only create a sporting atmosphere for Leander Just as they never gave birth to politicians in the Kennedy family, they were made discussing world issues at the breakfast table So Leander got his first kicks from football and ask him for his idol today and he'd still tell you Zico Again the atmosphere at home helped in the switchover Not everybody has access to a tennis court in the brick and concrete of multi storeyed Calcutta Leander had Studies did not make up his whole world his sporting parents understood that He spent time on his tennis as the father took the important first step of striving to make an athlete before he became a sportsman

With father, Vece, sisters, neices and uncle



Nikhil Bhattacharya



Utpal Sonkar

New horizons

At age 13 the Britannia Amritraj Trust in Madras invited Leander to join them to try and make a tennis champion out of the athlete BAI was so much like home remembers Leander They welcomed me by saying they couldn't promise to make me a champion but they could promise to make us thorough gentlemen His studies continued alongside his tennis and Leander is now in Class IX at Madras Christian College

With BAI Leander was making some progress first at the sub junior and then the junior level There were one or two others at the academy who were making more name At the national level those were the days of Zeeshan Ali promise as Ramesh despite his silken touch steadied below the winner class in world rankings and Vijay Amritraj was on a final glow At his level Leander was thereabouts but Gaurav Natekar son of another sporting international badminton ace Nandu, was more there

From January of 1989 Leander's tennis started moving into a higher gear He won the national under 16 title in Guwahati and by summer was on the International Tennis Federation's east Asian junior touring team for the European circuit ending at Wimbledon Leander was only to get the feel of being there his performance nothing to write home about But by then Leander had a perfect guide in BAI's American coach Dave O'Meara We understand each other so well says Leander 'that I want to do so much for Dave Sir It was as much his victory when I won the Wimbledon juniors





The smashing Leander

— Rashbehari Das



— Utpal Sorkar

From last October through now Leander has gone through a period of incessant tennis. "He hasn't had any time to work on his game," says Dr Paes, "and I'm a bit worried. Now is the time for him to brush up his game so that technique becomes a sub-conscious feeling later." The champion is not so bothered. "I'm winning, so my game can't be so wrong," he replies. His tennis is not wrong, but it could be so much better.

Having watched Leander's Davis Cup debut against Japan in Chandigarh last March, Ramanathan Krishnan pointed out a champion oddity in Leander's play. "Players learn their groundstrokes first," Krishnan said. "The net play and volleying comes later. It's not as if Leander does not have the groundstrokes, but it's not the same class as his game at the net."

Back at South Club in May, on one of his increasingly infrequent trips home, Leander looked to be working extra hard in finishing off the points when he was actually only sparring. "When he was practising some shots," Dr Paes says, "and the others were counting points, Leander would end up losing some of those matches. It wouldn't be the best thing for his morale to be told he had lost to some player the other day. So he would try to beat them even when he was working on some aspect of his game."

It is that extra bit of pressure that Leander surely feels on himself after his ending up runners-up at the junior Australian Open (See cover story, February 15, 1990) and his triumph at Wimbledon. He has set the standards. He has raised the expectations. "That's a responsibility," says the father as he lets Leander tackle the searching, and often embarrassing, questions from the media. "No, I don't have a girlfriend," Leander says quite comfortably to one and "yes, that's right, I don't have the time for one," he agrees with another. And then he grumbles with a third, "But this is my normal life. I chose tennis. I love it." They all love him now that he is showing the makings of a champion, and Leander Paes has it in him to love himself even if he never makes a senior champion.

World chess Candidate Vishwanathan Anand of Madras is a placid but highly motivated individual. He sets himself reasonable goals and keeps going -one step at a time. Back in 1987 when he was playing in the World Junior Chess Championship they asked him to rate his chances. He said, "None at all", and proceeded to win it.

Then they asked the new world junior champion if he had ambitions of dethroning Kasparov and he said, "Oh, no! I just want to become a Grand Master in the next couple of years." He became a GM (India's only one so far) within four months.

They asked him the same questions all over again after he won the Coimbatore tourney to clinch the GM title. The 18-year-old said, "Just being a GM is nothing special. I want to improve my rating and play in the Interzonal."

Last week he came third in the Manila Interzonal where he had "no expectations whatsoever" and "played one game at a time". This performance catapulted him into a elite band of 16 GMs -the so called Candidates- who will produce the challenger for the 1993 World Title match.

By becoming the second Asian ever to qualify for the Candidates' final, Vishwanathan Anand is now several moves closer to the world title. DEVANGSHU DATTA takes a close look at the 'Lightning Kid' of world chess

It's a long hard road to the World Championship and when asked about his prospects in the Candidates matches Anand said (you've guessed it), "No expectations whatsoever." The man (remember he is only 20) does not believe in putting pressure on himself.

Ten others qualified from Manila along with Anand. They join four previous qualifiers and the loser of the Karpov-Kasparov match this October in a knockout cycle. Lots will be drawn and they will be paired off in one-to-one matches over the next two years. The survivor plays against the winner of the Karpov-Kasparov match, in other words, the world champion.

To get this far is theoretically possible for anyone. All he (or she, or possibly it if computers keep improving) has to do is

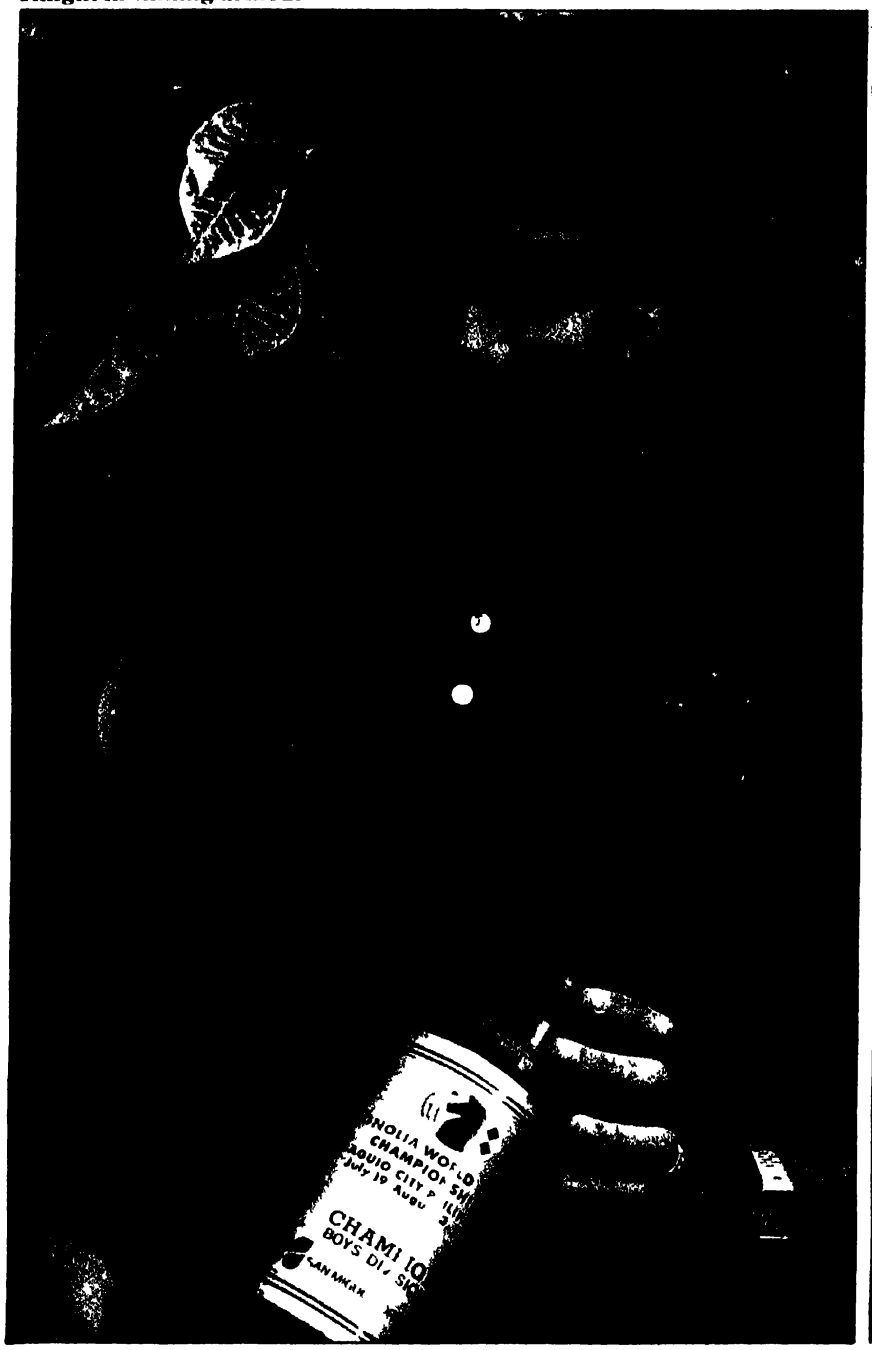
win the national title This ensures a berth in a Zonal Then the Zonal toppers get to play an Interzonal and thence on to the Candidates

So to go all the way requires a rather large investment of time a great deal of talent and perseverance and a sound temperament Including Anand there are seven newcomers in the 93 cycle The oldest is Nikolic (30) and the youngest is Alexei Dreyev (19) All of them come from powerful federations and had plenty of support All of them have been around for quite a while despite their youth

Ask a chess expert about the aforementioned Super Ks" title match and he will hedge his bets Ask him who is the fastest thinker in the world and you will get a straight answer—V Anand

The phenomenal speed of Anand's play resulted in him being dubbed The Lightning Kid Standard time alloted in a chess game is 120 minutes for 40 moves

Knight in shining armour



Utpal Sarkar

SPASSKY, FISCHER

Grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand rewrote the history books by qualifying for the Candidates' Super Grandmaster Tournament. Anand's rise to the level of a Super Grandmaster is phenomenal and has been achieved in the space of the past two years. He has advanced to the fourth stage of the World Chess Championship cycle and is the first Indian to do so. GM Eugene Torre of the Philippines is the only other player in Asia to have become a Candidate Grandmaster. Ever since he became a GM, Anand has been working hard and has been improving constantly. His professional manager from London secured him invitations to many European Grandmaster circuit tournaments which enabled Anand to achieve the 2600 Elo rating grade and attain Super GM level.

Anand is a sound theoretician with a tactically oriented style of play. His openings are bang up to date as he keeps track of at least five different sources from international tournaments. This factor plays a vital role in the final outcome of many games. Anand executes his moves with lightning speed thereby mounting pressure on his opponents' clock. Even in Manila a well-established player like GM Tony Miles lost to Anand The Indian ace

Utilising 90 100 minutes is considered brisk Anand averages something under half an hour!

A bewildered Grandmaster Vladimir Tukmakov once remarked People play that quick only in a coffee house! Anand had just won a 28 mover dished off in 12 minutes GM Jon Speelman predicted Anand would be a world beater if he really started thinking!

This is the unique facet of Anand's playing style—his machine gun velocity It pressurises opponents who end up scrambling to complete their 40 moves, completely demoralised

Otherwise Anand is a very sharp very well prepared theoretician He not only knows what other people are playing he finds improvements in home analysis The excellence of his homework can be gauged from the fact that he is the only man to qualify for this Candidates cycle without a second to help him out

Anand despite his astounding speed of thought is an exciting rather than excitable individual He always plays one game at a time one move at a time never losing his cool under fire At Manila he decided to play safe in the early rounds and gun for victory in the last stages This worked perfectly as he reeled off three wins and a draw at the end of the meet The capacity to rise to a challenge and go into super gear is another pointer to his excellent temperament

Born in December 1969 Anand's career graph has been prodigious, but

KARPOV, KASPAROV ... ANAND?

International Master V. RAVI KUMAR analyses the Indian Super Grandmaster's chances

took just 25 minutes for the entire game against two and a half hours by the American.

Anand is immensely talented and in my opinion has not yet realised his full potential. He is world champion material, according to many Western experts. But some are critical of his lightning speed which is the hallmark of his style of play. Anand explained, "I am guided by my intuition in spotting my opponent's moves in the game. I calculate quickly and once the variations are mathematically checked I execute it immediately because I am confident of my judgement. Also, the knowledge and experience gained from my earlier games have enabled me to improve my game".

Anand will have to play well in the Candidate matches starting in early 1990-91. At this stage, it will be on a knockout basis among the 16 players. The next step will be the semi-finals and finals, leading to the chess summit. He will have to strive hard and prepare well. World champions are not made with sheer talent and hard work alone. They do need the backing of an organisation and the government in a big way. So far Anand's parents have provided their prodigious son with all the backing and encouragement and continue to do so. The government and federation have also encouraged him.In Holland, Jan Timman became a Candidate Grandmaster and a special fund and organisation was set up by the Dutch government. Timman made it to the final before he lost to Anatoly Karpov of USSR. The Candidate Master would need the services of a team of experts to work on his opening repertoire and accompany him to the Candidates' tournament. They will also be sparring partners for match experience counts most of all at this stage. Physical and psychological training is another must. I sincerely hope that India will take the cue from Holland and provide Anand with the necessary facilities. If this happens we can hope for an Indian world chess champion from the country that gave the royal game to the world.

steady No setbacks goals set and achieved usually ahead of schedule He learnt chess from his mother Susheela and honed his skills as a nine year old in Manila where his father was posted Third in the World Under 14 he was an International Master and Asian junior champion at 15 The youngest ever national champion at 16, and a world junior champion and GM, both at 18 (See cover story, January 31, 1988) "Nothing special "I

After that he acquired a manager (agent, really) who would select the international tournaments he would play He won at Wijk n Zee (Holland) in 89 traditionally one of the strongest fields in the world For India he was the inspiration behind the triumph at the Salonika Olympiad The national team beat England and landed in the top 20 for the first time despite forfeiting an entire round

Unfortunately he is an aberration in the Indian and Asian context He is only the second Asian after GM Eugenio Torre (Philippines) to have ever qualified for the Candidates Despite India's increasing credibility, the Baruas, Thipsays, Murugans et al are not in the same class as Anand. Anand, or rather the All India Chess Federation, has to find top quality GMs who can help him train for the Candidates

Not very coincidentally, most of the people who could do the job come from federations which have other players in the fray There is a certain risk in employing, say, a Russian to train Anand for a match with, say, Ivanchuk or Judasin

Given this drawback and the second one of lacking match experience, Anand does have certain factors in his favour He will always be the underdog which is a situation he relishes His level headedness and modesty should ensure that he doesn't 'psych' himself out His really excellent theoretical preparation is ideally suited to match play Finally speed could be a major factor, for Candidates matches feature gradually decreasing time controls

Of course most people would back the loser of this October match against anyone else in the Candidates cycle Kasparov is the highest rated player of all time and Karpov won the 90 cycle with ease Still, Anand should give a good account of himself against all comers He may lose, but he is unlikely to be humiliated

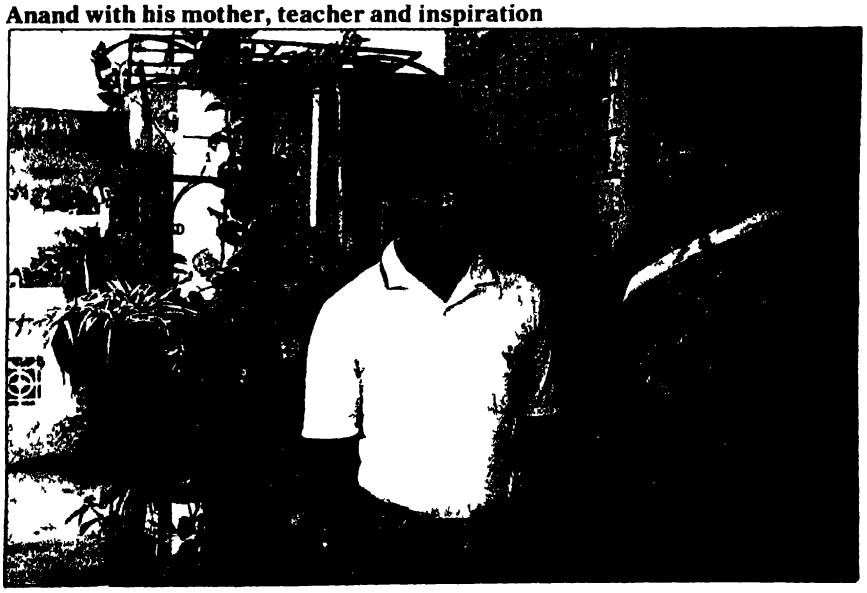
Knowing Anand one suspects he would simply regard his possible elimination as excellent practice for the 96 Candidates cycle To date he has always stated that the world championship was a long way off and set himself subsidiary goals which he has proceeded to fulfil Now there is really nothing else for him to aim for and so, logically he will set his sights on the world championship

Trying to analyse the reasons for Anand's success one comes across a certain paradox He has always been asthmatic suffering occasionally severe bouts The world junior was won while flitting in and out of hospital The struggle to overcome this may have helped him mature quickly Also, he picked up tennis and swimming which keep him in good shape

The other obvious factors are a very stable and supportive set of parents They have always helped and encouraged him without creating pressures Then, again, he spent two of his formative years in Manila which is the chess capital of Asia He received good care and coaching at that stage and played with other talented youngsters

Chess, the historians agree, is a game of Indian origin After centuries of neglect in its native land, maybe the exploits of one man will put India back on the world chess map Given whole hearted support, there is no reason why he can't do it—though a certain Garri Kasparov may feel differently ■

Anand with his mother, teacher and inspiration



Tapan Das

A Passage to Mars

The only question is, should the astronauts go via the moon, writes **Donald J. Frederick**

Is there life on Mars? "Maybe not, but there will be," vow the red planet's enthusiasts

A team of astronauts could be strolling under martian skies by the year 2006, say National Aeronautics and Space Administration officials

But many other advocates of a Mars journey are not happy because NASA first plans to visit the moon with a series of orbiting scouting missions, robotic explorations of the lunar surface and perhaps a manned outpost by 2004

Former Apollo astronaut Michael Collins concedes that the NASA approach makes some sense, but adds, 'The moon is an unnecessary detour that would delay our colonising a much more interesting place Besides, I think NASA only needs one major goal, not two' But NASA administrator Richard H Truly considers the moon a critical step on the way to Mars It will be an important way station to support our Mars exploration," he says, 'and what we learn on the moon will greatly reduce our risks as we proceed with the exploration an exploitation of Mars "

Mark Craig who heads the lunar Mars exploration office at the Johnson Space Center here, stands firmly in his boss's corner "It's crucial that we forge a strong logistics chain," he says "Problems that might only hinder a moon mission could prove fatal on the longer and more demanding trip to Mars "

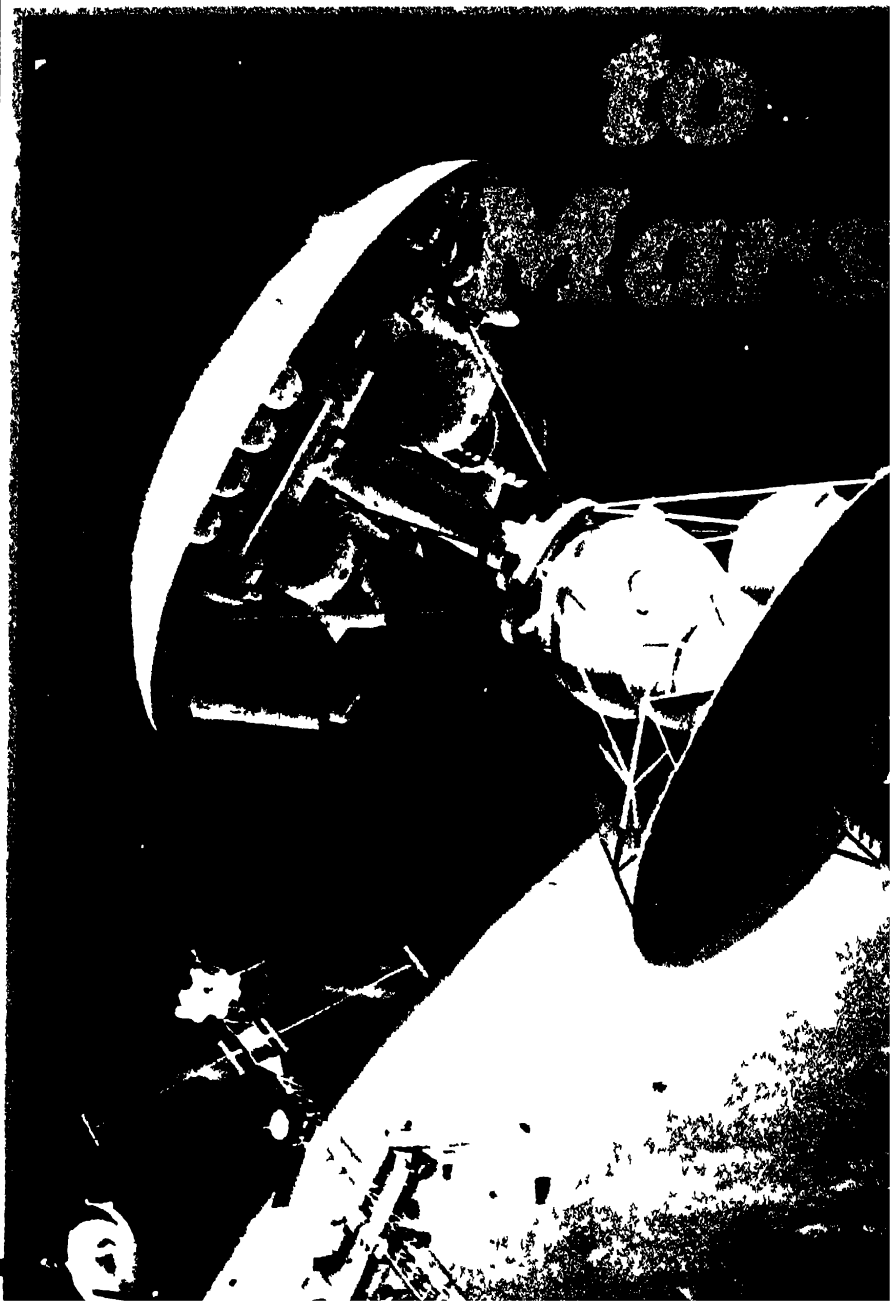
Craig likens space to the unknown seas that confronted early earthbound explorers "Those adventurers first hugged the coastlines of Europe and Africa as they ventured across the open ocean, where they could set up staging areas and settlements on islands It was a very staged progression of steps And that is how we view the moon on the way to Mars "

Collins, on the other hand, feels that most of the logistics and equipment for a Mars mission could be tested on Earth in a frigid, isolated region such as Antarctic or in low Earth orbit In a scenario envisioned by Collins, now an aerospace consultant in Washington, D C , and other experts a Soviet and an American spacecraft, assembled at space stations, could be launched from low Earth orbit for a 22-month mission to Mars as early as July 2004 Their crews would spend about 40 days on the red planet

NASA official and proponents of an earlier Mars mission agree on one thing the exploration of the planet should not be a dead-end, one shot spectacular, but rather an orderly progression from first landing to small outpost to martian colony

Because of better communications and shorter distances from Earth, a manned outpost could be set up on the moon much more easily than on Mars "It's the closest celestial body, so we should learn to live there, develop it economically and become a truly spacefaring civilisation," says Lori Garver, executive director of the National Space Society, a private organisation that encourages US space exploration

To keep the lunar economy humming,





the moon's soil would be tapped for oxygen to help fuel rockets, silicon to make solar cells and materials from which to fashion strong glass composites and ceramics.

"The moon is also a potentially important source of helium 3, a gas rarely found on Earth that someday could be important in the development of fusion as a source of electric power" says Doug Blanchard, chief of planetary sciences at the Johnson Space Center. A shuttled-size craft returning from the moon, he says, could carry enough helium 3 to satisfy US electric-power needs for a year.

Earthbound astronomers stand to reap the most immediate scientific rewards from a return to the moon. Set up on the dark side of the moon and shielded from Earth's noise and light, their remote optical and radio telescopes would get an unprecedented view of the universe.

"The moon is our nirvana; it is quite simply the best place in the accessible universe from which to do astronomy," says Harlan J. Smith, a University of Texas astronomer.

Unlike many of his NASA colleagues, Owen E. Gwynne, an engineer at Ames Research Center, sees no compelling scientific reason for going back to the moon. "The moon is nothing more than a big cement ball in the sky," he says, "a dead planet with no tectonics, no active geology or atmosphere. Conceivably it might make a good observatory, but we've already made a big astronomy commitment with the soon-to-be-orbited Hubble space telescope."

More Earth-like than the moon, Mars has an atmosphere, but it is harsh—almost all carbon dioxide with just a trace of nitrogen, argon, oxygen and water vapour. Surface temperatures in some places may reach only 30 degrees fahrenheit in midsummer. Both poles are covered with ice caps that change size with the season The ice, formed from water and carbon dioxide, has been called "frozen club soda."

"Mars is a planet proved to have both atmosphere and water and many geological features found on Earth," says Louis D. Friedman executive director of the Planetary Society, a group dedicated to planetary exploration and the search for extraterrestrial life. "It fascinates us as a possible past, present and future abode for life and now beckons humans to become a multiplanet species."

The key point is that on Mars you can probably extract water in some fashion," says Bruce Murray, a planetary scientist at the California Institute of Technology. Water from martian ground ice or polar caps could be electrolysed to produce oxygen to breathe. Hydrogen from the process could be combined with atmospheric carbon dioxide to produce methane, a fuel suitable for rockets, rover vehicles or habitat heating. With sufficient water, plants might be grown in the martian soil in greenhouses. the soil also might yield cement, glass and metals for construction.

"We should enter an agreement with the Soviets and other space-conscious nations and make Mars our priority," says Murray. "NASA has never seriously accepted the challenge of going there and is finding reasons to dally at the moon."

Continuing budget deficits in both the Soviet Union and the United States could make the Mars-moon question moot. "It will take some real statesmanship in the face of very difficult budgetary and fiscal realities to get the funds for these long-range, speculative space ventures," says John Logsdon, director of George Washington University's Space Policy Institute.

(National Geographic News Service)

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

Aamir Khan and Madhuri Dixit in *Deewana Mujh Sa Nahin*



REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road; 280141), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133) — 4 shows; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417) — 3 shows.

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher.

• **Deewana Mujh Sa Nahin:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road; 363264).

Aamir Khan and Madhuri Dixit are the lead pair. Also in the cast are Khushboo, Jainendra, Satyen Kappu, Beena and Ranjeeta in a guest appearance. The film is directed by Y. Nageshwar Rao and the music is by Anand Milind.

• **Ghayal:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270) — 4 shows.

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the chief attractions. Others co-starring are Amrish Puri, Moushumi Chatterjee, Om Puri, Raj Babbar, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Shafi Inamdar and Annu Kapoor. The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Gunahon Ka Devta:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849), Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 311090), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757) — 4 shows.

Mithun Chakraborty, Sangeeta Bijlani, Aditya Pancholi, Sujata Mehta, Shakti Kapoor, Kulbhushan Kharbanda and Danny comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Kawal Sharma and the music is by Annu Malik.

• **Jurm:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383), Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033) — 4 shows; Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828)—3 shows.

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Vinod Khanna, Meenakshi Seshadri, Sangeeta Bijlani and Shafi Inamdar. The music is by Rajesh Roshan.

• **Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Jagat (Acharya Prafula Chandra Road; 365108), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311522)—4 shows; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417) — noon.

A social entertainer, starring Rekha, Jeetendra, Radhika, Anupam Kher and Utpal Dutt. The film is directed by Manobala and the music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

• **Badnaam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080) — 2.30, 5.15, 8; Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567) — 2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282) — 2, 5, 7.45.

Shibu Mittra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit and Shakti



Amateur Dramatists' *Layavinyas*

Kapoor. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Garmil:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

A film by Dilip Roy, starring Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy and Rupa Ganguli. The music is by Kanu Bhattacharya.

Special Events

29 and 30 July: 3 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Malayanada in the New South Gallery.

•An exhibition of paintings by Arup Mukherjee in the West Gallery.

29-31 July: 3 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Moulinath Chakraborty in the South Gallery.

•Ranjit Roy's exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

• Basab Chattopadhyay will hold his paintings exhibition in the New Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road, 284302)

29 July: 5.30 pm

Rasika Ranjan Sabha and Amateur Dramatists present *Layavinyas*—a melody of music and percussion featuring N Shankar (mridangam), P Sairam (kanjira), G.K. Venkatachalam (ghatam), Kaushik Chowdhury (tabla), Bhaskar Mukherjee (tabla taraang), H Viswanath (synthesizer) and G.V. Rajan (violin and key board)

At Sri Thyagaraja Hall (P-530 Raja Basanta Roy Road; Calcutta 29).

29 July: 3.30 pm and 6.30 pm

Padatik presents the Hindi play, *Pratibimb*, written by Mahesh Elkunchwar and directed by Satyadev Dubey. The cast includes Arun Sharma, Sanchayita Bhattacharya, B.M. Hada and Neetu Khilnani.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

31 July: 6.15pm

Asthasi presents a programme of recitation and *sruti-natak*, featuring Pradip Ghosh, Amalendu Bhattacharya, Papia Adhikari, Sreela Majumder and others.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4): SU-537 at 1525

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4) SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1, 4) RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4). RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6). TG-313 at 1240, Dep. (2, 4, 7). IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3 6): TG-314 at 1355

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6). IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6) IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115, Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep (daily) BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920. Dep (1,2,3,4,6,7) BG-094 at 1620. Dep (5).BG-098 at 1820. Dep (1,7) IC-223 at 1340. Dep (2,4,6) IC-223 at 1640

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840. Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7) BG-093 at 1540. Arr (5). BG-097 at 1740. Arr (1,7) IC-224 at 1540. Arr (2,4,6) IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (2,5) BG-698 at 1415. Dep. (6) IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6). IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900. Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2) AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6) AI-309 at 1935

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr (5) AI-306 at 1815

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC 263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700. Arr (daily): IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily). IC-273 at 1920 and IC-176 at 0845; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1830 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily) IC-265 at 1700. Arr (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250;Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1540.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4) IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7) IC 213 at 1030 Arr (3,5,7) IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep (1,3,5,6) IC-219 at 1120. Arr (1,3,5,6) IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily) IC-221 at 1100; Arr (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily) IC-241 at 0700. Dep (2,4). IC-243 at 1400. Dep (3,5,6,7). IC-243 at 0600, Dep (1). IC-243 at 1400. Arr (daily): IC-242 at 0900. Arr (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr (3,5, 6,7). IC-244 at 1020, Arr (1) IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep (daily) IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily) IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6). IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6) IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7). IC-278 at 2215

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4) IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1) IC-287 at 0545; Arr (1). IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7) IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr (dai-

7 DAYS

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly) PF 706 at 1615

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi.
Dep (1 3 5) PF 715 at 0600
Arr (1 3 5) PF 716 at 1025

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari

Ziro-Daparizo Dep (2 4 6) PF 721 at 0930 Arr (2 4 6) PF 722 at 1805

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along
Dep (1 3 5) PF 723 at 1045
Arr (1 3 5) PF 724 at 1950

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna
Dep (2 4 6) PF 725 at 0550
Arr (2 4 6) PF 726 at 1040

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta
Dep (1 3 5) PF 737 at 0600
Arr (1 3 5) PF 738 at 1100

Trains

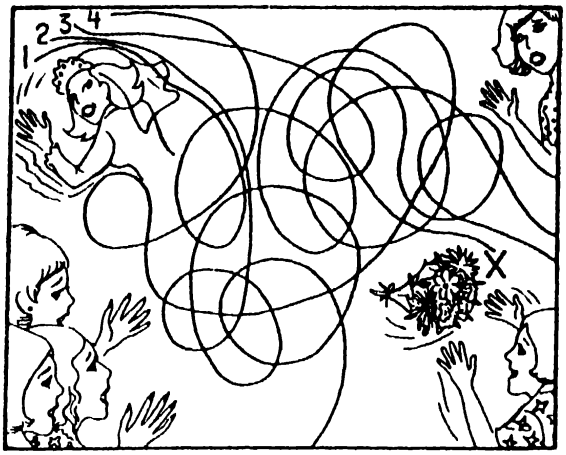
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
		Howrah		
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	**2312**
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fr & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep —Mon Wed Fr & Sun Arr —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	**2304**
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep —Mon Tues Thurs Fr & Sun Arri Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep —Tues Fri & Sat Arr —Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 15	3050
3011	20 45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	21 10	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep —Wednesday Arri —Friday	11 10	3026
3071	22 05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15 40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep —Tues & Wed Arri —Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fr	7 30	3328
5049	**22 25**	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	**10-40**	**5050**
		Sealdah		
3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6 15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16 30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12 50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri weekly Dep & Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
		Howrah		
6003	20 45	**Madras Mail**	6 45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7 25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14 30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4 30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14 45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep Tues Arr Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6 10	**Ispat Express**	21 45	8012
8005	21 40	**Sambalpur Express**	6 55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2821	5 55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21 20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4 15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arr Except Sunday	11 20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati Howrah Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	
	14 10	**Trivandrum Central Howrah Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep Fr & Sun Arr Tues & Fr	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	
	14 10	**Bangalore City Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545 54 for in coming trains, 203535 44 for all other informations For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays)



TOSS UP! Trace the path of this bridal bouquet. Which of four routes does it take to reach its destination at right?

• ODD ANGLES! If a bracelet is a B angle and a pendant a D angle letter these angles 1 A pesky knot 2 A coin rattle 3 A pressing device

1 T angle 2 J angle 3 M angle

1	D	E	N				
2		D	E	N			
3			D	E	N		
4				D	E	N	
5					D	E	N

SIMPLY SAY WHAT DEN

See if you can fill the blanks above with five words so that each horizontal row will contain a word with the letters DEN stepped off in the manner indicted

If you fail to think of five such words try the ones suggested by these definitions

1 Person who says, "Open wide "

2 Sidekick of a tonsil

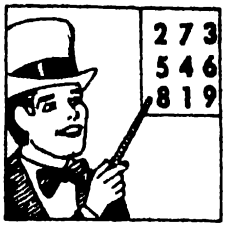
3 Hup, two, three, four, example

4 Person who attends school

What travel is wont to do they say

Time limit 2 min

1 Dennel 2 Adenoid 3 Cadence 4 Student 5 Broaden

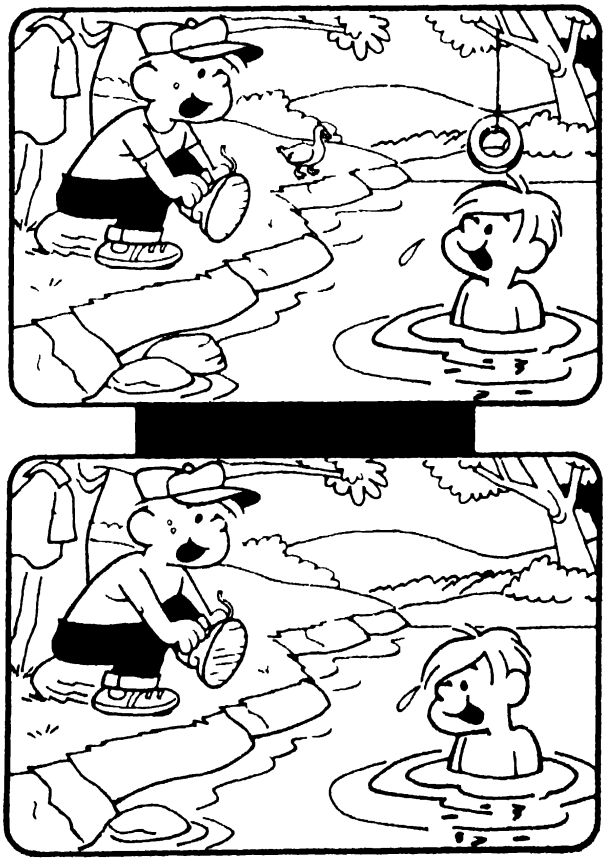


• SUM SPREAD! Digits 1-9 are arranged in the diagram below so that the middle row is double the amount of the top row, and the bottom row is three times the amount of the top row.

There are a number of other ways of arranging the same nine digits with similar results. See if you can find one.

One way 192 384 576, another 219 438 657 another 327 654 981

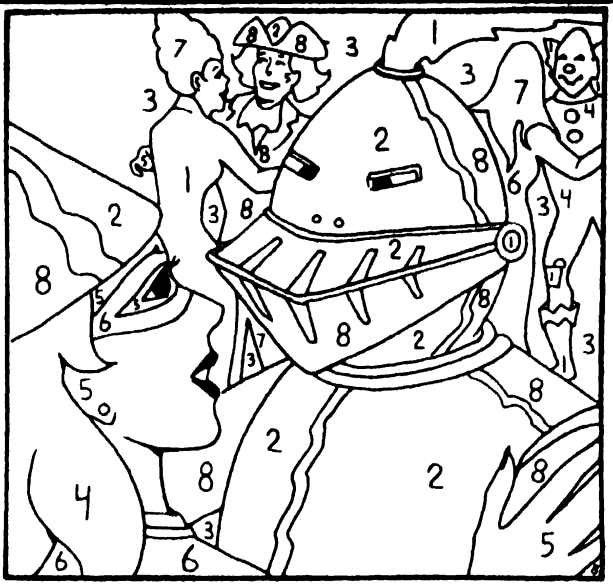
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Shirt on tree is smaller 2 Undershirt is missing 3 Rock is missing 4 Duck is missing 5 Swing is missing 6 Head is tilted

FUNSPOT



HEAVY METAL! M lady s dancing partner is a knight in shining armor Add these colors 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk blue

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

TESTATOR

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible twosome Tote star



QUIZ ◻ Neil O'Brien

A "Who am I?" from Othello Mazoomdaar, Boral

"A great scholar, novelist short story writer, humanist essayist and a Nobel laure ate at the age of 55, he was born in a June of the last quarter of the last century His father was twice Mayor of the city and his mother, who was of mixed German, Portuguese and West Indian blood, was a talented pianist and singer He was a pas-



sionate cyclist, never drove a car and never used a typewriter and his novels were of a peculiar combination of irony, regret, wisdom born of suffering, and courage and faith He married the only daughter of a wealthy mathematician and his eldest daughter who became an actress and married a famous English poet, is the author of *The Last Year A Memoir of My Father* He died at the age of 80 somewhere in Europe where FIFA has its headquarters

"Who was he and which English poet married his eldest daughter?

"Thomas Mann (born 1875, Nobel Prize in 1929, died 1955) and W H Auden married his eldest daughter "

Rajiv Nath reports from Guwahati

"The Quiz Forum of Sonari, Assam, conducted an open All-Assam quiz competition in the Don Bosco School auditorium, Sonari Braving the inclement weather, the quiz was attended by 44 teams from far and near Professor Dilip Baruah, very wellknown in Assam quiz circles, was the quizmaster In the keenly contested final, Cotton College, Guwahati, represented by Yugantar Jeevan Saikia, Ranjit Kr Das and Subir Kr Das won the 1st prize The second and third prizes were bagged by RMC club, Jorhat, and J B College, respectively "

"What was the Easter Rebellion?" asks B R Rao, Calcutta-25

April 24, 1916 Easter Monday Over 1500 Irish rebels, taking advantage of Britain's vulnerability during World War I, took to the streets of Dublin seized several public buildings, and declared Ireland an independent republic In the six-day Easter Rebellion, separatists held off the Royal Irish Constabulary, city police, and British troops before surrendering Killed in the crossfire were 52 rebels, 129 of the loyalist forces, and 450 city residents The uprising failed to arouse the majority of Irishmen, because most considered it treasonous to so distract the home government when at any moment the empire might fall before the German war machine British patriotism in Ireland no doubt would have continued till the war's end—especially since many Irish boys were fighting on the Continent, too—if Britain had not undertaken reprisals In 10 days, the authorities swept 2000 Dubliners into jail without trial The leaders of the rebellion were court-martialled and executed, including James Connolly, who was so severely wounded in the fray that he had to face the firing squad strapped into an upright stretcher The insurgents, who had been led to prison amid the taunts and jeers of the people suddenly became heroes in death their pictures joining those of saints on the walls of Irish Catholic homes

CBS

11th Question: **The eyes of E.T. in the film of the same name were modelled after a composite photograph of which three famous men? (A.Mukherjee, 23/46 Gariahat Road, Calcutta 700029)**

Ans: **A composite photograph of the eyes of Albert Einstein, the poet Carl Sandburg and Ernest Hemingway. Spielberg hoped that E.T. would project a combination of the intelligence, sensitivity and adventurousness those men represented.**

QUESTIONS

1) What is cot death? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)

2) What national week is celebrated in India in the first week of October? (Jay Shankar Menon, Calcutta 31)

3) Calcutta has Writers Buildings. What about Madras? (Nirmalya Kr Sarkar, Asansol 1)

4) In which famous document do these noble words occur: "That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?" (Samantha Durai, Calcutta 29)

5) Who scored the first goal in 'Italia 90'? (P. Surendra, Nawadah 10 & Asit Kr Panigrahi, Jharsuguda 2)

6) Which art-form was first devised in 1976 by Aloys Senefelder? (Shiladitya Bose, Calcutta 29)

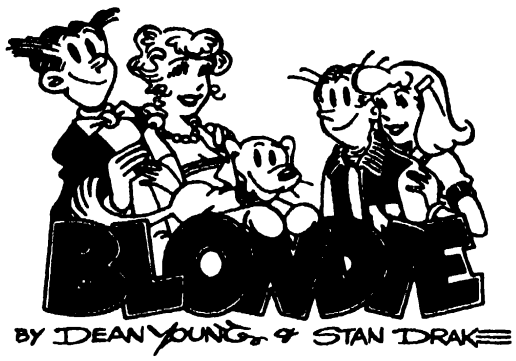
7) Who was the first American President to appear on television? (Rajeev Pillai, Calcutta 25)

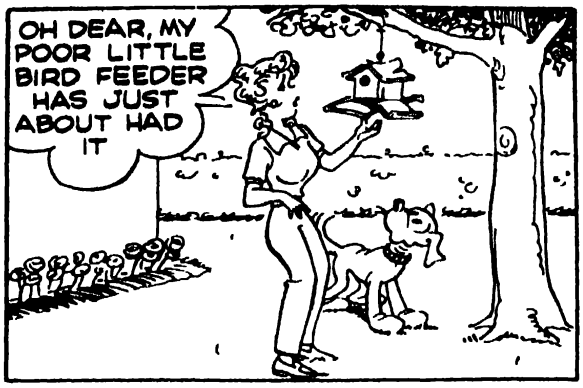
8) To which leader of a Commonwealth country did the Queen send a sharp letter, reminding him of his duty to the crown?? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)

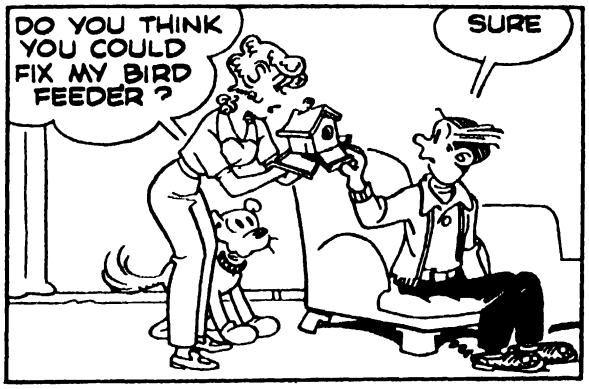
9) How can we say that mammals hear through the jawbone of their ancestors? (Vijay Goel, Calcutta 7)

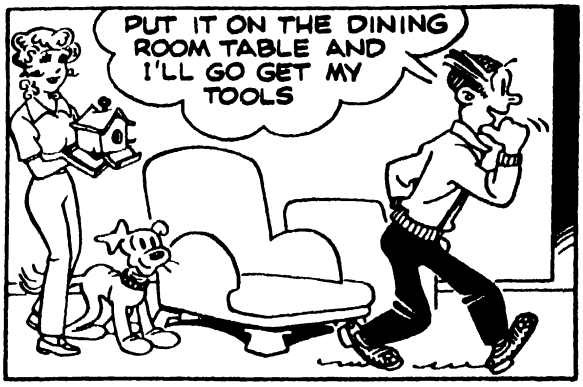
10) What is KM 1557? (Nirvaek Bhattacharjee, Kharagpur 2)

ANSWERS

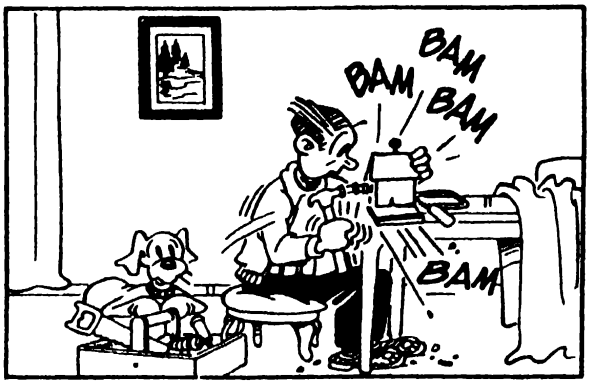


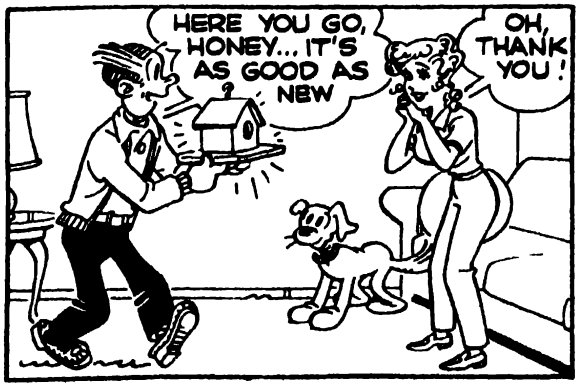




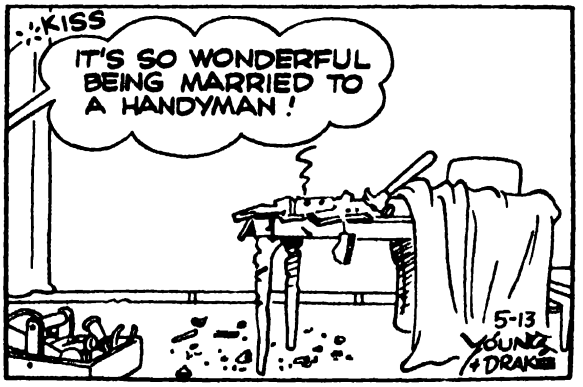


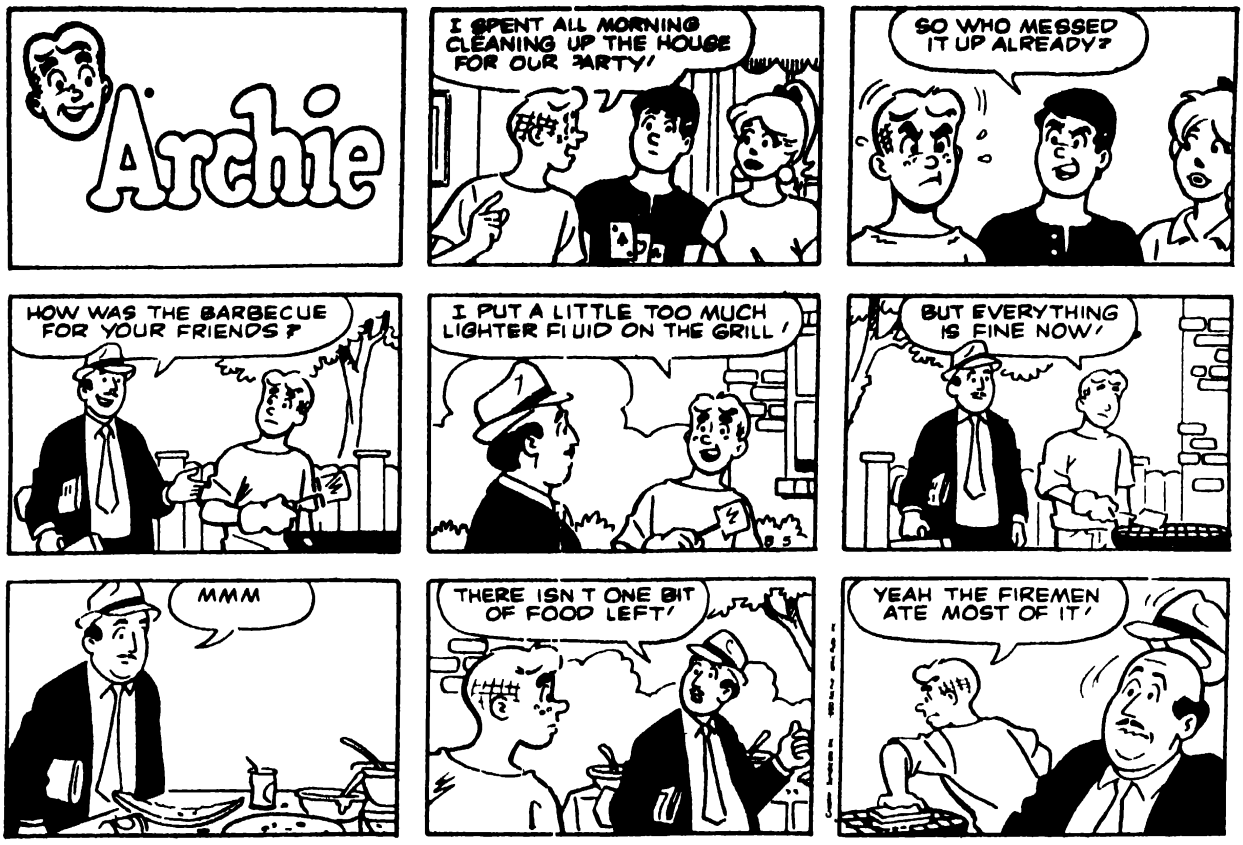




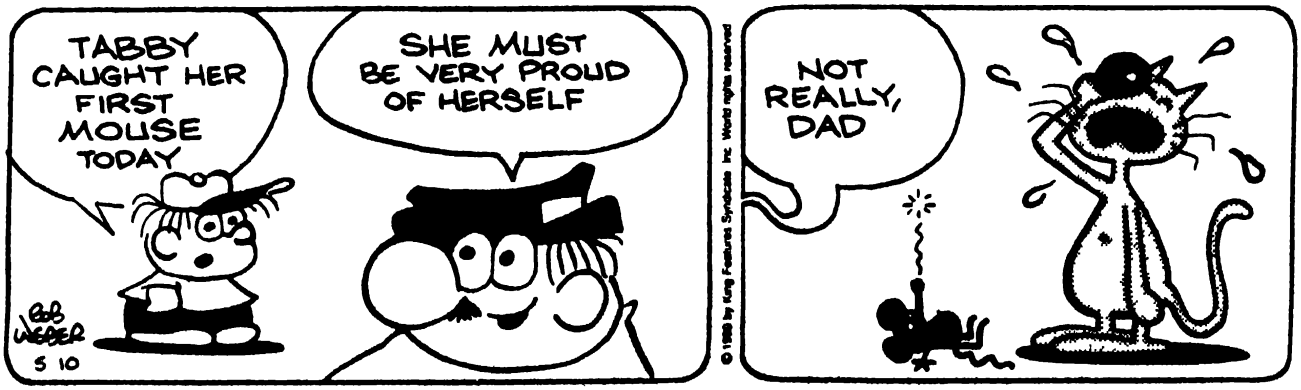


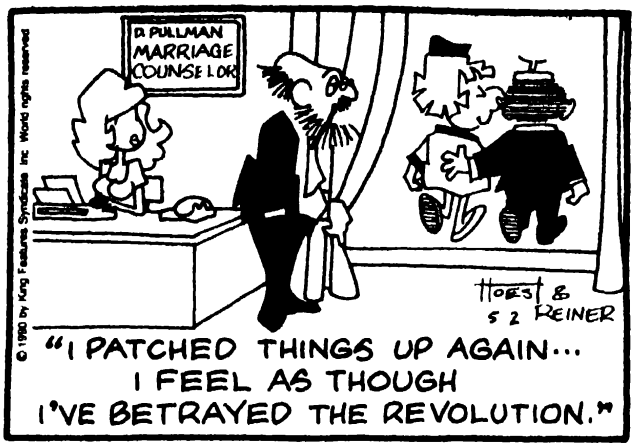
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Archie
I SPENT ALL MORNING CLEANING UP THE HOUSE FOR OUR PARTY!
SO WHO MESSED IT UP ALREADY?
HOW WAS THE BARBECUE FOR YOUR FRIENDS?
I PUT A LITTLE TOO MUCH LIGHTER FLUID ON THE GRILL!
BUT EVERYTHING IS FINE NOW!
MMM
THERE ISN'T ONE BIT OF FOOD LEFT!
YEAH THE FIREMEN ATE MOST OF IT!

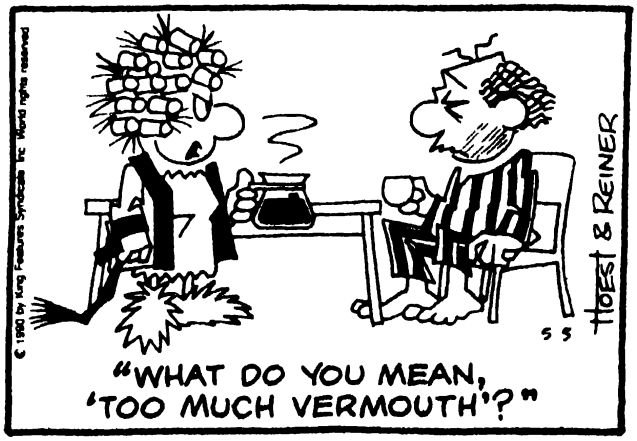

GRANNY! I DIDN'T WANT BEANS ON MY PLATE
WHAT'S THE MATTER? MONDAY YOU LIKED BEANS, TUESDAY YOU LIKED BEANS, NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU DON'T LIKE BEANS
BOB WEBER 5 9
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TABBY CAUGHT HER FIRST MOUSE TODAY
SHE MUST BE VERY PROUD OF HERSELF
BOB WEBER 5 10
NOT REALLY, DAD
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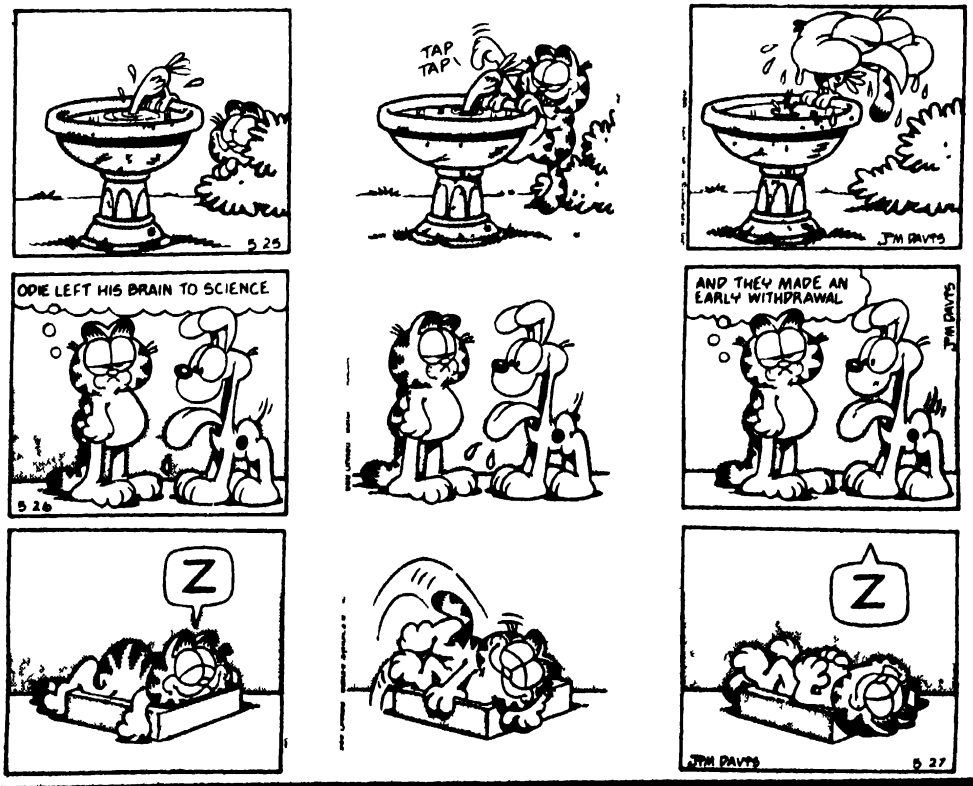








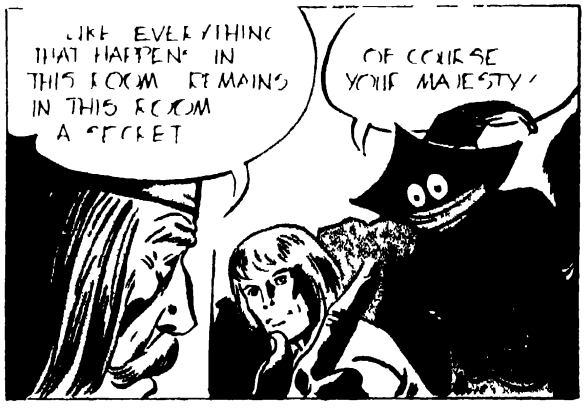
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



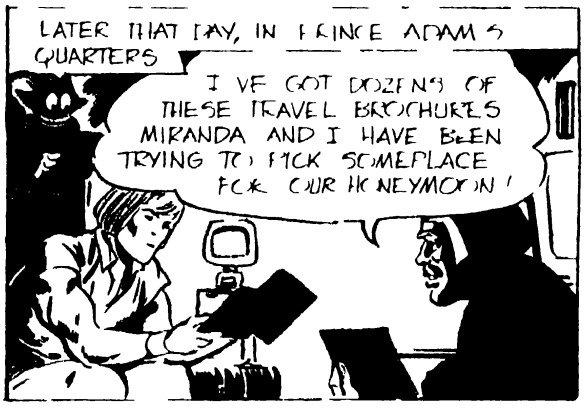

HAH! LITTLE DO THEY KNOW I MANAGED TO HIDE MY PEN-KNIFE!
I'LL MAKE A GUN FROM THIS BLOCK OF WOOD AND FOOL THE GUARD.
HERE HE COMES! BOY, IS HE IN FOR A SHOCK!
RATTLE!
THAT'S GOOD! A SHIP, IS IT?
VISITOR FOR YOU, PEEP
RATTLE!
HERE, BEAU, I'VE BROUGHT YOU A CAKE.
GOOD OLD DENNIS! THERE WILL BE A FILE INSIDE!
I'D BETTER WATCH MY TEETH WHEN I BITE INTO THIS, EH?
NUDGE NUDGE!
WINK WINK!
YOU'RE NOT KIDDING — EGON MADE IT.
THAT'S IT! THE PERFECT PLOT!
CLICK!
I'LL HIDE UNDER THE BED THEN WHEN THE GUARD COMES IN HE'LL THINK I'VE ESCAPED AND I CAN WALK OUT!
OH, NO! SERGEANT! QUICKLY!
WHAT IS IT?
BEAU'S STUCK UNDER HIS BED.
RIGHT, PEEP — YOU'RE FREE TO GO.
WELL, BEFORE I DO, I'VE A FEW THINGS TO SAY!
THE WALLS IN HERE ARE STREAMING WITH DAMP AND —
PEEP, DO YOU WANT ANOTHER TEN DAYS INSIDE?
— AND I WONDERED WHO TO THANK FOR LAYING ON THE RUNNING WATER.
Y'KNOW, DENNIS, IT'S FUNNY HOW LIFE TURNS OUT
I REMEMBER AS A YOUNG LAD IN MUSIC CLASS DREAMING OF BECOMING A GREAT CONDUCTOR
SIGH!
I SUPPOSE THE ONE-MAN BUSES PUT AN END TO ALL THAT.

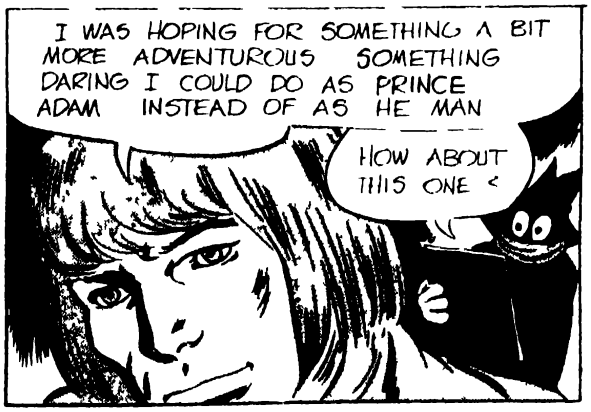




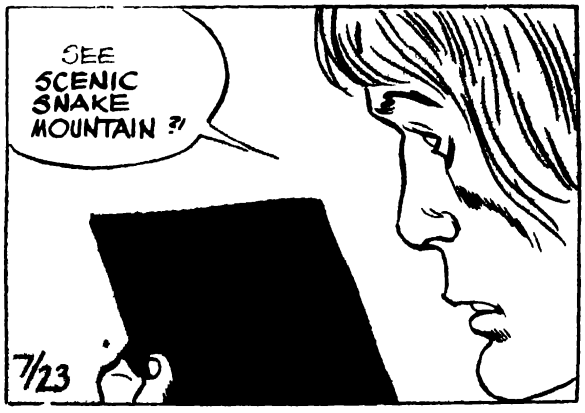


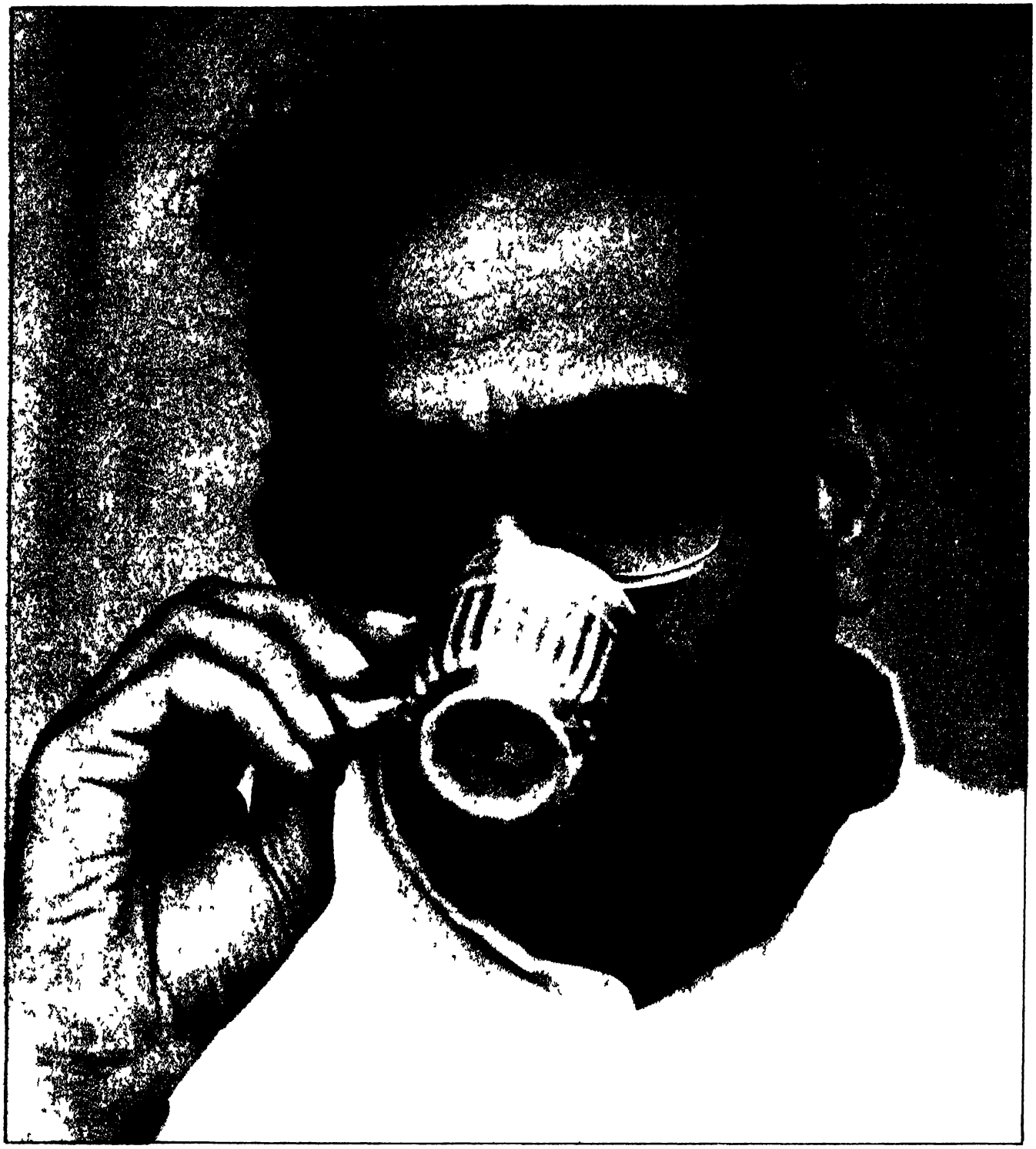






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The cuppa could hardly have been enough to cheer **V.P. Singh.** The reinstatement of Om Prakash Chautala as the chief minister of Haryana triggered off the worst crisis that the National Front government has seen so far. Let's just say that it left more than a Prime Ministerial hair out of place. Photograph by RAJIB BASU



HOW TO KEEP SMILING WITH YOUR FEET UP.

Now that s a situation none of us would like to get into But then, one can never tell can one? A minor accident in a careless moment Or a major ailment one never dreamt of

These are contingencies you can easily prepare for With Mediclaim from New India A Hospitalisation and Domiciliary Hospitalisation Benefit Policy that offers you and your family a range of medical benefits including cover for hospitalisation at home under special circumstances For a premium as low as Rs 200 per annum (at the minimum) it also offers you a family discount and a tax rebate

Show how much you love and care for your family Get New India's Mediclaim Policy It offers you so much for so little!

Premium per annum	Hospitalisation	Domiciliary Hospitalisation
Rs	Rs	Rs
200	10 500	3 100
250	17 600	—
350	25 500	—
600*	37 750	5 250
840*	52 750	7 400
1300*	82 500	11 500

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NEW INDIA ASSURANCE

1919 1989

BORN TO LEAD

MEDICLAIM

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Century ... India's largest exporter of cotton textiles. Now also a leading producer of cement.

From a modest beginning in 1975, Century has blossomed into India's largest exporter of cotton textiles. Earning more than Rs. 100 crore in hard currency in the year 1989-90.

Over the years Century diversified into rayon yarn, tyrecord, minerals & chemicals, cement, pulp & paper and shipping. In all these areas the Company has made its mark.

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Century is now exploring new avenues to create more productive assets for the country, and more opportunities for our people to better the quality of their lives.

CENTURY

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— the dawn of a new

Goal!

And finally...your World Cup Special (July 8) was better than we ever imagined. You have also reached your goal of being the most interesting, exciting and eye-catching magazine this season.
Neelam Nahata,
Samnuggur (W.B.)

■ Sanjib Banerjee deserves to be applauded for referring to Roger Milla and his teammates' fairy-tale-like emergence as a World Cup power, much to the displeasure of the White man.

Some of the commentators in the live telecasts, probably British, were frugal in their praise of the Cameroon team and could not conceal their grudge at the African lions roaring when the England team just managed to gain an "embarrassing and undeserving" 3-2 victory. There was a helping 'hand of God' that finally helped the toothless lion grunt.
Pratul Kumar Das,
Ranaghat (W.B.)

■ Your Rainbow feature puzzled me greatly. The obscene opening ceremony was telecast throughout India and we were caught off-guard watching it with other family members. You need not have repeated that through still photographs.
Ashoke Sengupta,
Rahara (W.B.)

■ All the articles were interesting but Chima Okerie's 'Black Cats' was the best. However, he was wrong in suggesting that more African teams should be given a berth in the finals at the cost of Latin American teams.

The standard of Brazil, Uruguay and Colombia is still high. Actually, a few of the European teams should give way to the African teams. Sweden, Austria, Ireland and Scotland are just not fit for the World Cup finals.
Kajal Chatterjee,
Dhanbad

■ Being born and brought up in Nigeria, Chima can exult over Cameroon's incredible success. They really played well against England, though the referee seemed to have a soft corner for the Whites.
Tuhin Saha,
Magra (Hooghly)



Amiya Tarafdar

Travel Again?

Now, why a story on Darjeeling ('A Queen Once More,' June 24) soon after a whole issue on travel (April 29)?
Dakshini Pal,
Calcutta

■ The story evaded some of the basic facts about present-day Darjeeling. I was there recently and found the behaviour of the locals boarding the toy train to be fractious to the extreme.

Both men and women are assaulted indiscriminately. If anyone tries to intervene, he is also subjected to blows. I would suggest to visitors, specially those accompanied by women, to travel by road only.
Sanatanu Pattadar,
Ranchi

Inspired

Your cover story on adoption ('Someone to Love', June 17) has inspired me to adopt a male child in order to give a brother to my two daughters and bring a balance to my family.
Nareswar Das,
Hooghly

■ I had planned to adopt a child, but thanks to your cover story, I have changed my mind. Instead of going through the painful legal procedures it is a lot better to bring a minor beggar from the streets and adopt him/her.
Raja Banerjee,
Kharagpur (W.B.)

■ I fully agree with you that abandoned children can be adopted in India itself if the adoption laws are made uniform and the government media give wide publicity to the cause. There are, I understand, three to four million adoptable children, but not more than 1,000 such children are adopted annually in India.
S.S. Rajput,
Calcutta

The Telegraph
5 AUGUST 1990



13 Where are the famous faces of yesteryear which captivated the hearts of millions?

4 There are people who really like their earth for eats And they do not consider it unusual behaviour, either

18 An exhibition of 100 paintings by 100 artists opens day after tomorrow to commemorate the city's tercentenary

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As soon as we reach one we ... for ... ear... reasons. ... very norm... behaviour

...MA

EARTHY

...in ...ca ...sume ...clays ...t gritty ...clays are ...eggs, disks ...lets, baked in ...ked over a fire, ...outdoor markets

...ople eat earth is ...n religious beliefs, ... traditions, medicinal ...ces and physiological ...s

Clay may be eaten to reduce hookworm-caused abdominal pain, ease hunger pangs, soothe heartburn and nausea, control diarrhoea or simply satisfy a craving To discerning palates some soil has a pleasingly sour, lemony taste But the most common manifestation of geophagy, Hunter says, is during pregnancy, so much so that he calls clays used for eating "pregnancy clays "

In India, for example, elaborate , baked clay figurines are given as bridal gifts, to be broken and eaten during pregnancy In Africa, Hunter says, if a pregnant woman is "undernourished, exhausted from many pregnancies in a few years, has no doctor to see or pharmacy to go to and no money for nutritional supplements, she resorts to intuitive, pragmatic folk medicine "

Under these circumstances, he explains, "clays can definitely supply minerals to the fetus They compare favourably with Western pharmaceutical supplements "

Hunter's judgment is based on laboratory tests at Michigan State that analysed clay samples and simulated human digestion to determine what the body receives from clay His work was supported in part by the National Geographic Society

Depending on where clays originate, they can contain minerals such as iron, calcium,



Fine white clay tablets such as this one from Guatemala, embossed with the image of Christ, are made to be eaten. In some societies earth-eating, or geophagy, is normal human behaviour. Rooted in religious, cultural and medicinal practices, it is most commonly done during pregnancy

how revolting, but there is no stigma It is a nearly universal cross-cultural phenomenon, an accepted fact of life," says geographer John M Hunter of Michigan State University, who has studied earth-eating,

PEOPLE

magnesium, potassium, phosphorous, zinc, copper and manganese.

Geophagy is a harmless practice unless carried to excess, Hunter says. Heavy, habitual clay-eating can impede the body's absorption of minerals and block the colon.

But culturally rooted geophagy, he says, should not be confused with a psychiatric disorder, commonly called pica, that is manifested by chronic, compulsive eating of non-foods such as gravel, chalk, paint chips or dirt.

Geophagy—which can be traced back to ancient Greek and Roman times when embossed red-clay medallions were widely used as medicine—is still practised in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Central America and the United States.

Hunter believes Africans probably started eating clay to satisfy hunger pangs. A person would reach out for the nearest bit of clay, breaking off a piece of the fireplace, for example. "That smoked clay would be crispy and crunchy to eat," he says.

As the practice evolved, a favourite family clay pit would be found, and then one preferred by a group of families or a village. Eventually, a peasant industry emerged, with clays sold in markets sometimes hundreds of miles away

Clays for trade are often washed, mixed with water, kneaded, shaped, sometimes decorated and dried in the sun Many are left in lump form They all sell for pennies.

African slaves brought geophagy to the southern United States It is still practised by some blacks, mostly during pregnancy, in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas. Even when some black women move to Northern cities, they are sent clays from the family clay mound, Hunter says. But others look down on the clay-eating habits of their mothers and grandmothers and consume less-nutritious laundry starch instead.

In Central America clay-eating is associated with worship of the Black Christ at Esquipulas in eastern Guatemala Once a sacred Indian site known for its healing muds and hot springs, it became a Christian shrine after the Spanish Conquest A five-foot-high image of Christ on the cross, carved in 1595, became known as the Black Christ because its brown woods resembled the copper-coloured skin of the Indians.

More than a million people a year, most from Central America, now visit the shrine, says georgrapher Robert N. Thomas of Michigan State. Small, glistening white clay tablets—embossed with the image of Christ and known as *pan del Senor* (bread of the Lord) are sold to the pilgrims. The biscuits are usually eaten during pregnancy.

These tablets, each weighing little more than an ounce, are made by local people from clay from a holy hill. "You have to dig down for it several feet, below the topsoil and subsoil, where the clay is hard, compact and clean," Hunter says.

From Esquipulas, worship of the Black Christ has spread throughout much of Central America—and with it, clay-eating. Geographer Oscar H. Horst of Western Michigan University, who has traced the diffusion of Black Christ shrines, has reports of at least 170 others, most in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico. Clays from Esquipulas or from local clay pits are sold at a number of these shrines.

Hunter, who has sampled some clay, has not acquired a taste for it. "Dry in my mouth-. .bland," he reports. He had to wash it down with water.

Joy Aschenbach

(National Geographic News Service)

BARTER BANK

• **Stamps:** I offer 800 Indian and foreign stamps for a walkman or a camera with flashgun or a stereo taperecorder. Write to Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury, 4/2 Joy Narayan Banerjee Lane, Baranagar, Calcutta-700 036.

• **Textbooks:** I offer books of mechanical engineering for books of computer engineering or anything of corresponding value. Contact Anand Gupta, T.H. 130, Hindmotor Colony, P.O. Hindmotor, dist. Hooghly, W.B. Pin-712 233.

• **Floppy discs:** I offer the *Guinness Book of World Records*, two floppy discs and two penfriend lists for anything of corresponding value. Write to Subu, G.P.O. Box no. 62, Shillong-793 001.

• **Posters:** I would like to exchange two brand new posters of Rambo II and Bruce Lee for some foreign stamps. Write to Paromita Kar, Block 18/2, Flat-14, P.O Garden Reach (BNR) Calcutta-700 043.

• **Camera, walkman** and **LPs:** I offer a 35mm HIMAX camera alongwith an Achiever 828 flashgun and colour-filters. I also offer a UNICEF walkman with a pair of headphones, several cassettes and LPs (western) for anything of corresponding value. Contact Othello Mazoomdaar, c/o B N. Ghosh, Sripur Charaktala, Boral-743 505, W B.

• **Magazines:** I would like to exchange two copies of the *Discover India* magazine for the Feb. '90 issue of the *Femina* I would also like to exchange colour posters of Ghulam Ali and Stevie Wonder. Write to Amit Paul, Rly Block no. 9367-A/SC/1, Old settlements, Kharagpur-721 301.

• **Magazines:** I offer 200 issues of *The Telegraph Colour Magazine* and 200 issues of *The Sportstar* for anything of corresponding value. Contact Arshad Amin, 127 B.C. Road, P.O. Burdwan, pin-713 101, W B

• **Taperecorder:** I would like to exchange a taperecorder in good condition for a walkman or anything of corresponding value. Write to Abul Laiss, 30 Ahin Pukur Road, Calcutta-700 019

• **Magazines:** I would like to exchange old issues of the *Debonair* magazine for copies of the *Cricket Life International* magazine by Imran Khan Write to Md. Sayeed, 28/B Elliot Road, Calcutta-700 016.

• **Stamps** and **posters:** I wish to exchange some foreign stamps and 12 aglow posters of sportsmen for some other foreign stamps. Write to Mithilesh Haldar, Kashinagar High School, p.o. Kashinagar, dist. 24 Parganas(S) W.B., Pin-743 349.

• **TV** and **taperecorder:** I wish to exchange a National brand taperecorder and an Oscar brand television (portable) in good condition for anything of corresponding value Contact Krishna P. Bhattacharya, 132 Ramlal Agarwalla Lane, Sinthimore, Calcutta-700 050.

• **Racing cycle:** I offer an Atlas Concorde Pro-5 racing cycle in excellent condition with imported gears for anything of corresponding value. Contact Dipyaman Sen, c/o Lt Col. S Sen, S/20 Grand View (opp. Race Course) Lower Circular Road, Calcutta-700 027.

• **Calculator:** I offer a 10 digit scientific calculator (EL 506 sharp H model) for anything of corresponding value. Write to Jitendra Dakhia, 16B Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta-700 071.

NOT TOO OLD FOR A GIFT

Long hours of loadshedding, acute water shortage, heavy pollution, broken roads, indiscriminate construction...the story of Calcutta in its 300th year could go on and on. Still worse, is the complete apathy of the powers-that-be and the fatalism of the people But turning my back on all this, I decided to meet some of the city's luminaries to find out what they thought would make a fitting gift for the city

Actor **Soumitra Chatterjee** dreams of a state-of-the art theatre complex for Calcutta. "One of unmatched quality A place where the best of national drama is staged without bondage or barrier and without bothering about profit, which is really the biggest evil. In essence, what I would like is a theatre with wings where today's experiments would extend into the future "

The complex of Soumitra's dream would embrace not just dramatics, but a whole



Soumitra Chatterjee: State-of-the-art theatre complex

variety of present-day art movements "I conceive of it as an outlet for various artistic preoccupations, including the screening of cinematic works. At the same time, allied training programmes by visiting lecturers would be a good idea The centre would foster every possible element free of dirty groupism and interference from government bigwigs or some fashionable eccentric flaunting high connections."

In its nascent stages, the state government and a few private sector groups would have to work together. Soumitra cites the Royal Shakespeare Company and National Theatre groups in the UK, which are totally government-subsidised so that they can preserve the purer expressions of British drama. "If you ask our ministers to contribute, they will promptly point to the annual Rabindra and Nazrul festivals as proof of their respect for the city's traditions In truth, other than renting out halls, the West Bengal government does nothing to promote serious theatre."

The complex's recurring costs could be met through performing and visual art shows. "And, of course, through the participation of the people who are the ultimate sustenance of all creative pursuits If I am attached (in any capacity) with this project, I will make sure it

Ashoke Nag spoke to some of the city's leading citizens to find out about their dream projects for 300-year-old Calcutta

reaches out to the smaller towns and rural areas "

Soumitra's vision emanates from the uncertainty-ridden life of a professional actor "My constant battle with stage producers whose eyes are fixed on the quick buck and a decadent system which succumbs to debased entertainment urges me to break away from it all A Calcutta where Sri Ramakrishna, Bankim and Tagore were enraptured by the theatre, richly deserves something better than the wretched godowns where we put up our productions," says the actor, referring to the shabby north Calcutta theatres

But where exactly would his proposed complex be built? "That can be worked out Why not the Raj Bhavan? If ministers can be accommodated there, I don't see why a complex which truly enriches our city should not find a place on its sprawling grounds," he retorts.

Painter **Ganesh Pyne**, on the other hand, believes there is a crying need for an arts museum It would stock collections of art books and manuscripts and have a spacious gallery But predominantly, it would contain original paintings, sculptures and craftwork, which would give a chronological history of art

"The Ashutosh and Gurusaday



Ganesh Pyne: A comprehensive museum to preserve and develop Bengal's artistic heritage

museums are the only ones which perform, in a limited way, a supportive role in illustrating old art forms. Only a direct encounter with our art heritage will help an artist discover the seeds of his creations. In developed countries, art history, principally covering original works, is in the fore front of all creative educational methods. It would be impossible, otherwise, for generations of artists to develop a historical perspective and grow out of the inconsistencies which invariably creep in What we are experiencing in Bengal is objective aesthetics. Which is why one has still to sense an organic wholeness in our arts."

Pyne agrees that a project of the magnitude he envisages would entail sizeable investment It would also need the active support of organisations like the Archaeological Survey of India "A plan of this nature will have to materialise in stages. Sometime back, the West Bengal government had contemplated building an arts museum initially equipped at a rudimentary level. However, even that continues to remain a promise. If and when Calcutta realises this dream, we must leave room for a repository of art-origins from other *pradeshes*. The Pala Yug carvings are as vital to Bengal's artists as the Neo-Bengal School of Painting "

Ganesh Pyne's desire for an arts museum further grew after his meeting with the famous Czechoslovak art collector, Hana Niskova Over the years, the octagenarian Niskova has tirelessly traced Calcutta's long-vanished 'bazaar' paintings. A stupendous treasurehouse containing priceless acquisitions stands in Prague as a testimony to Niskova's lifelong efforts.

But, "one must not forget that Niskova's museum was entirely financed by the Czech government In India, Bhopal has tried to do something worthwhile If West Bengal's decision-makers are interested in protecting the future of the state's creative and visual arts, they should start doing something along these lines It would be tragic if Bengal's artists are someday forced to travel abroad in search of their roots Apart from all this Calcutta's creativity, like everything else, definitely suffers because of the city's unlivable conditions," adds Pyne

Dipali Nag, an exponent of the Hindustani classical *gharana* and head of the scientific research wing of Sangeet Research Academy, has always yearned for a prototype of Delhi's India International Centre (IIC) in Calcutta, which could be reoriented to typify Bengal's uniqueness "Resembling the IIC, it should have facilities for in-transit stopovers and get togethers at moderate rates On the cultural side, the centre would emphasise on popularising lesser-known artistes and performers Anyone would be welcome to sponsor a concert or an exhibition Calcutta brims with talent Why should celebrities alone hog the limelight?'

The centre would throw open its doors to every Calcuttan who relishes his *adda* sessions over a cup of coffee "The city is starved of a setting for social interaction on a wider scale This centre should be designed to house a cafe and a library Besides talks and short film sessions could be organised on a free for all basis ' she suggests

Reminiscing about Calcutta **Jnan Prakash Ghosh**, the septuagenarian doyen of Hindustani sangeet implores Calcutta's guardians to build institutions which would help rejuvenate its soul 'I am an Indian first and have the utmost regard for the city's cosmopolitan character But where is the harm in creating an atmosphere which furthers, let us say, Tagore's works more constructively' While preserving Calcutta's secular nature everyone should give serious thought to the continuity of Bengali culture "

Chief secretary **Tarun Dutt** speaks of reviving the city's harmonious, democratic, progressive and caring spirit "With the tercentenary as the focal point, the government and the people should doubly resolve to preserve the hallmarks that did Calcutta proud ' He likens Calcutta to Greece, a land which once flourished in every walk of life "I cannot affirm that the city was egalitarian in the days of the Raj But I remember a period when all Calcuttans stood tall Preparations are on to promote immunisation and literacy and create an awareness of Bengal's music and craft forms We must prevent Calcutta from getting culturally sullied "

Amiya Bandhopadhyay has long been involved in Calcutta's development programmes and is now the state government's chief planner of traffic and transportation He wants to galvanise the city's human resources and activate its municipal bodies "A total and pragmatic approach to intra-institutional coordination is what I am looking for, Given Calcutta's present configuration, I strongly believe that its transport linkages can be significantly improved with a little imagination Umpteen sub urban railway tracks and state and Central government owned land is lying unutilised," he points out

According to Bandopadhyay, people have become more and more conscious and concerned about their environment Even superficial activities like building parks and converting the city's obscure lanes into clean, brightly lit places would effectively reach Calcutta's inner core He believes that the time is ripe to rediscover Calcutta's true heritage which revolves round the Bengali Renaissance 'I am convinced that Vidyasagar's thoughts on women's emancipation and Tagore's *Gora* for example are far more crucial to contemporary Bengal than its colonial or feudal past

The chairman of ICI India and a leading figure in the corporate world, **Jahar Sengupta** is dismayed by the city's dilapidated roads and its stinking garbage dumps 'But more distressing is the nightmarish plight of the city's slumdwellers It is time the state government took positive steps to rehabilitate them on the city's outskirts He is however, dead against the existing concrete jungle encroaching on the evacuated areas These vacant lands should be converted into patches of greenery '

Tarun Dutt: Literacy and immunisation programmes by the government





Jahar Sengupta: Rehabilitate slumdwellers and improve civic amenities

Sengupta has a number of ideas for the city's betterment—synthetic garbage bags for residential buildings, shopping plazas within the tube rail and bus terminals and multistoreyed car parks "A corporation could be formed to construct such car parks

And what does an educationist of repute have to say? "An ideal tercentenary gift," says Prof **Ashin Dasgupta,** former director of the National Library and now vice-chancellor, Viswa Bharati, would be the development of Presidency College as an autonomous centre for advanced research on the lines of Jawaharlal Nehru University The UGC, I have no doubt, would be too eager to contribute its mite '

One reason for the state's undergraduate courses degenerating into chaos is the vacuum caused by the dearth of comprehensive research facilities Pre doctoral studies are inextricably related to higher research The aim should be to develop a scholastic base that would be deeply rooted in the city's reservoir of learning,' he concludes

I decided to end my search for an imaginative Calcutta with an individual who shines like a beacon amidst the gathering gloom **Satyajit Ray.** A man who has towered over Indian cinema ever since he shook the world with his magnum opus, *Pather Panchali* In his inimitable style, Ray responds philosophically to the city's tercentenary "What is most striking is the fact that within a short span of 300 years—I consider 300 years very short compared to other cities like Benaras or Delhi, Calcutta is a young city—but even so it has developed in a very short time into an extraordinarily lively city Whatever may be its faults, the fact that life goes on here, people are active in all spheres of creativity, is what strikes me as most remarkable Which is the reason why I live and work in Calcutta "

And therein lies the magic of Calcutta It lives and breathes and prospers—a symbol of life and living ■

THE LONG AND THE STORY

Jack Dantes' rip-off on journalism

My apprenticeship in journalism lasted three months This could be some kind of record Specially if you've been apprenticing under Major Thorne

It was in January 1945 that I went with an introduction letter to meet Major Thorne He was an Englishman who owned three journals one for tea and coffee planters, one for Indian railways and one for Indian aviation Under him several journalists of note had been trained Some eventually held high editorial posts in prestigious publications and some ran their own successful journals This was the man I was going to meet and, God willing I'd one day live to be editor of *The Statesman*

Major Thorne's office was his residence It was located in a massive 19th century Gothic mansion near Dalhousie Square A four-storeyed affair with two or three staircase entrances running on one side of a passageway, without any lift High ceilings, burnished bannisters His flat was on the first floor

As I entered the open door of his flat, I was confronted by a short podgy bespectacled English lady at a desk She must have been in her forties On her desk was a nameplate which read Mrs Alice Llewelyn-Jones ", like something out of *Burke's Peerage*

Podgy Mrs Llewelyn-Jones sprang from her seat with alacrity and led me across a livingroom spacious enough to accommodate Burma teak furniture and some heavy carpeting She led me to a small study Her left eye started twitching This, I learnt later, happened whenever there was excitement in the air Obviously the vicinity of Major Thorne's presence electrified the atmosphere My first view of Major Thorne was his back He was a huge man with a few white hairs on his head Must have been in his sixties He was sitting in a swivel chair at a desk against a wall, wearing a well-pressed khaki uniform He was busy lecturing a solid looking woman of over 50 years with faded blond hair and the heavy bones of a Viking She was in fact a frightened Mrs Thorne

"Oh darling", boomed Major Thorne "you ought to join a nunnery She was being taken over the coals because of some errors she had let slip in the final page proofs

Sensing my presence, Major Thorne swivelled around I handed him the letter Judging by his warm reception, the letter must have had some clout Later, I realised it did have clout because it was signed by the publicity officer of a famous steel company

"So you're Jack," beamed Major Thorne, his blue eyes disappearing into the folds of his smile, "well, if this gentleman has recommended you you must be a gilt-edge investment ' Actually, the gentleman was only a family friend I doubt whether he could have predicted my bizarre future,

"That will be all", said Major Thorne dismissing both his wife and Mrs Llewelyn-Jones

We took stock of each other Major Thorne uncannily resembled pictures of the late Dr Samuel Johnson but the major was neater in appearance He looked the part of an English country squire As a matter of fact, he ran a modest farm in the country, an hour's drive from the city, which sold milk, butter and eggs with some success

"So you want to be a journalist"

"Yes "

"The first rule you must always remember is to keep your mouth shut and your bowels open," said Major Thorne, "and if you can't do that, you ought to be a Jesuit "

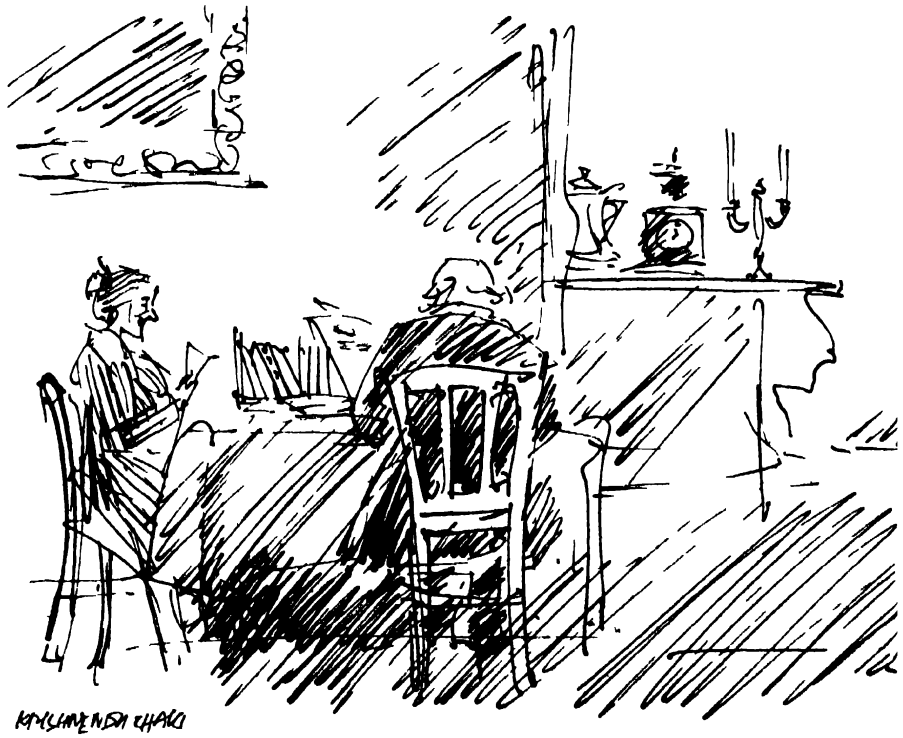
Little did he know that I nearly became a Jesuit I was educated by Jesuits, Latin conjugations and all

Major Thorne had an overwhelming presence with the capacity to over-awe anybody within spitting distance

"Before you begin to write, you must learn to edit," said Major Thorne, "every morning, Mrs Llewelyn-Jones will place on your desk the leading dailies of Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Bombay

"You will proceed to cut out any news item relating to tea or coffee, railways and aviation

"You will then paste these daily items in the three separate exercise books supplied to you And at the end of the month,



SHORT OF

you will summarise all the items making a review of each subject. Is that clear?"

I was elated at these revelations. The tricks of the trade.

"Now," continued Major Thorne, "guess who keeps a magazine going?"

"The writers."

"Wrong! They are a liability. We have to pay them. The people who keep us afloat are the advertisers. You can only judge the success of a magazine by the number of advertisements it carries."

"I always thought the success of a magazine depended on the number of people who buy the magazine."

"Wrong! The readers are a liability. The higher the circulation, the higher the cost of the printing and paper. The reader's money hardly meets that cost."

Major Thorne's magazines were chock-a-block with full page and half page advertisements largely contributed by British companies exporting their products to British India. The products advertised in the three magazines ranged from pesticides and sprayers to locomotives and aircraft.

The average circulation of these magazines were actually each 500 against the printed claim of 5,000. I learnt that the source of this advertising bounty was Major Thorne's influential, titled kin in England. They were bigwigs in British industry.



"If you want to run your own magazine later on," advised Major Thorne, "you'd better learn how to sell space. If you want to run a successful journal, you have to fill up 70 to 80 per cent of your magazine with advertisements. Who do you think pays the salaries?"

Thus, my day began with the cutting of relevant items from the major newspapers, pasting the items into the separate exercise books, then noting down the names of prospective advertisers seen in the papers. In the course of the day, I would visit at least four prospects. I was not at all persuasive. The frame of mind was not right. One felt desperate thinking of all those salaries to be paid.

The first line of attack was the introductory letter to the prospect. Major Thorne dictated the opening line to me and after sending scores of these letters out, I'm not likely to forget that opening line, "Dear Sir, In view of the fact that your product is in demand in the Planters' community/ railway industry/ aviation industry..."

I left the draft in my own handwriting on Mrs Llewelyn-Jones' desk. She pushed her glasses up her nose and frowned at the draft. Lifting the draft with two disdainful fingers, she showed it to Mrs Thorne nearby.

"Jack," shrieked Mrs Thorne, "did you write this atrocity?" Mrs Llewelyn-Jones stood by looking grim, left eye twitching like mad.

"No," I replied with ill-concealed triumph, "Major Thorne dictated it."

There was an awkward silence.

"Oh Jupie" Mrs Thorne diffidently murmured her husband's pet name. If she had stopped that letter from being despatched, Major Thorne would have sent her off to a nunnery. After that, neither Mrs Llewelyn-Jones nor Mrs Thorne dared to turn up their noses at me. I would have sneaked on them.

After nearly three months, I began to feel at a deadend. The same old routine every day—snipping out news items, pasting them, signing the same old stereotyped letters to prospects, spending half the day trying to persuade without conviction advertisers to advertise in one in the three magazines. I was still far off from being an editor or seeing my name in print. By now I realised that Major Thorne had taken me on because he thought I would use my family connections to get him advertisements. I was certainly not going to exploit this source.

Meanwhile, every Friday afternoon, I heaved a sigh of relief as Major Thorne and his wife drove off to their farm called "Cheltenham" in Dum Dum, nearly 20 miles away. Here they would recuperate so that by Monday morning both of them looked young again and ready for another week of hustle and bustle.

On one memorable weekend, Major Thorne invited me to "Cheltenham". On the drive there, Major Thorne asked me to name the various trees we were passing by. I had never found it necessary to know the names of trees. I looked idly at the avenue of trees. There were tall trees and short trees. Thick trunks and slim trunks. Almost human. Major Thorne pointed out some 27 species of trees and shrubs on the one-hour drive. It was an expert's way of letting off steam so I resigned myself to this nameless torture. Little did I know that this was just a small sample of Major Thorne's boundless interests, not to speak of boundless energy Come to think of it, Major Thorne would have made a perfect Jesuit himself.

The next day, Sunday, was one of the most exhausting days in my memory. It was a grand tour of the estate conducted by Major Thorne himself. It began with an introduction to the barn at 4 am to watch the cows being milked, the scores of eggs being plucked from the hens' roost, the dung being collected by neighbouring villagers as gratis fuel, the marvellous sunrise that heralded a rewarding breakfast. Throughout the rest of the day I was dragged through Major Thorne's exuberant, educational excursions which included a green house with a dozen varieties of cacti and cucumbers and odd-coloured crossbred flowers, examination of soil tests and preventive measures against fungus invasion. All these goings-on were part of the editorial copy for his journal for planters As Major Thorne said, "This is journalism! Life is journalism".

We drove back to the city on Sunday evening and I returned home feeling too worn out to face another week with Major Thorne and his three journals.

It was long after I left Major Thorne that I felt the lasting impact of his uncompromising workstyle. Some years later before he left the country, I went to see him with some of the writing I had been doing specially as a music critic. I offered to review newly released classical gramophone records for his planters' journal. He was happy to give me a column. Then I asked him whether I should treat the reviews in a light manner or in scholarly fashion. Out came this unforgettable piece of advice delivered in his booming voice, "Whatever you write and however you write always write with a sense of responsibility." ■

VOICE

Barred Justice

Calcuttans who frequent elite restaurants are possibly aware of an existing "tradition", that of denying liquor to women who grace these joints unescorted by a male member. The ratio is of no consequence: a group of nine females accompanied by one man is served the drinks of their choice; but woe to those who plan even something as chilling as a beer after a hen party. Ask the management why they pander to such discrimination and pat comes the reply: "It's an age-old practice." Excise rules and all that. And, while you can carry out a drunk man, what are you supposed to do if a member of the fair sex passes out on you?

So argue the advocates of the prejudiced service, while the world and the modern man speaks and dreams of equality. It is ours to reason why bars should ostracise women in this fashion, and why women who have been treated thus have not raised their voices against such an outdated mode.

For women who do frequent restaurants in the city's posh areas, or bars elsewhere, must necessarily be the kind that at least choose to call themselves progressive. And statistics can always allay fears of hoteliers about women getting drunk: there are far fewer women alchoholics than their men counterparts. And in such cases, where the excuse is paltry and discrimination is the name of the game, it is up to the women to launch an united protest and restore their rights. Cheers!

Day of the Rapist

Bantala has assumed a new meaning after the outrageous incident left not only casualties but an indelible mark on Calcutta's psyche. While it shocked the public into silence and gloom, it inspired political leaders to wax eloquent for electoral gain. For those who were wronged the most, the women, it heralded an era of doom: since that incident, not a single week has passed without antisocials in various parts of the state—from Birati to Barasat to Calcutta's Maidan—taking advantage of indefensible women and sometimes taking their lives as well.

After all these weeks, leading personalities of the city, including Satyajit Ray, Triguna Sen, Bhabatosh Datta, Mrinal Sen, Phulrenu Guha, Renuka Ray and others have signed a joint petition deploring the Bantala incident. While lamenting the steady erosion of culture, they stated: "In a progressive state like West Bengal, it is incomprehensible how the police and antisocials can get away with this kind of barbarism."

But seminars and petitions, however well-intentioned, can hardly check the alarming spurt in antisocial activities. People once proud of living in the state have been compelled to revise their opinions.

And if it were only antisocials to contend with, there would perhaps be a modicum of security, if only just. But as things stand, women are less safe in police custody than they are among lurking wolves. The nexus between criminals and the custodian of law is notorious. I saw for myself a woman "rescued" from a gang at a police station last week, and could not help wondering whether that was not just the beginning of her trauma.

It is a no-win situation for the women. On one hand, they are scared to step out after sunset. On the other, those confined to so-called sanctuaries like the Liluah home, are forced to flee. For the inmates there are at the mercy of male wardens, and life is no better than in a lock-up: please the man and the pleasure's yours. Things have come to such a pass that the very glory of Bengal's past is being obliterated in its dust, where "doing a Bantala" is the order of the day.



A Voice Bids Adieu

For over a decade, Calcutta's music scene has been brightened by the presence of Girija Devi, who assumed the role of guru to countless young aspirants at the Sangeet Research Academy. She has had audiences enthralled with her thumris and bhajans, but in this tercentenary year, she has left the city, her pupils and all who comprised her devoted and captivated fans, for her native Varanasi. At a farewell function hosted in her honour by Padatik, she stressed that she had no quarrel with anyone, or scores to settle. Her broken-hearted disciples, however, think otherwise. And despite her promise to return to the city that gave her music devotion and love, it will be difficult to fill the vacuum at the Academy premises at Tollygunge, and the care and the guidance that her rudderless students are missing already.

Sudipta Bhattacharjee



1, THACKERAY ROAD



In 1763, when Mirzaffar became the Nawab of Bengal for the second time, he left Alipore for Murshidabad and bequeathed a vast territory of Alipore to Warren Hastings, the first Governor General of Bengal who was fond of building beautiful houses In this area itself, he built more than one, of which Hastings House and the Magistrate's House still exist.

The No 1 house on the road which bears the memory of novelist William Thackeray, the creator of *Vanity Fair*, is now known as the Magistrate's House. It was earlier known as The Lodge, a bungalow with a spacious hall and four chambers standing in the midst of a 20-acre land. Excepting a few additions and alterations, the building still retains an 18th century flavour However, the vast compound has gradually been encroached upon by jails, courts and other government offices Even then, this building retains a quiet, shadowy environment radically different from the noisy urban surroundings The visitor can still feel the romantic pulse of the 18th century on entering the spacious office chamber of the Collector, which was once Philip Francis' ballroom Though several stories—truths, half-truths and gossip—built a halo of mystery around this building, it can safely be said that The Lodge was built sometime around 1763, as Fort William records show that Hastings was permitted to build a wooden bridge over Collyghat *nullah* for access to his garden house

Among all the residents of One Thackeray Road Sir Philip Francis and William Makepeace Thackeray were perhaps the best known While Francis spent the most turbulent phase of his life here Thackeray resided here during his infancy (1812-15) when his father, William Richmond Thackeray, was the Collector of 24 Parganas It was here that Mrs Thackeray was reunited with her first love, Henry Carmichael-Smyth, then an officer in the Bengal Engineers Thackeray died three years later, leaving the way for his widow to marry Carmichael-Smyth Master Thackeray, aged 5, was sent to England He never came back to India, but his childhood memories of Alipore were vivid till his death 'I have far off visions, of great saloons and people dancing in them, enormous idols and fireworks, rides on elephants or in gigs and fogs clearing away and pagodas appearing over the trees "

The road named after Thackeray is a fitting tribute to the novelist The Lodge or the Magistrate's House is one of the rare historical buildings of Calcutta and probably the oldest official residence still standing erect

ARIES

March 21—April 20

The accent is on partnerships at all levels, home, property and a surge in profession, business and career. Romance promises a good going, an engagement is likely. On the financial side, buying, selling, investing and bargaining are highlighted A journey with a stopover is indicated. You will be able to get over any health problem. Childbirth, grandchildren, renovation and alterations hold complete sway in your home.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Since Mars is still in your sun sign, last week's main trends still hold good. In romance, you will have a wild fling. Your financial graph shows an upward trend. Commuting, trips and communication are indicated Take a little extra health care as pressures will be really on Your home and family call for a round of entertainment, renovation and possibly a home away from home.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

The week's highlights are entertainment, amusements, creative pursuits and more money in the kitty. In romance, your beloved will drink to your eyes. Anticipate more money to flow in and plan accordingly Long-distance connections and collaborations are indicated. You will run like a race horse, thanks to the full moon. Good food, fine company, refurbishing, buying and selling comprise the home front.

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Venus in your sign, according to Western astrology, gives you charisma and thus helps you to get things done in style Love will not be denied and will sprout wings and babies You are on a very good financial wicket, therefore deals will go through and loans will be granted. A move or shift is not ruled out Health precautions are advisable The home offers cosy comforts, renovation and decoration are also possible.

LEO

July 21—August 21

The 'superb choreography' of the last week continues Add to it, romance and trips. Your heart will be a nest of singing birds Income and expenses will multiply. August 6,7,10 and 11 are ideal for travel, correspondence, visits and contacts. Periodic rest



is advisable to keep health in proper shape. Beautifying the home and looking after children need considerable money and time Be generous

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

A medical checkup, travel, correspondence and, perhaps, a job-hop are the main trends of the week. You will find plenty of time for romance. On the financial front, circulate, buy, sell, socialise and reach out to people. Extra health care is a must. You will succeed in making necessary changes, adjustments and adornments in the home and family.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The main trends of the week are money, favours, alignments, hobbies, children, entertainment and a happy time to look forward to In finance, you will be on to a good thing and so work with all your might. Travel is on the cards. Correspondence is included in travel. A home away from home is probable.

BIRTHDAYS

August 5

Moon-Jupiter opposition: Given grit and determination, success is certain. Those employed may have to give in their bid to impress upon their employers. Good wishes and kindness to you all. Love brings you joy.

August 6

Full moon: Important decisions will have to be made. A few irreversible changes on the emotional level are indicated. Hard work, practical outlook and determination will see you through in all things.

August 7

Sun [illegible] come to a head in [illegible] However, [illegible] decision [illegible] your [illegible] people [illegible] [illegible]

August 8

[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] man, teacher, writer, artiste, executive, accountants, bankers and sports will [illegible] the blunder. Others also have a jolly good year. So, go ahead, guns blazing on every frontier!

August 9

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

YESTERDAY'S COVER GIRLS

Cover photographs of Sheila Jones (left) and Karen Lunel (r courtesy *Society*, and Nafisa Ali (bottom) by Ahmed Ali

Where are those faces that launched a million dreams? Faces from another time, bringing back memories sweet and beautiful. Lekha Dhar looks through the rear view mirror, softly

The blinding neon lights move by and the faces, shadowed by time, become no more than receding images in the rear view mirror. They are the filmstars and models of yesterday. Caught in a fast forward era and reduced to a blur in that part of the brain where the memory resides.

Take a look back at a smile that entranced a generation. That was Karen Lunel, the Liril girl. A perfect blend of product and model, the Liril campaign sold more than a brand new soap, it sold a whole new feeling. And Lunel made modelling in a bikini under an icy waterfall seem like a sunshine frolic.

Lever's lime soap seemed like the formula for freshness and every youngster of the Seventies hoped the bathroom shower would turn into a waterfall. For those who studied in idyllic Kodaikanal, Lunel's freshness and vivacity under the south Indian hill station's freezing December waterfalls, was closer home.



Parveen Babi: A grotesque transformation

Vibrant freshness, packaged in a perfect campaign, Lunel made Liril, and Liril, Lunel. The ultimate bathing fantasy. And if a model can become a legend, Lunel did. But like a dream that shatters with the day came rumours of Lunel's death in a mobike accident.

It was rumour again that resurrected her. Lunel was alive, but where? Slowly, the girl with the enchanting smile walked out of memory, to be occasionally recalled when the Liril campaign flashed on television. Far from the TV screen, Karen Lunel had joined Air India in 1978, and later in March 1984, married Kalimpongite Tashi Hishey, a flight purser on the airline whom she got to know better on a London posting.

People meeting her recognise the smile and say, "You are the Liril girl? But the Liril girl is dead...". A former Air India hostess when asked about her replied, "The Liril girl? I thought she was dead." Karen, now a mother—of little Scott Jorden—still flashes the famous smile but



Shyamolie Varma: Now a painter

does not model. Liril replaced her with Sonali Mehta in 1979, but never managed to recapture that magic smile and unmatched freshness. "We have been screening so many people, but we haven't managed to get the right one (to replace Sonali)," says Vivek Mohan, film executive of Lintas, the agency which handles the Liril campaign.

Says leading fashion photographer Gautam Rajadhyaksha of Karen Lunel: "She was my Liril girl. We worked together on the Liril campaign for 10 years. She is with Air India. Once in a while I get a message from her through some Air India hostess or purser. But it is difficult to meet because of our different professions and timings."

Lunel, at least, is still reasonably fresh on our minds. Flip the pages of an old magazine and others, further back in time, come tumbling out, the faces in the rear view mirror. Models Sheila Jones, Esther Mathias, Kavita Bhambani, Indira Bredemeyer; filmstars Sadhana, Asha Parekh and Nanda— the list of all those who have long since disappeared from the front covers is endless. A few might just get the occasional mention in the inside pages, but most of them are burnt out and gone.

Models like Sheila Jones and Esther Mathias are married and lead affluent lifestyles, Indian beauty queen Reita Faria has moved to the United States; but only if it's yesterday once more will their names and faces evoke more than a shrug.

Are they happy in (relative) oblivion? Far from the arc lights, cameras, autograph hunters and press clippings, life must be different and the world outside has its way of interpreting the difference. Spotting a former celebrity at a bus stand, a passerby said, "Oh god, he travels by bus." A world away from his jetsetting days. A public relations officer of a Bombay-based company who saw Sheila Jones in a five-star lobby said, "Recognised the bone structure from back then. Some of these old-timers really maintain themselves." "Statuesque, classical," says a journalist who has known Jones since her heyday in the Sixties and Seventies when she was a popular print and live model. Now a Pasricha, Sheila has a 10-year-old daughter and a younger son and lives in Bombay.

Not many can say anything near so nice about Parveen Babi in her present state. Hers has been a grotesque and tragic transformation. The lovely-haired, gorgeous Parveen Babi, who even made it to the cover of *Time* magazine (and caused a lot of heartburn among her rivals in the industry), had as many hits off screen as on it. Besides a number of lead roles, in her best years she was romantically linked with Mahesh Bhatt, Danny Denzongpa and Kabir Bedi among others and was aided in her troubled career by Amitabh Bachchan. Unkind suggestions about her state of mind, linked with erratic behaviour and schedules, did the rounds of the industry even then. As sudden as her climb to the near top, Babi dropped out of the circuit leaving behind a welter of speculation. Missing, ill, being treated for serious ailments, said the grapevine, till the topic lost interest for all except a few scribes who tried to probe her origins in Junagarh, Gujarat.

Then, one day, as suddenly as she had

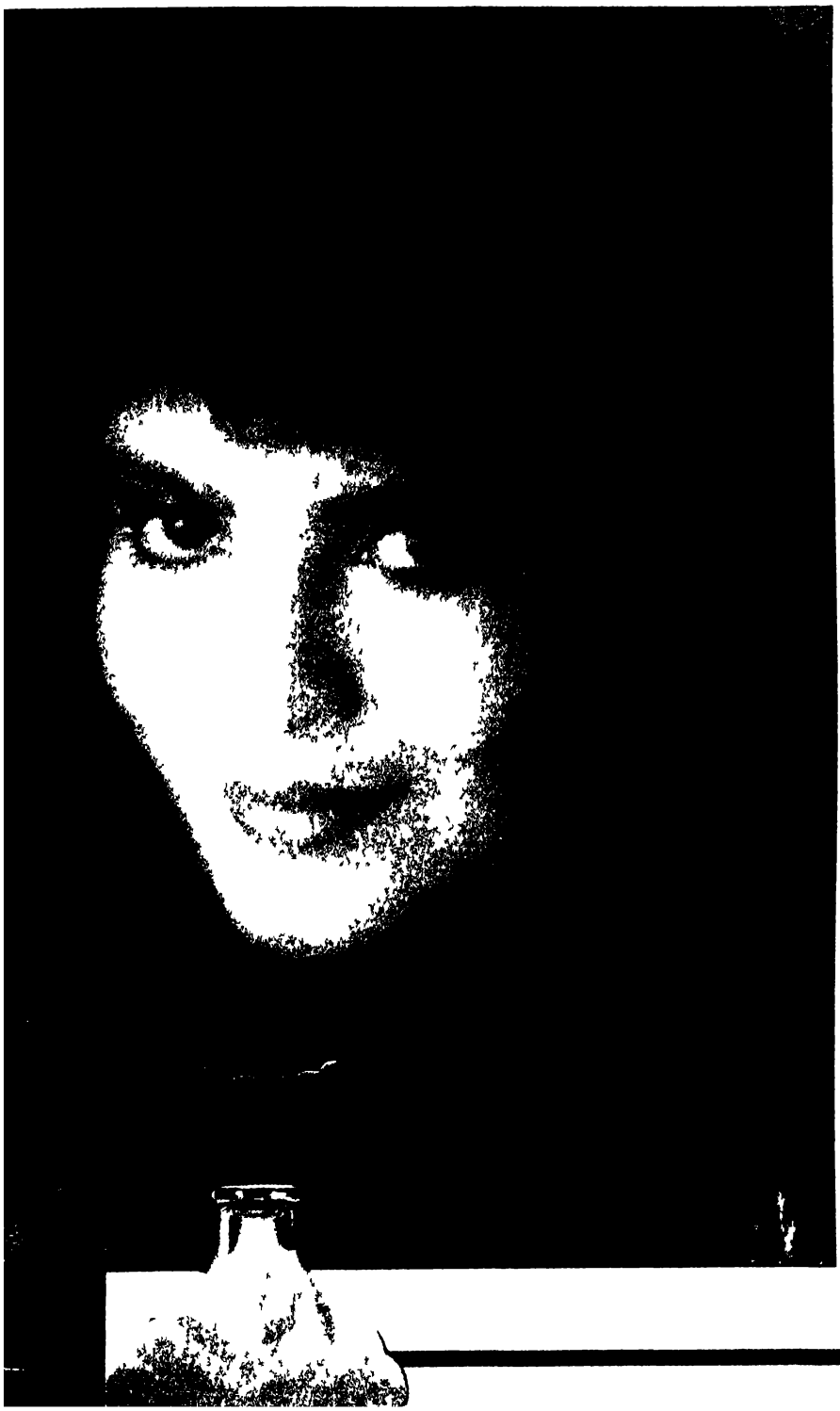
left, she was back Obese where she was once svelte, a scar on her face, her hair only a sad reminder of what it was Still worse was her state of mind Sounding definitely schizophrenic, Parveen Babi related how she had fled from the film industry as Amitabh Bachchan was trying through his agents to kill her

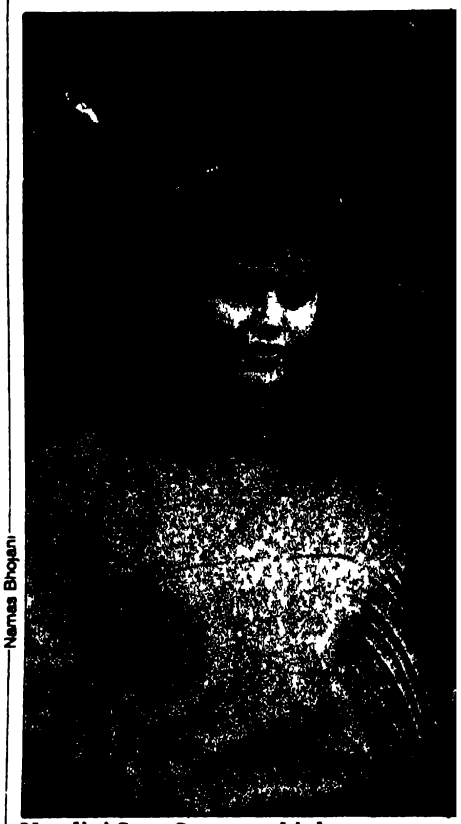
Babi who lives alone in her suburban Juhu flat tells those willing to listen, in very polite tones, of the conspiracy against her She has a 1,500-page statement to substantiate her claims

They say a modelling lifespan is all too ephemeral A few years and newer faces move in But models like Nandini Sen, Shyamolie Varma and Anna Bredemeyer defied this unwritten rule, with careers that have stretched well over a decade

Through the second half of the Seventies and first half of the Eighties, Anna Bredemeyer and Shyamolie Varma reigned supreme Later, when the younger brigade moved in, their timeless faces insured them against a total fade-out. They merely moved into a lower gear, picking and choosing the assignments that interested them. The tall, slim Shyamolie hit the road to Paris with her "international looks" Now back in India, she lives in Pune Having taken up painting in a big way (she is also closely related to the well-known painter Anjolie Ela Menon) she has a number of exhibitions to her credit

Rare honour





Nanak Bhojani

Nandini Sen: On a new high

According to Gautam Rajadhyaksha, Shyamolie is very choosy now, doing the occasional ad campaign and live show He did the Estelle jewellery campaign with her towards the end of last year

Nandini Sen on the other hand opted out completely about five years ago though she still has a "lot of happy memories of her modelling days" There was a time when hers was one of the most familiar faces Turn the pages of any glossy and you were sure to spot the Sen smile her buck-teeth giving it that extra

appeal Cherry Blossom, Lakme, Ponds, Usha Fans the list of Nandini Sen advertisements go on And then after a heady and successful career spanning 13 years in the advertising Mecca of India, she opted out

Sen, now married to Gautam Berry managing director of Trapufitness has no regrets about leaving her glamour career behind I lead a full life I look after my three children, two boys and a girl, and teach aerobics as a hobby Earlier I used to make clothes choreograph fashion shows besides which I had done a beauty course Now I just have time to teach aerobics ' Husband Gautam says it was Nandini who first inspired him to get into the fitness equipment line

Nandini Sen may have started off here, but it was in Bombay that she made it big Nafisa Ali in contrast was not only born and brought up in this city but also struck gold while still very much a part of it Hers is a face Calcuttans in particular remember very well She was both beautiful (still is) and a champion athlete (proving, once more, that the two are not mutually exclusive)

Dubbed as the Waterbaby Nafisa represented Bengal and India in a number of swimming championships On another front, she was crowned Miss India and in 1975 finished off as second runners up at the Miss International beauty pageant in Tokyo Later she acted in *Junoon* with Shashi and Jennifer Kapoor and in *Aatank* with Dharmendra, besides doing a few modelling assignments

Nafisa took to riding at the relatively late age of 18 It was while attending polo matches in the city that she met Maj (now Col) Pickles Sodhi About 13 years older than her, he was with the 61st Cavalry and was one of the country s top polo players

After initial opposition from Sodhi s family, they married Sikh style and were first posted at the National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla, near Pune, and then Jaipur. Now, they are in Meerut

At 33, Nafisa is a mother of three—Armana Ravina (Pickles nine years) Pia (3) and Ajit Ahmed (named after her two grandfathers, one) According to Nafisa's sister Anisa, she is still very much an outdoor girl and has won trophies for riding despite the late start

Besides running a business in antiques, Nafisa's also trying to export fabrics and costumes But in the midst of all this she still finds time for dogs and a large vegetable garden and keeps a very good home says Anisa 'The children all ride but nobody swims "

Like Nafisa Ali, Zeenat Aman was a Miss India, too But unlike the Calcutta girl, she stayed on in films, starring in over 70 of them—from Raj Kapoor's *Satyam Shivam Sundaram* and *Hare Krishna Hare Ram* to Manmohan Desai's *Dharam Vir* and B R Chopra's *Insaaf Ka Tarazu*—and became a great sex symbol of the Seventies and Eighties.

In early June this year, when the perfume *Zeenat* was launched in Dubai with an eye to the Middle East market, it was more than just Ms Aman's sex appeal that Parfums Jeanne Arthes, Paris, was out to exploit. It chose her as the 'only actress to bring a flavour of the West to the Indian screen". In doing so, it also brought back a star of yesteryear and put her in the same exclusive club of celebrities as Elizabeth Taylor, Joan Collins, Paloma Picasso and Princess Stephanie of Monaco, who have had perfumes named after them What's more, Zeenat is the only Asian to have such an honour



Nafisa Ali with husband Pickles and children: In business

Still, Zeenat s children remain her priority My perfume is important, but my children come before that" Married to actor Mazhar Khan, she now has Azan (three and a half years old) and Zahan (eight months) to look after

The actress seems reluctant to hit the screen again after *Gawahi* was released last year I don t have an open mind about going back Unless it s extremely inviting and stimulating I won t take up a film offer This doesn t mean the entire industry's a no no Maybe I ll come back behind the camera after a year try production perhaps says Ms Aman

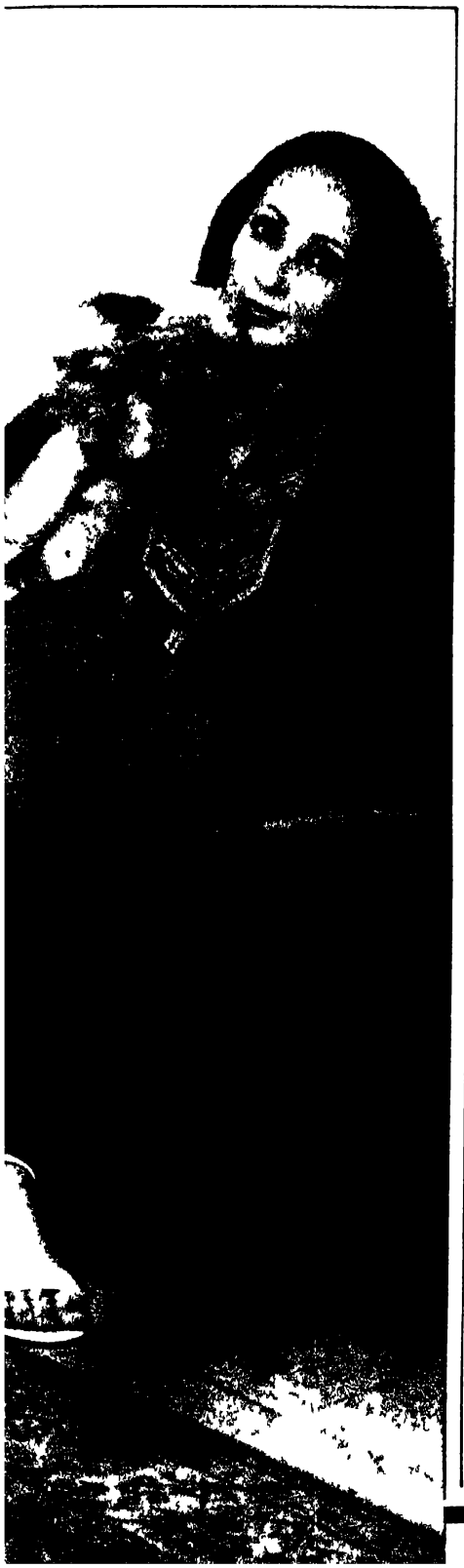
If Ms Aman has made her comeback with perfume, Mumtaz and Dimple Kapadia are back in the *filmi* rat race Mumtaz, who made her debut in 1963 with *Rustom Sohrab* did her maximum number of roles starring opposite Rajesh Khanna She moved out of films to marry non-resident Indian millionaire, Mayur Madhwani, who moved from Africa to London, post Idi Amin

Sheila Jones: Well-maintained



Courtesy Society

Film industry reports said that Mumtaz, who is shuttling between London and Bombay was supposed to be making a film with Mahesh Bhatt, but nothing came of it She made her comeback with *Aandhiyan,*





Courtesy Society

Karen Lunel with husband Tashi and son Scott Jorden : Alive and well

but the reviews have been unfavourable

Unlike Dimple, there are those who haven't come back to centrestage but have moved on to matronly roles or are in the visual communications media Tanuja is one When she returned from a Swiss finishing school at age 16 the rat race wasn t the way it is today With her debut, in *Chhabili,* Tanuja moved on to a career spanning some hundred films Among the most memorable was *Haathi Mere Saathi* where she starred with Rajesh Khanna

She married Shomu Mukherji and had two daughters Now separated, she lives with her mother and daughters Says the actress who fiercely believes in a woman's independence and identity, 'You have to carve out your own destiny That is precisely what she is now doing, though not so much in mainstream Hindi serials and cinema, she is presently into Gujarati and Marathi serials

While television has provided an outlet for fading stars to recoup, there are many who haven't been able to use its fantastic reach Actresses like Sadhana, Nanda and Asha Parekh are not on any screen Asha Parekh for one now concentrates on social work which includes running a hospital

Models fade out before they know it Here today and in some other field tomorrow Kitu Gidwani one time leading model tried her hand at television serials, to which models like Radha Seth have also gravitated Malavika Tiwari who has dropped a few pegs from the top slot, turned to photography and now like Radha Seth is trying out cinema—beginning with a film for Tinnu Anand. While Radha Seth who had earlier said no to films has signed on a couple, model Anu Agarwal is also making her debut in *Ashiqui*

And so, the fight to stay in the public eye continues From modelling to films to whatever else that will keep time from first fraying the edges and then creeping across the face till little of the look that once played havoc remains Still there are faces and there are faces A few stay etched in the mind and perchance if you should come across such a one be sure that it will bring back memories of another day, another place ■

Shades of a City

An exhibition of 100 paintings by 100 artists to mark Calcutta's tercentenary opens on Tuesday

Photographs Courtesy
Birla Academy of Art & Culture



Loadshedding (Paresh Maity)

Nidhu Babu's Tappa
(Anjan Chakraborty)



What could be a more fitting tribute to one of the most art conscious cities of the world in its tercentenary year than to see *Calcutta Through the Eyes of the Painters.*

Considered to be one of the biggest thematic exhibitions in recent times of contemporary Indian art, this grand affair is being organised by the Birla Academy of Art & Culture and will be on view from August 7 to 26, at their gallery.

Dr Archana Roy, curator of Birla Academy, whose idea it is, says that the idea occurred to her as early as October 1989. "I thought that the views and reactions of the various painters on the city and its influence on their aesthetic sensibility would be the best contribution to Calcutta in its tercentenary year," says Roy.

The idea has met with tremendous success. Art lovers will see some of the biggest names in contemporary Indian art rub shoulders with promising young painters chronicling their beloved city. On view will be works of

Bantala Protest
(Karuna Shaha)





Bikash Bhattacharjee, Anjolie Ela Menon, Shyamal Dutta-Ray, J. Sultan Ali, Shuvaprasannna, Dhiraj Chowdhury, Jogen Chowdhury, K.G. Subramaniam, Sakti Burman, Chitravanu Mazumdar and the grand old man of contemporary art, Maqbool Fida Husain, to name a few. The present exhibition will have 100 works by 100 artists.

"The response has been spontaneous and overwhelming from most artists," says Roy, adding, "though a few have not been so cooperative." This viewer for one, missed seeing any entry by Ganesh Pyne, who could not participate due to unforeseen reasons. Still, the present exhibits will take up three whole floors of the Academy. The exhibition will travel to Bombay in the second week of September to give Bombayites a taste of Calcutta.

The paintings are done in a variety of media, ranging from oil (which predominates) to water to tempera to gouache and even paper collage. They depict vignettes of city life past and present, religious and secular, from realism to abstract styles. From the *Palki* (Parag Adhikary) and *Nidhubabu's Tappa* days (Anjan Chakraborty) to *Loadshedding* (Paresh Maity), *Que* (Tanara Chandra), *Garbage* (Krishnendu Porel), *Adda* (Manab Barua), Sajal Roy's *Stoneman* and Karuna Shaha's depiction of the shameful *Bantala* episode, the variety is endless. In the midst of all this we have the angelic Mother Teresa (Dutta-Ray and Shuvaprassanna) and Kali, Tagore and Ray rubbing shoulders in J. Sultan Ali's canvas in the tantra style. However, one of the most powerful paintings is Aditya Basak's canvas in mixed media, showing a skeletal bird with its newly laid eggs, implying the paradoxical quality of Calcutta—a city dying and yet living.

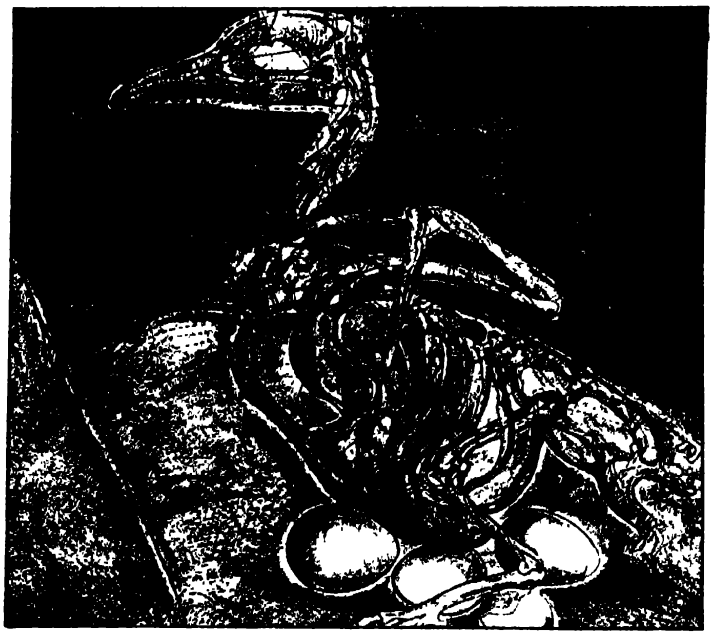
Asked as to why this exhibition was limited to painters and not sculptors, Roy feels that Calcutta can be better depicted through paintings than sculptures. And going through the paintings, one feels that the painters have paid a fitting tribute to the most 'sketchable' city.

Nandita Chaudhuri



Raja Rani (Ashok Mullick)





The Bird
(Aditya Basak)



Rekha in
Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai

The information given in these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133)—4 shows, Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417)—3 shows

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Deewana Mujh Sa Nahin:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266), Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 25043), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Streets 553044)—4 shows) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue, 464440)

Aamir Khan and Madhuri Dixit are the lead pair Also in the cast are Khushboo, Janendra, Satyen Kappu, Beena and Ranjeeta in a guest appearance The film is directed by Y Nageshwar Rao and the music is by Anand Milind.

• **Ghayal:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270)—4 shows

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the chief attractions Others co-starring are Amrish Puri, Moushumi Chatterjee, Om Puri, Raj Babbar, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Shafi Inamdar and Annu Kapoor The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Gunahon Ka Devta:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Lotus (S N. Banerjee Road, 242664)—4 shows.

Mithun Chakraborty, Sangeeta Bijlani, Aditya Pancholi, Sujata Mehta, Shakti Kapoor, Kulbhushan Kharbanda and Danny comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Kawal Sharma and the music is by Annu Malik.

• **Jurm:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383)—4 shows

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring Vinod Khanna Meenakshi Seshadri, Sangeeta Bijlani and Shafi Inamdar The music by Rajesh Roshan

• **Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138) Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108), Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515) Kahka (Sadananda Road, 478141), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522)—4 shows, Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417)—noon

A social entertainer, starring Rekha, Jeetendra, Radhika, Anupam Kher and Utpal Dutt. The film is directed by Manobala and the music is by Anand Milind

• **Veeru Dada:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757) Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046)—4 shows

Directed by K R Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Dharmendra, Amrita Singh, Farha and Shakti Kapoor

Bengali Films

• **Badnaam:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)—2.30, 5.15, 8, Purna (S.P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—2 30, 5 30, 8 15;

Shibu Mittra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Neelam, Prasenjit and Shakti Kapoor The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Garmil:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561), Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 474686)—1, 4, 7

A film by Dilip Roy, starring Tapas Paul, Debashree Roy and Rupa Ganguli. The music is by Kanu Bhattacharya

• **Papi:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—3 shows

Chiranjeet, Debashree, Deepankar, Indrani, Kaushik, Pallabi and Abhisek are the main attractions in this Prabhat Roy film whose music is by Babul Bose.

• **Debibaran:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080), Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—3 shows.

Directed by Srikanta Guhathakurta and with music by Bappi Lahiri, the film stars Soumitra Chatterjee, Ranjit Mullick, Deepankar De, Sumitra Mukherjee, Kali Banerjee, Debashree Roy and Prasenjit.

Special Events

5 August onwards: 10 am to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Bidula Nath Basu, till August 15.

At Tagore Art Gallery (Calcutta Airport).

5-7 August: 3 pm to 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Biswajit Choudhury in the South Gallery.

5 August onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm

The 26th Mid-Summer Exhibition of West Bengal Artists, organised by Academy of Fine Arts, in the West, Central, North and New South galleries till August 17.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

5 August: 3 pm & 6.30 pm; 6 August: 6.30 pm

As part of its 15th foundation day celebrations, Samakalin Shilpidal presents Sanjukta Natya Prayas in Dinabandhu Mitra's play, *Neeldarpan* at 3 pm, and a seminar to be followed by Manik Bandopadhyay's play, *Chor* at 6.30 pm on 5th; a seminar to be followed by the staging of Mohit Chattopadhyay's *Dwiper Raja* on 6th.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

7-9 August: 2.30 pm

Progressive Educational Techniques Society's Teachers' Centre will conduct "An Ideal Nursery Classroom".

At Loreto House (Middlton Row).

8 August onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm

Manick Bhattacharjee will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

10 August: 5.30 pm

Pandit Ram Narayan Sangeet Kala Kendra presents a musical programme, *Manmayee Radha*, choreographed by Pandit Bachan Lal Mishra

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

11 August: 6.30 pm

Proscenium presents Shanti Mehrotra's play, *Thehra Hua Pani*, directed by Sheo Kumar Jhunjhunwala. The cast includes Govind Jhunjhunwala, Meera Jain, Tapasi Dutt, Vivek Jajodia, Darba Dutta, Ashok Churiwal and Sheo Kumar Jhunjhunwala.

At Yan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

11 August: 6.30 pm

Padatik Dance Circle presents a Bharata Natyam recital by Liza Purkait.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): Ai 1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4). SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5): BG-098 at 1820, Dep (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2) KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2): KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr. (daily). IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250; Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4): IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030, Arr (3,5,7): IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6). IC-219 at 1120. Arr.(1,3,5,6). IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep (daily). IC-221 at 1100, Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr (3,5, 6,7). IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1). IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545, Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly) PF-706 at 1615

Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-716 at 1025

Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-721 at 0930, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF 722 at 1805

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-723 at 1045, Arr (1, 3, 5)· PF-724 at 1950

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep (2, 4, 6)· PF-725 at 0550

Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-726 at 1040

Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-737 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-738 at 1100

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

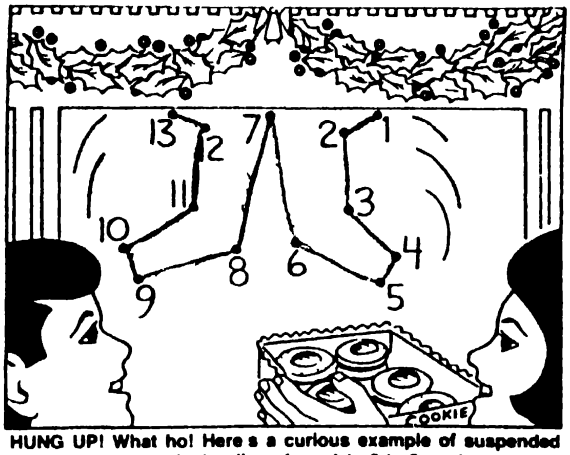
Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	**2312**
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri —Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	**2304**
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep Tues Fri & Sat Arri – Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep —Mon & Thurs Arri —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 15	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep Wednesday Arri – Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep –Tues & Wed Arri – Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr —Mon & Fr	7 30	3328
5049	**22-25**	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	**10-40**	**5050**
		Sealdah		
3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12 50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri — Wed Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2621	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati-Howrah-Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	
	14 10	**Trivandrum Central-Howrah-Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep Fri & Sun Arri Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	
	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains, 203535-44 for all other informations. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays)

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



HUNG UP! What ho! Here s a curious example of suspended animation Draw missing lines from 1 to 2 to 3, and so on

• OH DEER! Find a member of Santa s reindeer team in each sentence 1 Chico met his match 2 Sue ordered a sherbert 3 Skip ran certain tests 4 Ella departed on derby day

1 Comet 2 Dasher 3 Prance 4 Donde

D	B	E	T	B	O
A	E	Y	R	E	W
R	R	B	O	L	E
O	D	T	R	R	S
E	N	U	E	M	O
F	A	B	R	R	B

HAT STUFF LINKAGE

A link-up of six head coverings will use up all of the letters in the maze above That is to say, it is possible to spell out names of the following headgear letter by letter in order proceeding to adjacent squares horizontally vertically or diagonally

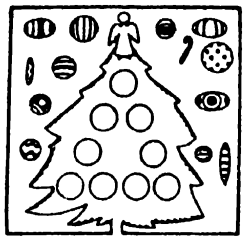
Derby, beret, bowler, sombrero, turban, fedora

Starting clue Look to upper left hand corner to find the first letter of derby and go on from there

Remember object is to proceed letter by letter in the order given

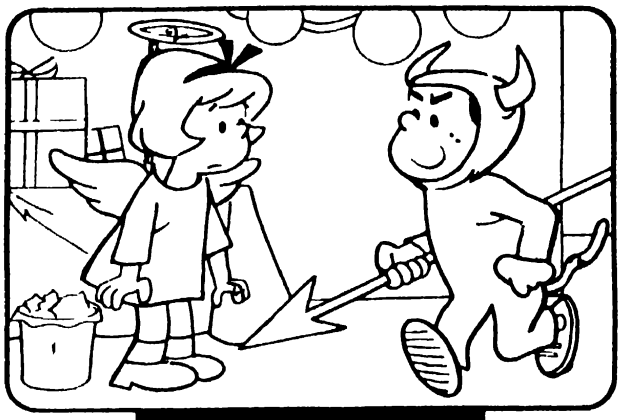
• TRIM LOOK! Ornaments on the tree below appear in a triangular configuration How quickly can you place the numbers 0 through 8 in the figure so that the sum of the four digits on each side is 13?

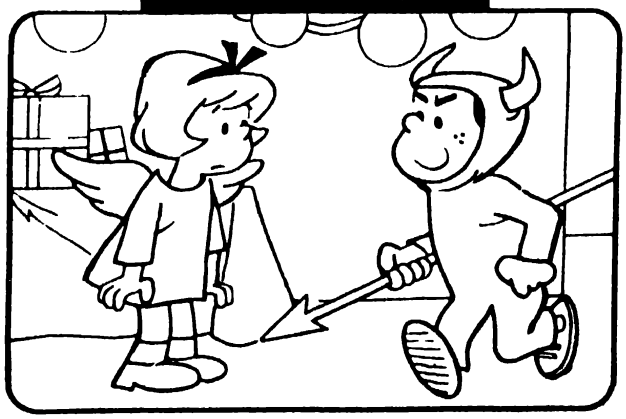
Hint For starters insert 0 in one of the corners One possible answer is given below



Place 0 at top then clockwise 8 3 2 4 6 1 5 7 is one way to do it

HOCUS-FOCUS

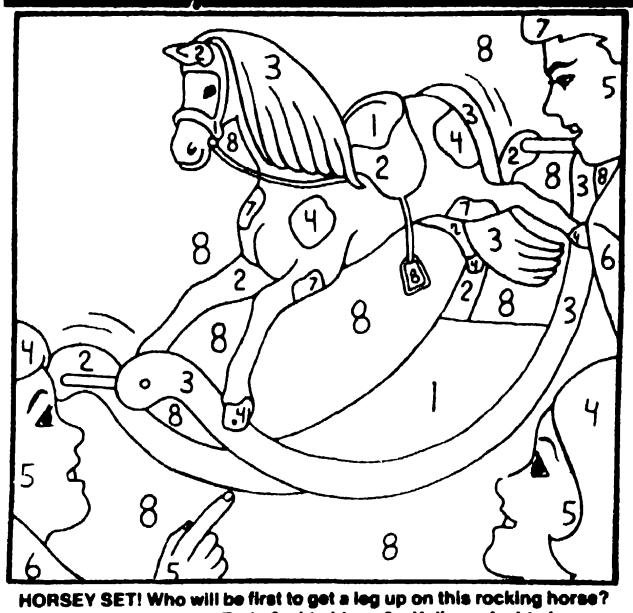




CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Package is smaller 2 Halo is missing 3 Trash can is missing 4 Arm is moved 5 Spear end is smaller 6 Tail is missing

FUNSPOT



HORSEY SET! Who will be first to get a leg up on this rocking horse? Add these colors 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Lt purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

OUTREACH

- - - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible twosome Each four



QUIZ ◻ Neil O'Brien

Rajiv Sood, Delhi, writes 'I am studying the poem *The Revenge* Can you please write details about the story "

Sir Richard Grenville (1542-91), an English gentleman and property owner whose name is associated with the last fight of the warship *Revenge*, was born at Buckland Abbey, Devon Little is known of his early life except that he killed a man in a duel, was admitted a student of the Inner Temple in 1559, elected a Member of Parliament in 1563, and took part in Emperor Maximilian II's campaign against the Turks in 1567 In 1576 he was made sheriff of Cornwall and knighted, and in 1585 he made the first of two voyages to Virginia to further the development of a colony there By now a wealthy shipowner, he contributed three ships to the fleet being assembled at Plymouth in 1588 under Lord Howard of Effingham to resist the Spanish Armada and, after the enemy had been routed in the North Sea, he commanded a small naval force in Irish waters hoping to pick up one or two of the Spanish ships as prizes

These were the years when the lure of Spanish gold was an irresistible urge to Englishmen to take to the seas, and in 1591, Grenville got himself appointed as vice-admiral and second-in-command of a naval force under Lord Thomas Howard which was dispatched to the Azores Islands to lie in wait for a homeward bound Spanish treasure fleet While awaiting its arrival, the ships companies became seriously depleted through sickness, Grenville's flagship the *Revenge* being obliged to land over half her crew of 250

Unknown to the English, a strong Spanish force had been sent out to escort the treasure convoy and when on August 30 the Spanish fleet was reported in the offing, Howard s force was much too weak to give battle

CBS

11th Question: **What in American slang is a Third World Briefcase? (Sudhasatta Acharyya, I.S.I. Men's Hostel, 206 B.T. Road, Calcutta 700 035)**
Ans: **It is a portable stereophonic box—radio, tape etc., especially popular among black youths in the US and UK.**

There was just time to embark the sick and escape from the clutches of a greatly superior force The *Revenge*, having most men ashore, was the last to leave and she was cut off from her consorts She tried to fight her way through the Spanish fleet but was surrounded For 15 hours she did battle against the Spaniards, sinking one ship and driving off another with heavy damage

But the odds against her were too great and in the end she was forced to strike her colours to prevent further slaughter Grenville, mortally wounded, was taken on board the Spanish flagship *San Pablo* and died three days later, the *Revenge*, shattered in the fight, sank in a gale before she could be taken as a prize to Spain The action is immortalised in Tennyson s *The Last Fight of the Revenge*, first published in his *Ballads and Other Poems* (1880)

"Who were Burke and Hare?" asks Kumkum Dasgupta, Calcutta-27

Born in Ireland in 1792, William Burke was a common labourer whose miserable lot in life improved vastly when he became, along with his shifty-eyed friend William Hare, a 'resurrectionist," meaning a body snatcher, a well-paying occupation at the turn of the 19th century in that anatomists were in dire need of human corpses for study Though it was then illegal, dissection was privately sanctioned for medical research

Burke and Hare serviced Dr Robert Knox, a famous Edinburgh anatomist Instead of digging up bodies fresh enough for study, they found it easier to waylay derelicts, taking them to their seedy quarters, getting them drunk and then killing them They allegedly killed 32 persons, mostly males, in this fashion before Hare who had aroused police suspicion informed on his friend Burke Hare was pardoned, left Scotland and vanished forever Knox was cleared of any complicity in the murders, neither he nor his associates knew that the bodies supplied to them were murder victims His career, however, was ruined by the publicity

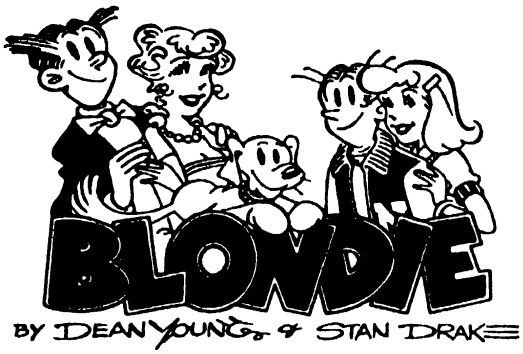
William Burke was hanged in Edinburgh before a big crowd on January 28, 1829 The author Sir Walter Scott was in attendance Commemorating Burke s departure via the rope, an enterprising wag wrote a song which is still sung on macabre occasions in England today

Up the close and down the stair,
But and ben with Burke and Hare,
Burke's the butcher,
Hare's the thief,
Knox the boy that buys the beef

QUESTIONS

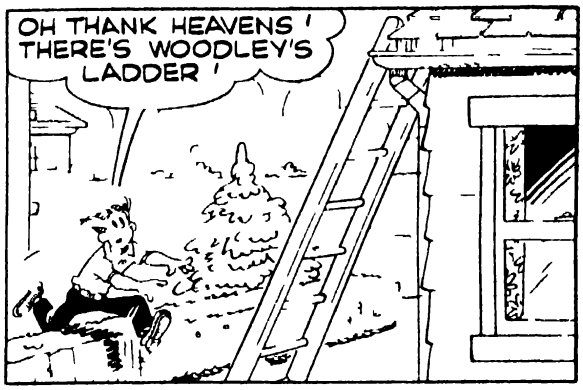
1. What name was given in olden times to a boy educated with a prince and beaten when the prince deserved punishment?
2. What is common to: Grenada, Grenadines, Martinique, St Lucia and St Vincent and what name is collectively given to them? (Nirmalya Kr Sarkar, Asansol 1)
3. Of which flowers is it said in the Bible that 'Solomon in all his glory was not equal to them in beauty'? (Ramesh, Calcutta 27)
4. What is the more common term for strabismus? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)
5. Who said, "When you cut a tree you get 6.25% of its cost, society loses 93.75%"? (Manoj Kr Singh, Hazaribagh 43)
6. Which film of Dev Anand was based on Rabindranath Tagore's *Chitr Aditya*? (Sudipta Ranjan Saha, Andul)
7. What is the popular name of the Brazilian national soccer team? (Rakesh Roshan Mishra, Sambalpur 4)
8. During World War II who was code-named "The Hawk"? (Gautam Rharamshi, Calcutta 25)
9. Which place, in days of yore, was called "Koresthan" or "the Land of Stones"? (G. Rajesh, Calcutta 26)
10. Who is the first ever Indian to score a hat-trick in World Cup hockey? (Mohan Kr Agrawal, Bargarh 28)

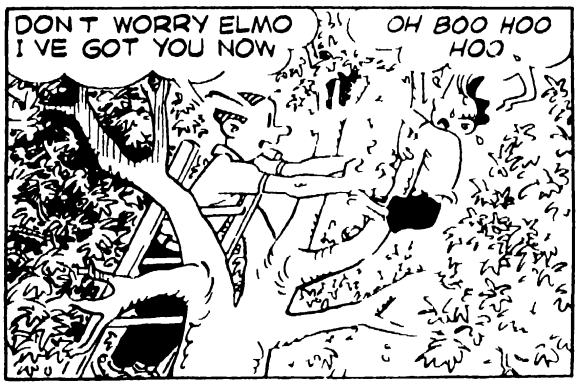
ANSWERS

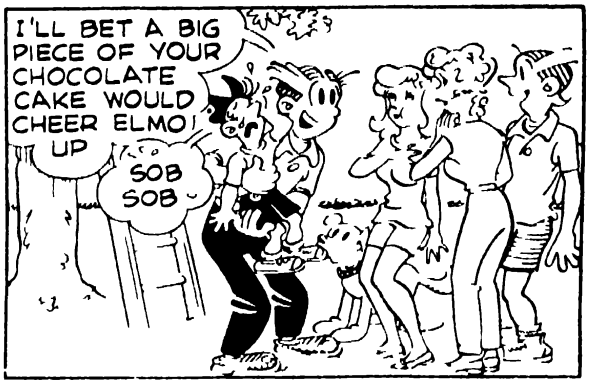


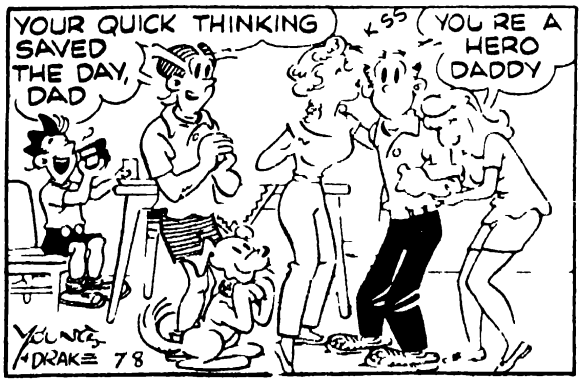


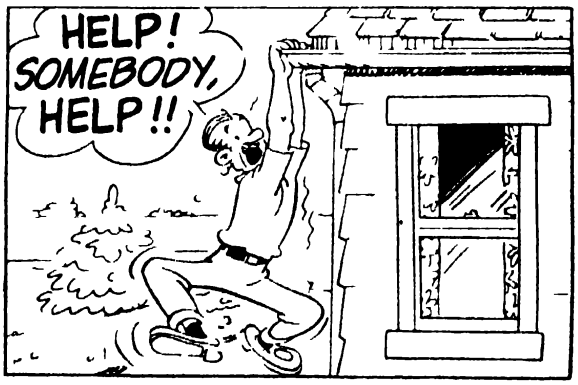




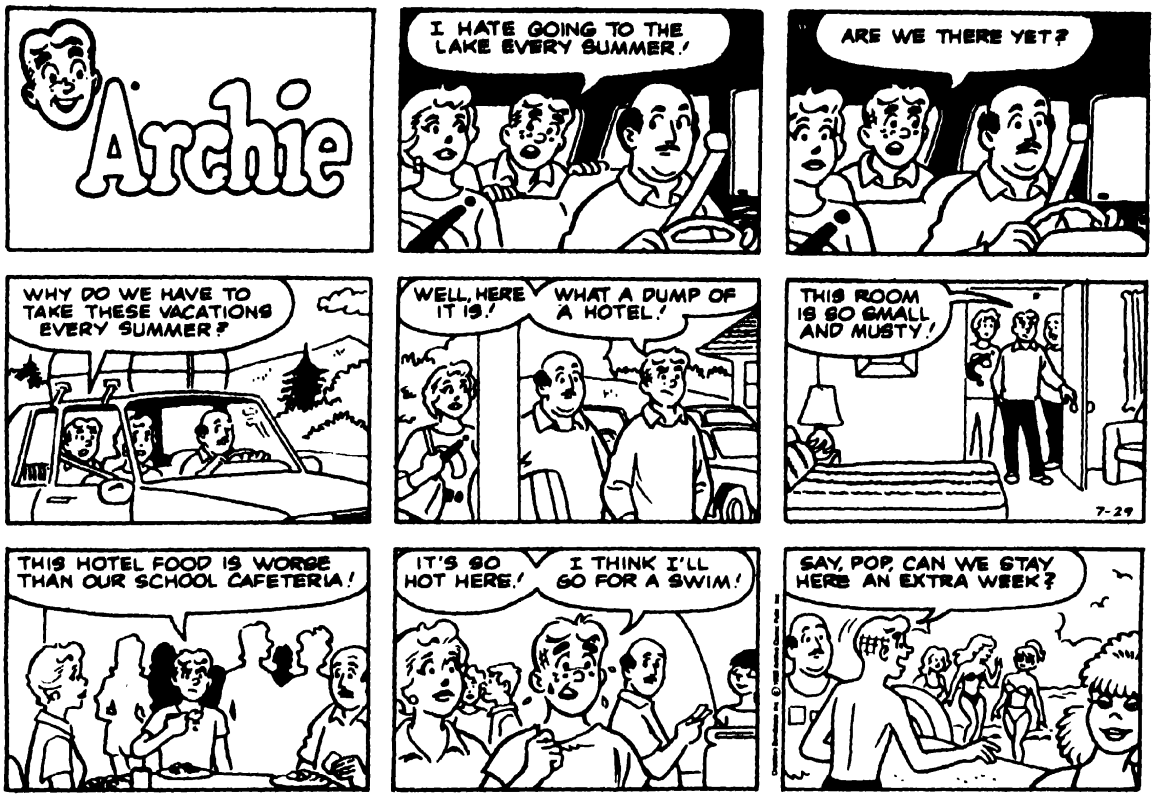




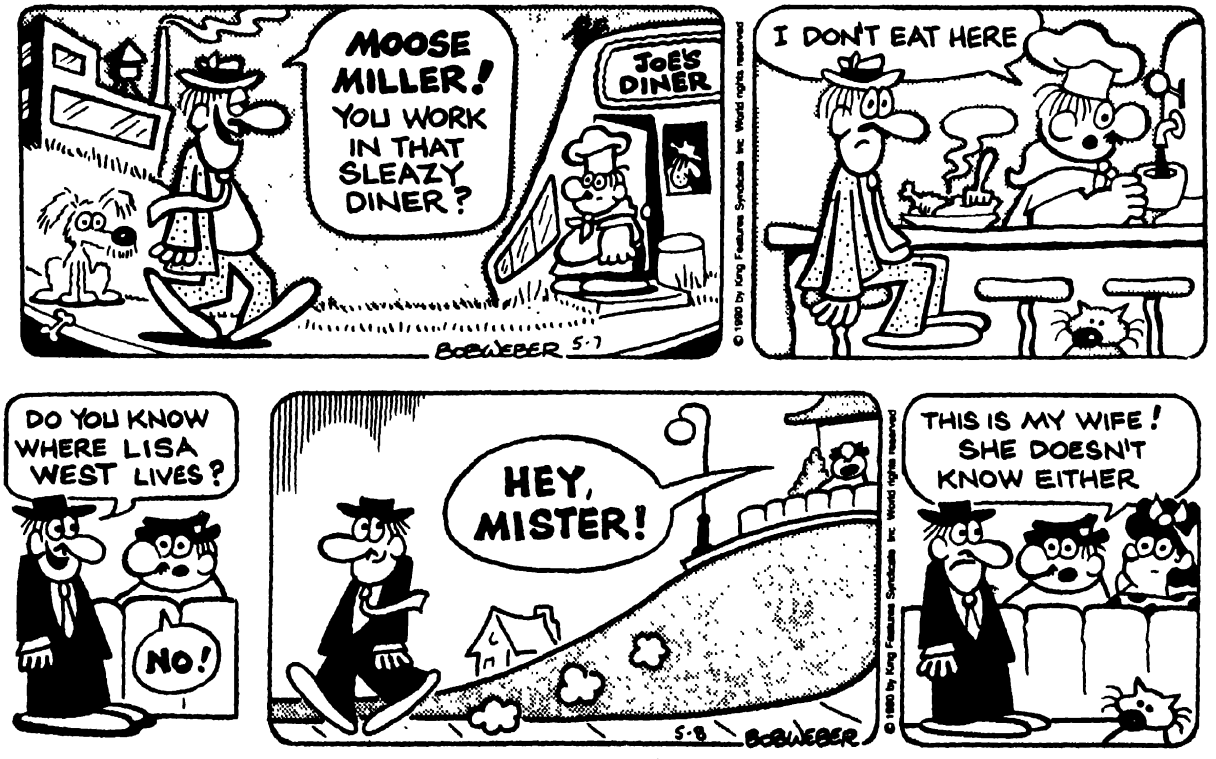




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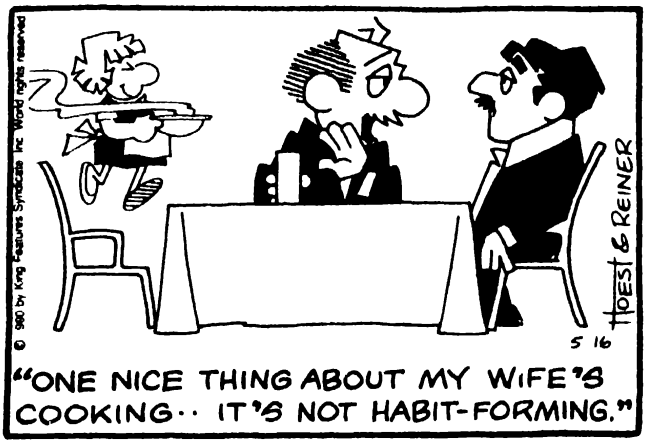


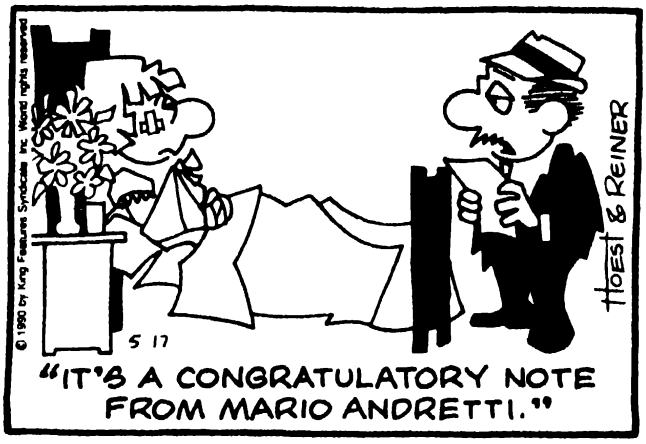
MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber



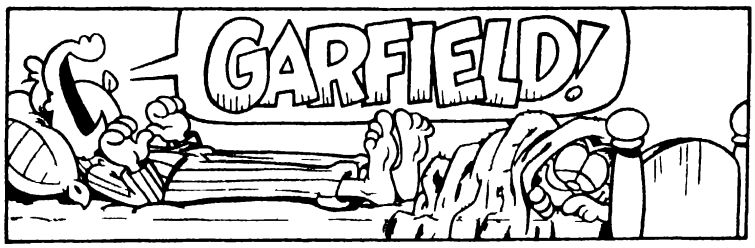


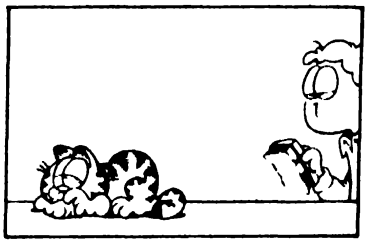






GARFIELD By Jim Davis

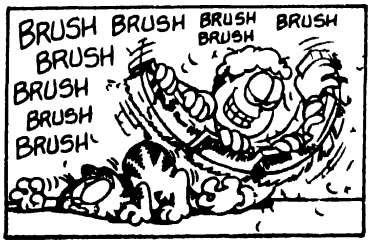


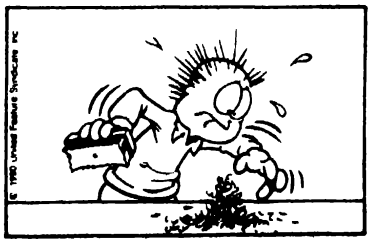








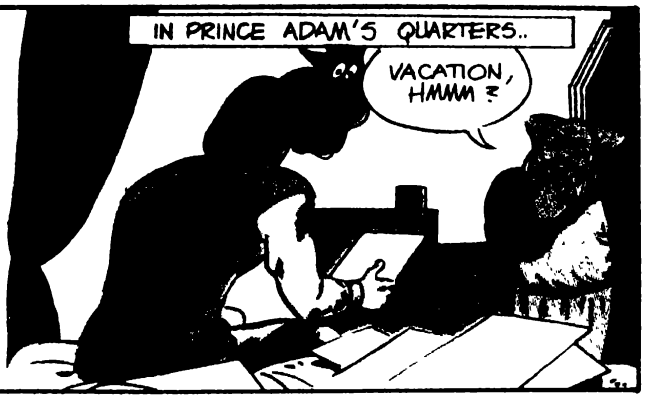







WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE DOING NOW, DENNIS IF YOU WEREN'T IN THE LEGION?
OH I DON'T KNOW I WAS ALWAYS PRETTY GOOD WITH MY HANDS
PROBABLY A PICK-POCKET
Y'KNOW DENNIS I SOMETIMES FEEL THAT LIFE HAS PASSED ME BY
BUT FOR ONE CRUEL TWIST OF FATE I COULD HAVE BEEN A CONCERT PIANIST
WHAT WAS THAT?
I COULDN'T PLAY THE PIANO
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS TELL WHAT PEOPLE DO BY THE WAY THEY LOOK
TAKE MAD PIERRE- HE PROBABLY USED TO STUFF TEDDY-BEARS!
HA! HA!— AARGH!
DOWN PEOPLE'S THROATS
WHERE DID YOU WORK BEFORE YOU JOINED UP PIERRE?
A SLAUGHTERHOUSE
THAT'S ER NICE WHAT HAPPENED?
I GOT SACKED AFTER TWO HOURS
I WAS ENJOYING MYSELF I'D SLAUGHTERED ABOUT A HUNDRED
TURNS OUT THERE WAS A MACHINE I SHOULD'VE BEEN USING
LIKE I SAY DENNIS YOU CAN NEVER TELL A PERSON'S JOB BY THE WAY HE LOOKS
GLOOP!
I MEAN, WITH A HAT LIKE THAT YOU'D THINK EGON WAS A COOK

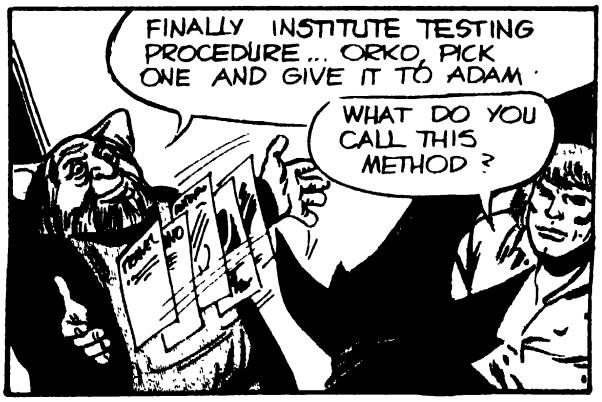
HE-MAN™ AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™











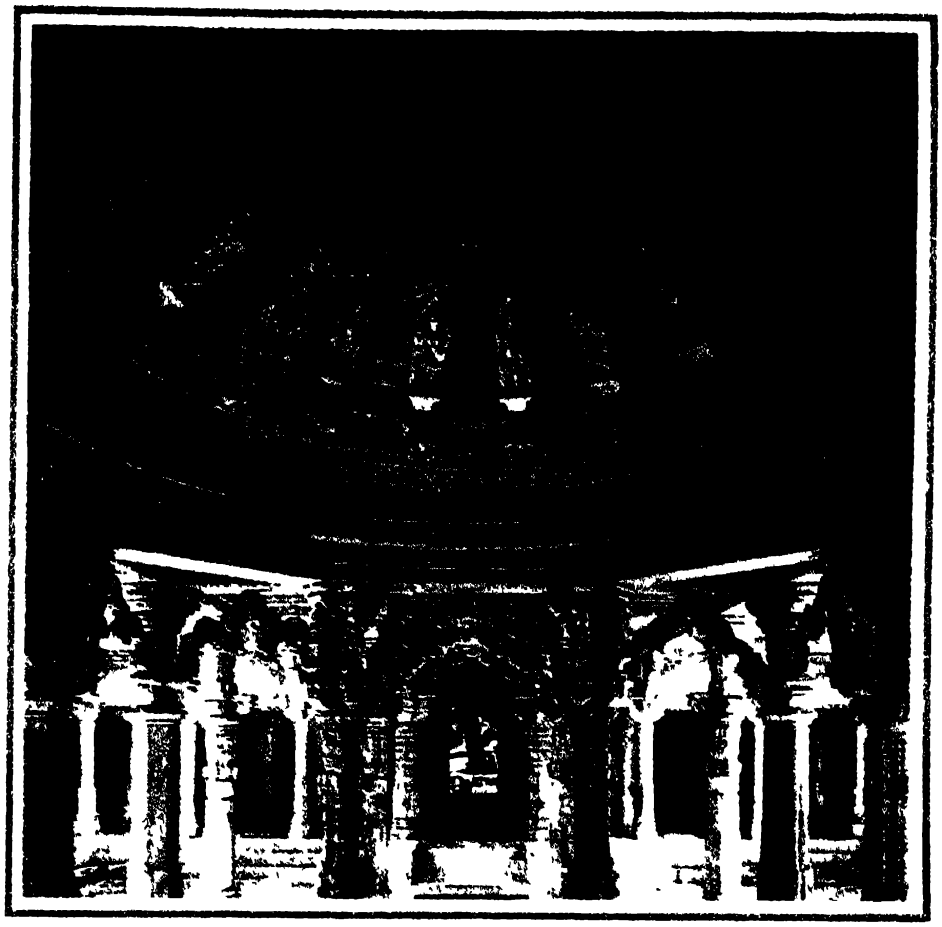




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The Bachchans are back. With Ajitabh winning an unqualified apology and substantial damages from a Swedish newspaper for linking his name with the Bofors gun deal, **Amitabh Bachchan** is a hero once more. Political opponents had been shooting their mouths off for years and gunning for the man. Now the blank look is gone and it's time to smack his lips. Photograph by UTPAL SORKAR



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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POWMEX reduces imports and saves precious Foreign exchange to uphold the country's ideal of self-reliance and growth.



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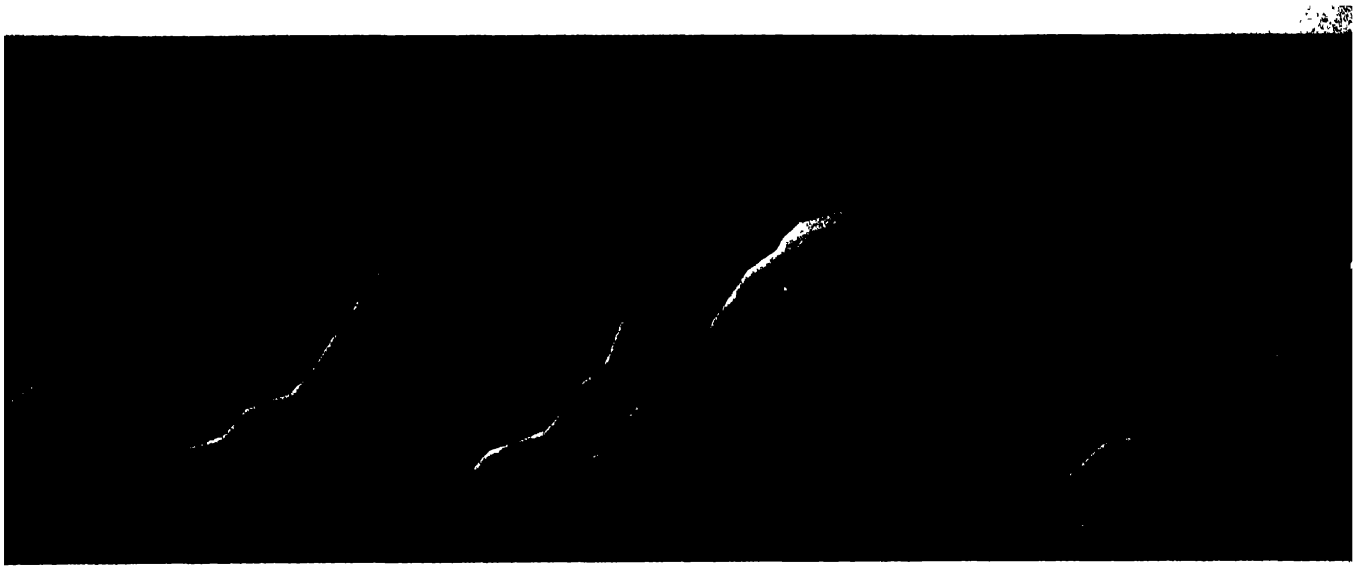
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The Importance of Stones

Despite an interesting headline (What the Stones Fo[illegible] 15), the sto[illegible]. Instead of emp[illegible]g the significance of various gem stones, you just produced the opinions of a few laymen.

There are several gem stones, but the *ratnas* have a special place. Among the 84 types of *ratnas* are the *navratnas: Manikya, Moti, Moonga, Pukhraj, Panna, Heera, Neelam, Gomed* and *Lahsuniyan.* The rest are sub-*ratnas.* Even among the *navratnas, Manikya, Moti, Panna, Heera* and *Neelam* are accorded more importance.

According to belief, all these are very helpful in heart ailments. *Neelam* is very helpful in cases of heart ailments arising from mental weakness while *Heera* is useful in heart problems owing to half-fulfilled or unfulfilled lust.

Rajesh Kumar Rai,
Jamshedpur

■ The story was thought-provoking. Whether stones have any effect on man's life is really debatable. One thing, however, is sure. If [illegible]eone gets success he [illegible] that the stones had a positive effect and if he fails, he says the whole thing is bogus.

Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

■ The story was completely unnecessary. I do not know why people still be[illegible] in such things and [illegible]uch subjects should [illegible]blished in a widely [illegible]magazine.

[illegible]wip Majhi,
[illegible]para

Oh, God ..

I felt hurt to see Bindu Arora's Images photograph showing a goat chewing the garland on a deity. The photographer should have moved the goat away instead of photographing it.

And you should not have published it because it may hurt Hindu sentiments.

Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

■ The picture in Images was charming. To anyone with some faith in the Almighty the goat seems to be supplicating to a divine power and saying, "Oh, Lord! Human beings have become inhuman even towards each other. They have no pity for the weak and helpless They buy and sell little children for camel racing and the flesh trade, they prosper on spurious drugs, they torture and kill in Your name. We animals are also Your children But where is Your love, mercy and goodness in the world today? Or are You now a dead symbol of a mockery called the Almighty?"

Purnima L. Kumar,
Calcutta

Efficient and Cheap

We were amused to read R K. Gupta's allegations against us (Post Mortem, July 22) which only betrays his malice Our principals are internationally known and are well connected with the World Health Organisation and the Indian Medical Association. They are pioneers in the ayurvedic system of treatment which by its very nature takes time and requires strict observance of the rules, methods and precautions prescribed.

[illegible]one maliciously [illegible]K. Gupta, we treatment [illegible]atisfied and [illegible]tment effi-[illegible]ely inex-[illegible]d like to [illegible]ta what under-[illegible] how We free de-



VIVEK LASS

The Telegraph
12 AUGUST 1990



4 In keeping with the worldwide trend, helicopter gunships with their manouverability and lethal firepower are finding increasing favour with the Indian Army too A look at the magnificent flying machines

13 Collaring cougars, at the Yellowstone National Park,is one way of keeping track of their activities

16 The remarkably realistic sets for the *City of Joy* are ready and the unit waits for early next year to begin shooting

SECTIONS

11 Heritage
12 Inner Eye
19 Event
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24 Quiz
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

COVER STORY

MUSCLE IN THE SKY



Helicopter gunships with their lethal firepower and manoeuverability could change the face of modern warfare. In keeping with the worldwide trend, India, too, has realised that the day of the assault rotorcraft has arrived. S. Srinivasan looks at the new chopping edge of the armed forces

If another round of war breaks out between India and Pakistan it is bound to be fast and intense. The induction of modern and accurate weapon systems by both the sides in the last decade has brought about this tremendous change. The latest buzzword among the armed forces is 'force multipliers'. According to military experts, the attack helicopter has emerged as the most dramatic 'force multiplier' since the machinegun. As a result, more and more armies the world over are turning their attention towards this weapon system.

Helicopters were introduced into the battlefield roughly 40 years ago. They were first employed by the French in counter insurgency operations in Algeria in the Fifties and by the British in similar situations. But their fighting qualities were never really appreciated. By and large, air forces continued to use helicopters mainly for communication, liaison, transportation and casualty evacuation duties.

It was only later that armies slowly started fitting machine guns on the choppers. But the real break came after the Vietnam war in 1972 when faced with an armoured thrust of 600 tanks, the Americans used helicopters to fire missiles to deadly effect.

The Iraqis later used the French-made Gazelle in an anti-tank role in its Gulf war against Iran. Nearer home, the Russians used the Mi-24 helicopter gunships in pairs in their Afghanistan campaign. Aided by the scout planes the helicopters first fired rockets on the rebel targets and then followed it up with pinpoint gun attacks. The Indian Army used the same gunships in its "peace-keeping role" in Sri Lanka. The Jaffna peninsula, full of lagoons, posed tremendous problems for the Indian Army as the LTTE men criss-crossed the shallow waters with impunity. They sniped at Indian transport helicopters and created problems in maintaining logistics. The Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) pressed Mi-25 choppers (the export version of the Soviet-built Mi-24) into service with dramatic results. The IPKF which came under severe criticism for strafing the civilian population in Chavakacheri, however, denied they had used the gunships to liberate Jaffna. Army officials claimed it would not have taken them so long to capture Jaffna if they had indeed been allowed to use the helicopter gunships.



A-129 Mangusta

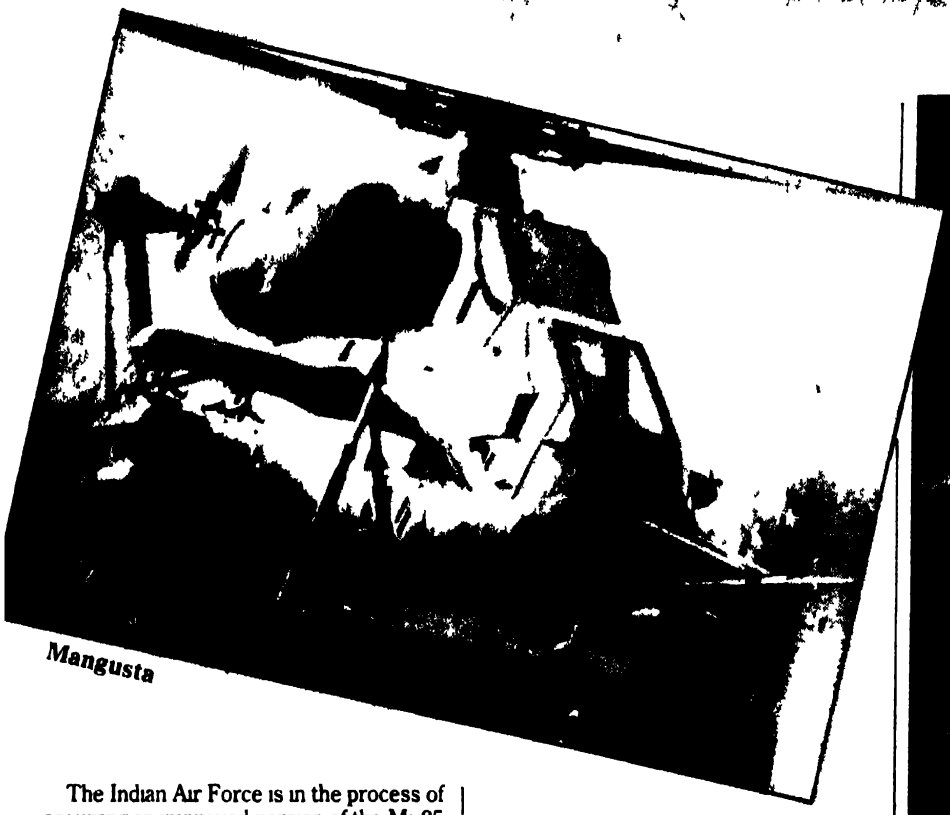
The Indian Army generals, as in the rest of the world, have now come round to the thinking that the day of the rotorcraft has finally arrived. According to defence journals, the helicopter like the tank before could change the face of warfare. One of the biggest advantages with the helicopter is that with its three dimensional capability it can join the armour and artillery team in dominating the battlefield. Any future war will undoubtedly move fast as the armies get increasingly mechanised. The Pakistani generals soon after conducting the *Zarb-e-momin* exercise talked of fast troop movement, covering more than 60 to 70 kms of ground in a day.

The helicopters have now become important with the change in battle scenarios. The fighter planes, to avoid radar detection, are flying closer than ever to the ground. In fact, some of the modern fixed wing fightercraft can now fly a few feet above the ground, carry out their ground attack mission before getting away to safety. But the helicopters need not make a fast getaway. They can wait in ambush for the enemy tanks to arrive. They can provide very close air support by their 'nap of the earth' ability. But the main role of the helicopter remains anti-tank and commando operations.

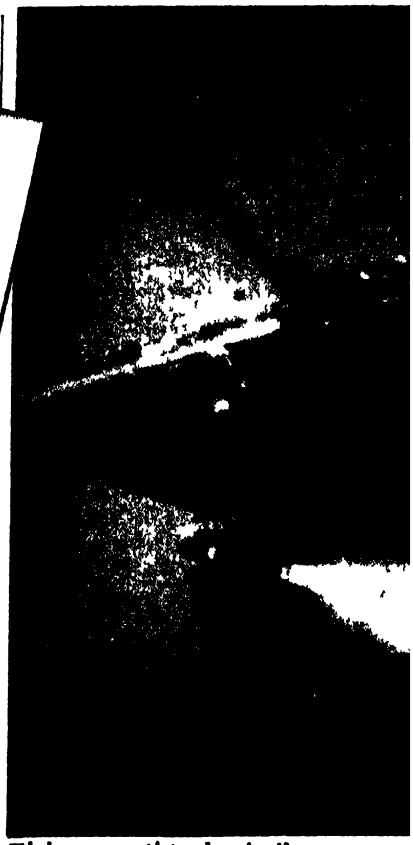
The Indian armed forces use three kinds of helicopters: light support (French Alouettes—Cheetah and Chetak) for observation, reconnaissance and aerial cover to forward pickets; cargo (Mi-8, Mi-17 and Mi-26) for heavy lift duties; and attack (Mi-25). The Mi-8s and their newer variants Mi-17 can carry weapons on board. They can even be altered to carry more than 100 rockets in need.

The Mi-25 is more than a mere tank-hunter, it is a multi-role chopper. In addition to its lethal attacking capabilities, it can carry troops and land them in commando operations. For instance, if a particular feature is to be captured from the enemy, the 'copter with infantrymen aboard can launch a swift attack and hold them till regular troops arrive.

It accommodates a two-man crew in individual cockpits arranged in tandem and protected by armour. The engines, too, are similarly protected, besides being mounted on the sides to reduce the chances of both getting damaged simultaneously. It carries under its nose sensors a turret containing a twin or four barrelled gun depending on the need. The choppers are said to be equipped with an infra red sensor mounted on the port weapon pylon for night flying. Besides, it has a ranging laser with a command aerial, a radio altimeter and a Doppler radar for navigation. The chopper is capable of taking off on its own independent of ground support, thanks to its auxiliary power unit.



Mangusta



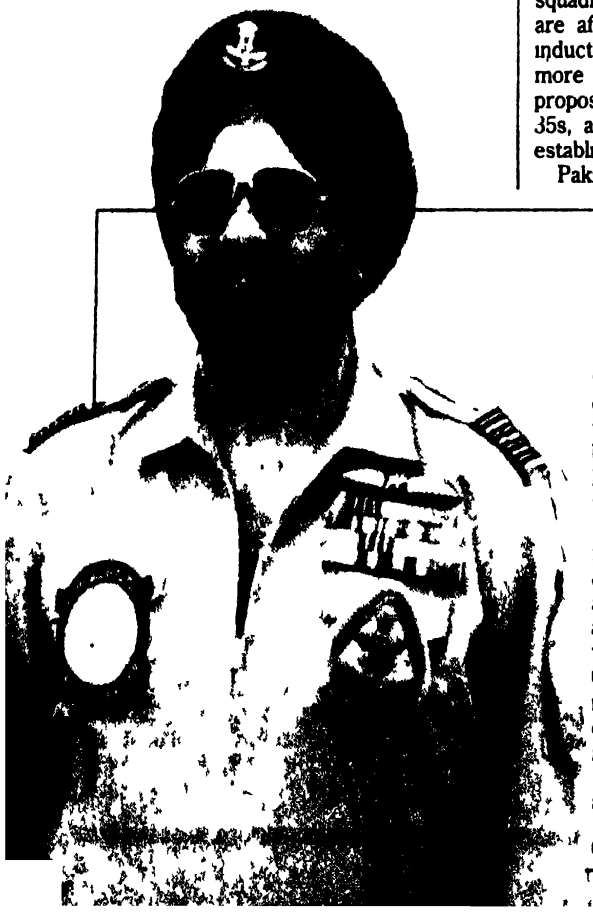
Firing an anti-tank missile

The Indian Air Force is in the process of acquiring an improved version of the Mi-25 from the Russians The Mi-35s, as they are designated, not only carry improved sensors but also have more engine power which gives them the necessary thrust to make a quick getaway after an attack They also pack greater firepower than their earlier model

Though at present India has only a squadron of 12 attack helicopters, plans are afoot to expand the fleet With the induction of the upgunned Mi-35, one more squadron will be raised There is a proposal to add a third squadron, of Mi-35s, according to sources in the defence establishment

Pakistan, on the other hand, does not have any dedicated attack helicopters and uses its squadron of 4SA-321 utility choppers for air observation and reconnaissance However, they have been using the flying platforms to fire rockets.

The primary role of an attack helicopter is to locate and destroy enemy tanks



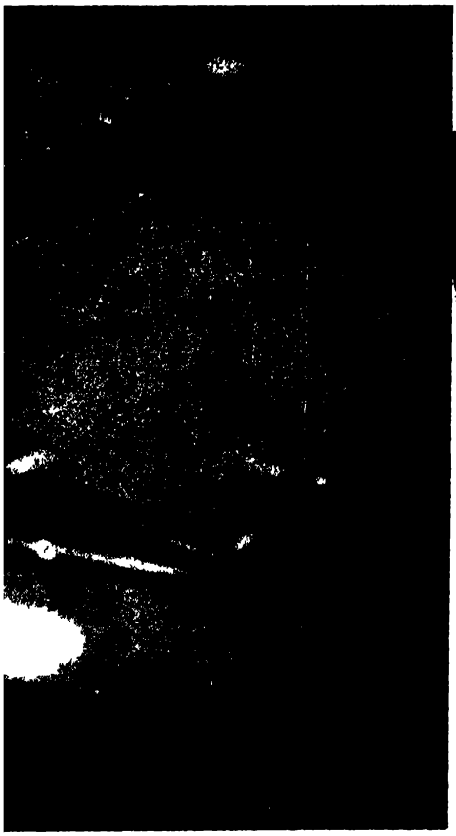
Group captain T.P.S. Chhatwal

PILOT PAR EXCELLENCE

It was a hot July morning in 1984 when Wing Commander T.P.S Chhatwal was woken up by the sound of the door bell His wife thought it was the milkman and asked him not to bother But the Chhatwals found they had a surprise visitor, the unit commander of the Hindon airbase near Delhi. He asked Chhatwal to get ready for an important mission. The wing commander quickly got into his uniform and accompanied his superior to the airbase where he found a general waiting for him. A thought crossed Chhatwal's mind: generals do not normally wait for wing commanders; this, obviously, was not a routine assignment.

The officer was not wrong in his assessment. The Indian Army had launched an offensive to capture Gyolong La-3, a strategic peak in the Siachen Glacier dominated by the Pakistanis This was the first stage of Operation Meghadoot and the Indian Army's infantry had moved forward to the base of the peak but was cut off from the main body because of heavy shelling by the enemy. The soldiers were fast running out of supplies and there was no other way of reaching ammunition and provisions to them except by an airdrop. Chhatwal had been chosen for the assignment. The wing commander (now group captain) immediately undertook a reconnaissance mission and reported back that the task was "difficult" but he would do it.

Next morning, the pilot loaded his





Black Hawk

which are the mainstay of any armoured thrust. After exploring the battlefield and designating the targets, it waits in ambush for the tanks to arrive. It then attacks with missiles before shifting to the next target. In a prolonged battle the gunships can literally hop from behind covers, fire at enemy tanks and go back into hiding.

The Mi-25 is essentially an assault and not a dedicated anti-tank helicopter. The Italian army's recently-introduced Augusta A-129 Mangusta is perhaps the first helicopter conceived and designed to play an anti-role. It has a high degree of ruggedness and offensive capability, can fly just a few metres above the ground almost silently, and launch a swift attack anytime of day or night. Its name, which means mongoose, defines its role. If tanks and armoured vehicles are crawling objects like snakes, the attack helicopter is like a mongoose ready to pounce and kill. The helicopter has a very narrow body, 10.6ft wide and 40.3ft long, also making it one of the smallest choppers of its class and reducing its radar signature. Its fixed undercarriage and crash-resistant seats give it a high degree of survivability. For crew protection the aircraft has armoured panels. In case of an emergency, an explosive cord cuts the transparent panels enabling the crew to evacuate the helicopter.

The Mangusta has also provision for mast-mounted sight. The sight sensors in the conventional helicopters are placed on the nose of the aircraft. These target acquisition devices have been moved by the French and the British to the top of the cabin so that only the rotor is visible while rest of the helicopter manages to stay behind cover. The mast-mounted sight sensor is an even more recent development. Like the snorkel of a submarine, it works as a periscope and makes even the rotor invisible while the chopper hugs trees, hillocks or any other natural obstacle available. This 'nap of the earth' ability has made for a rotorcraft of rare stealth.

The engines of the third-generation copters involve the latest technologies. They can hover behind cover for long durations and move at very slow speeds of 10 knots, but while making a getaway can rapidly accelerate up to 150 knots. These helicopters can therefore operate below the "dead man's curve"—unthinkable till a few years ago when pilots were advised not to dip below 100ft or go below 30 knots, where their choppers could not be saved in case of sudden engine failure.

aircraft with the maximum permissible 400 kgs (for altitudes of 10,000 to 18,000 ft) and headed for his target. Unmindful of the shelling by the enemy, he dropped the supplies with "pinpoint accuracy". The getaway was the most difficult part of the mission. Because an airdrop is rarely ever made on a climb, having done that it was difficult to further accelerate out of the situation. But the wing commander's flying skills saw him through. That same day he made 42 sorties. Following the defence ministry's recent decision to make Chhatwal's record-breaking performance public, he is in the running for a place in the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

Chhatwal, who changed co-pilots twice, did not leave the aircraft even for meals. He remained with the aircraft and encouraged and helped his men in loading and unloading operations. Chhatwal said his sole motivation was that he had an assignment to fulfil.

The recipient of the Shaurya Chakra, the Vayu Sena Medal (for evacuating a heart patient from the Rohtang Pass) and Three Stars for 5,000 hours of accident-free flying, Chhatwal piloted one of the first batch of Mi-8 helicopters to land in Bangladesh in the 1971 war. He has now logged more than 8,000 hours of flying as an ace instructor pilot. Besides helicopters, he has also been an instructor on fixed wing aircraft, and is qualified to fly Mi-25 helicopter gunships, a rare distinction. A source of inspiration for the largely unsung tribe of transport pilots, Chhatwal remains a picture of humility. When asked about his achievements, he merely said, "I enjoy flying and when you enjoy something you can achieve wonders."



Prototype of the Franco-German Tiger combat helicopter. Its main characteristic is mast mounted sight

Top of the line among the new generation of battlefield helicopters built by the Americans is the AH-64 Apache. In silhouette, the tandem-seated Apache looks like a wasp. The narrow-bodied chopper has its gunner in the lower cockpit while the pilot who sits in the main cockpit has all the parallel controls. Both the pilot and the gunner have sophisticated sighting gadgetry. They wear helmet-mounted sights or integrated helmet and display sight systems (IHDSS). The video images from the sensors are fed into the helmet through a thick cable and the gunner can choose his targets from the sensors fitted on the nose of the chopper. The Apache carries laser-guided missiles which can penetrate thick armour.

But the hottest and most talked-about attack rotorcraft is the Franco-German Tiger combat helicopter whose mock-up model made its first public appearance in a recent exhibition. Aerospatiale of France and MBB of West Germany have signed a memorandum of understanding to assemble the first of the five prototypes at the MBB complex near Munich. The chopper, described as the helicopter of the year 2000, is made of composite materials, except some sparing use of titanium and steel. It will have mast-mounted sight sensors and thermal infra red display. The cockpit and the navigational equipment on the chopper would be as good as any other modern fighter plane.

The low-flying characterstics of the helicopter provides its own set of disadvantages. It can be easily detected by mines and sensors laid by the enemy. Its rotor blades generate a kind of vibration and act as antennae themselves. To avoid evasion countermeasures like threat identification are being devised so that a pilot after noticing that he has been spotted by the enemy radar can flee from the area. Swedish and French companies are developing different kinds of decoy like firing smokescreens and throwing chaff.

What about India? Besides the Mi-25 and Mi-35, it has its own plans for manufacturing advanced light helicopters. So the government after many hiccups has entered into a collaboration with MBB. The helicopter, priced at Rs 2.2 crores at 1984 prices, is reportedly progressing well compared to the light combat aircraft (LCA) project which has run into serious trouble. India under its integrated guided missile programme is carrying out test trials of third generation anti-tank missiles which could be fitted both on helicopter tracks and flying platforms.

The Indian Army made a modest beginning by setting up its own aviation wing in 1985. The ownership of the helicopters are divided between the Air Force and the Army. The Army has only the Chetak and Cheetah helicopters under its wings for observation, casualty evacuation and other light utility tasks. The attack helicopters and the transport fleet are run by the Air Force. ■

TAKING ON THE YOUNG

Or, all about the state-of-the-mind art

"Grow old with me, the best is yet to be," said Rabbi Ben Ezra in Robert Browning's celebrated poem And then he went on to wax eloquent about the joys of old age I should not elaborate. Probably you all know "The last of life, for which the first was made/Our times are in His hand/Who saith, 'A whole I planned/ Youth shows but half'." And so on and so forth

But my friends, family and well wishers, of whom there suddenly seem to be legion, do not apparently agree

I am 68 years old, still work a whole day, am robust, walk straight, though at times I may have a faint, almost unrecognisable backache I also have a slight paunch, not a big one, and it doesn't show most times (permissible, I thought, at this age), a three-quarter bald head, comparable favourably with Madhu Dandavate's, have a glad-eye for the girls who giggle and accept it as sudden, surprising and cute, especially since it is accompanied with a mildly extravagant and obviously half serious, half facetious complimentary phrase

I have a sense of humour, can tell a joke and take one, even against myself I can still shake a leg, not perhaps the latest eurythmic energetic dance that could break the bones of someone much younger than I Rather, the more equanimous and elegant dance of the Thirties I am amazed how many youngsters today still love occasionally to try it—especially with me I am, of course, no Fred Astaire but they are definitely like Ginger Rogers, graceful, lissome and swishingly smashing

And yet when I go down the street, I have hardly walked ten yards when someone accosts me and says, "My dear fellow, are you still around? I thought you had shuffled off this mortal coil How nice to see you!"

Five yards later, someone confides to me with lip to ear, "Remember, as you age you grow older, not younger Take care of yourself Slow down, man!"

Barely three yards later, another wellwisher slaps me on my stomach, rather more vehemently than warranted, I feel, and says significantly, "Keep it down, less food, less drink and plenty of walking You are fat, you know '

With distance shrinking I am not surprised when within the next yard, I am told, 'Good heavens, man, what's wrong with you? You look so wan and thin, a ghost of your old self I hope you are taking care of yourself Overdoing the high jinks discos and break dancing, no doubt, are not meant for you anymore " My protestations that I do not go to discos nor break-dance nor go on the high-jinks fails to impress him "The trouble", he says, 'with some people is that they don t know when to stop You are now old, old boy Live your age Take my word, you are old, you look old and there s no use pretending You'll only make a fool of yourself if you pretend that you are young '

"But what if I feel young in heart and mind, though perhaps, not in looks?" I expostulate 'Sheer illusion—a mirage," he counters "But what if I still feel young in body, too,' I persist

"You should have been stopped by now You should be hobbling with a stick You ought to have been bedridden Yet here you are walking straight and jauntily, with an unnatural gleam in your eye, and, I am sure, an artificial smile on your lips, looking chipper as hell Oh, just come off it. Be your real self, dammit "

I take another two yards, and I see another old friend. "Don't say a word about my age," I cry. "I've heard enough. I am old but the rest is yet to be, as Rabbi Ben Ezra said."

And this friend says, "I don't know who this Rabbi Ezra is. I didn't know you had Jewish sympathies But of course, when you grow old the rest is yet to be A rather cunning phrase of the Rabbi, I must say. The funny thing about the future is that it is always coming, and it's fun to wait for it and enjoy it. What are you grumbling about?"

"I'm not grumbling," I assure him "I hail you as a true friend. And I shall go back home and await that 'some enchanted evening' which will surely come soon " And with a spring in my step I leave

As I leave I hear him mutter, "Odd fellow I hope age is not catching up with him "

Som Benegal

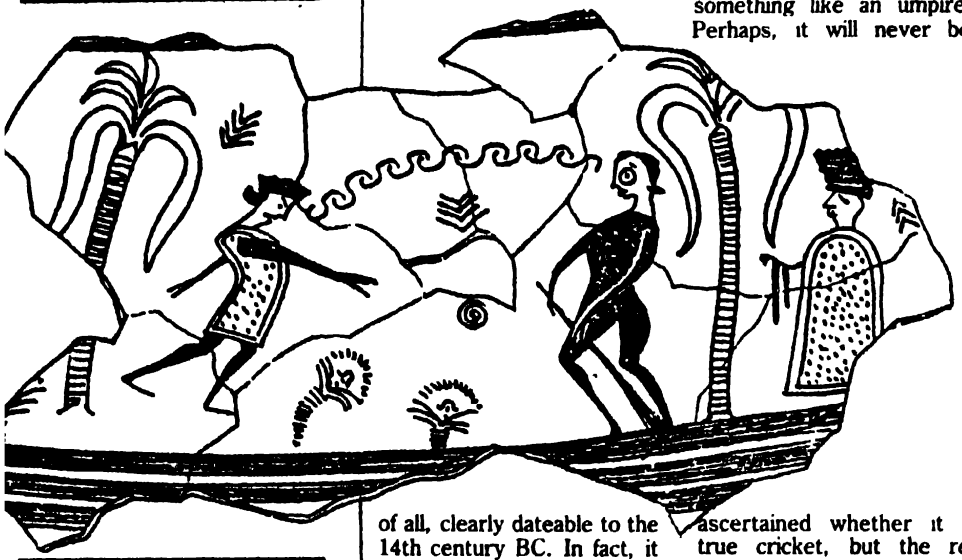


FACTS & FANCIES

Is This Cricket?

The origins of Britain's national summer game seem to be in doubt after the astonishing discovery by archaeologists of this portion of a Mycenaean vase in a barrow in Wiltshire early this year.

Although this is not the first Mycenaean find in Britain, it is definitely the first to be dug and drawn scientifically, and most important of all, clearly dateable to the 14th century BC. In fact, it is the first Aegean Bronze Age picture of a game with a bat and a ball.



It is all a question of interpretation. The scene has two palm trees, some flowers, some S-curves that may have been put in to suggest movement of the spiral object (which certainly looks like a ball) and three figures. The one on the left with an arm stretched out could well have just bowled that ball towards the other figure standing with what may be a cross between a bat and a paddle. He could well be compared to the batsman of today. And what is the third figure? A spectator, a fielder, or as the slightly more ornate garb might suggest, something like an umpire. Perhaps, it will never be ascertained whether it is true cricket, but the resemblance is striking.

In any case, it revives an old controversy about the links between Greece and Wessex in the Bronze Age, and the new finds are shreds of evidence that can not be lightly dismissed.

Watch the Jackpot

The gambling dens of Kathmandu are only a push of the button away from your seat, if you are sporting a special digital watch. This magical wrist watch aptly named MONTE CARLO turns the face of the time-teller into a spinning arena of chance and excitement, associated with jackpot, dice or roulette.

When the button is pushed, the number generator flashes a series of "spinning" random numbers on the face (numbers from 1 to 6). When the button is released, the spin slows down and gradually comes to a stop, as in real life.

And, when the two numbers displayed match, four Js flash across the mini-screen indicating that you have hit the jackpot. Unfortunately, MONTE CARLO does not pour forth coins for the

Meet Elsie

Who is ELSIE?

ELSIE is the pleasant, female sounding electronic voice that crackles from street-side bus stop poles, to give the waiting bus passengers information about the buses that service certain stops in England.

Conceived as an aid to the elderly or the visually impaired, ELSIE was designed by the Department of Traffic Control and communications, as a free service to passengers.

When commanded, ELSIE gives the number and route of the approaching bus, and the scheduled arrival times of the next couple of buses. A tap activates the pocket-book sized loudspeaker, and ELSIE gives the time of the day, and a brief weather forecast.

It would be useful if ELSIE could be programmed to remind bus-drivers, in India particularly, of the speed limits in a particular area, or chide the bus conductors when the bus is overloaded.

Playing Polo

Every year or so villagers from all over what is now the northern-most Pakistan make the trek up to the Shandur Pass for the world's highest polo tournament. Polo, the world's oldest game, came from Iran to the Indian sub-continent in the fifth century BC. When the British colonised India they discovered the game in the outposts, Manipur in the Eastern Himalayas and Chitral-Gilghit among the mountains of the Hindu Kush and Karakoram. They civilised it and called it polo. Today life in every village in the mountainous region of Chitral and Gilghit revolves around the polo field, all work stopping when a game is in progress.

This is polo with no rules, resembling rugby on horseback as players try to push each other off their steeds or grab the ball with their hands. If a horse or player is taken off hurt, the opposite number from the other side must also retire.

The players though, are very serious about the game, taking as much as two weeks preparing themselves and their animals for the high altitude and the treacherous upward climb.

The beat of drums and a pipe echoes through the mountains during the game, the rhythm quickening with the speed of the game. Last year Pakistan's Prime Minister attended the Grand Final. The winners Gilghit brandished the silver cup and the night was given to dancing and feasting before the long trek down the pass and start of the snows, marking the end of the polo season.

In Cycle Paedia

In a toy store, there are some cycles: both bicycles and tricycles, for sale. Half of these are made of plastic and half of them of metal. And, at the end of the day, there were 55 wheels altogether.

How many bicycles and tricycles were there? How many plastic and how many metal?

Answer: Five bicycles and 15 tricycles; 10 each of plastic and metal.

SERAMPORE COLLEGE (Founded 1818)



Serampore College, situated about 20 kms from Calcutta was founded in 1818 under the patronage of Governor General Marquis of Hastings by Revds Dr Carey, Mr Marshman and William Ward, who together with Colonel Krefting, the Danish governor of Serampore, and J C Marshman, formed the first college council In 1821, King Frederick VI of Denmark donated certain premises to the college and six years later under a Royal Charter the institution was empowered to grant degrees

The land for the college buildings was purchased chiefly through subscriptions The entire expenses of the buildings, amounting to £ 15,000, were met by the Serampore Missionaries, the first promoters of the undertaking After the death of Dr Marshman, the college expenses were met partly through endowments, but chiefly by the philanthrope and only surviving member of the original council, J C Marshman When he left India in 1856, the college was placed under the Baptist Missionary Society

In 1857, Serampore College was one of the first to be affiliated to the Calcutta University This connection continued till 1882 when the Arts department was closed and the college converted to a theological institution. In 1910, it was reorganised and a higher theological training department for the Serampore BD (Bachelor of Divinity) was started Under the advice of Dr George Howells the college council resolved to reopen the Arts classes, and in 1911 the college was reaffiliated to Calcutta University up to the Intermediate Arts standard The college now has recognised BA and BSc honours courses

It now has a separate building for science classes and boasts of well-equipped laboratories, large libraries and boarding arrangements Its extra-curricular activities include a unit of the NCC In fact, Serampore College is the only affiliated institution of Calcutta University that can grant a degree—the BD degree

INNER EYE □ Bejan Daruwalla

ARIES

March 21—April 20

The moon's last quarter emphasises trade, commerce, buying, selling, investments, loans, travel, childbirth, entertainment and functions Romance will be strong and pleasurable, but it would be best to wait for a week Your home and family matters may make you travel Renovation, house parties, parents and elders will have their claim on you

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Expect help from known and unknown quarters and sources Good news awaits you Finalise travel plans Catch up with all pending correspondence Romance will be torrid and terrific as the response will be fantastic Deals and transactions are favoured Fuse business with pleasure Get your travel kit ready Minor health problems like boils, fever and gout will be there if your overindulge

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Secret ties and rendezvous are the week's highlights Your work will be done. From August 14 onwards will be important for personal and professional affairs Romance will be good this week, the next week promises even better Money will be your loved companion The next 15 days are for communication at all levels Your performance will match your ambition

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Entertain with gusto, do your duty too, be direct and the booty will certainly be yours Thanks to Venus, your charm will slay one and all You can make a fast buck and lay the foundation for a solid future or go in for expansion The Venus-Jupiter in your sign focalises home, travel, shift and move There is nothing to worry about your health Renovation and decoration of your home turns out well but costly Kids give joy

LEO

July 21—August 21

Hard work, recognition, perks, power and promotion are well signified as Jupiter moves into your sign Romance will be pleasant and more to come within the next 45 days. Plenty of travel is in store



for you, specially in October and December Expenses, buying, selling and a home away from home are the other indications

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Journeys, ceremonies, functions, religious rites, heavy expenses and collaborations are fated, so go right ahead Romance and journey could be interlinked in a strange way New avenues open out for finance, career, commission, brokerage and sales

Travel is a dominant trend Despite minor health problems you should be able to carry on with your work

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The main trends are loans, funds, friendship, entertainment and time to ask for favours, bargains, clinch deals and improve performances Passion and ardour will characterise your moves and actions in romance The travel bug will bite you in August and September Regarding health accidents are the only real snag

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Romance, repulsion travel, new assignments, contracts and law suit make an exciting week In romance, tigers will roar in your blood In finance, promotion opportunities, new openings and enterprises are foreseen. It is time to move, act, contact and correspond Pressures and opposition could tell on your health

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Better job, perks loans, funds, journey buying and selling are favourably signified as the moon sextiles sun Tuesday to Thursday are important for romance Wait a week till travel conditions improve There is nothing to worry about your health Transactions and renovation in your home are foretold

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Romance, marriage travel, kids and property form the core of the week In romance, you will be ardent, active and exceptionally protective Contracts, assignments and opportunities are foretold in finance Moderation in food and drinks is the key to good health Improvements and changes in the home are destined

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

The home front will be fully activated, but expect disruptions You could be caught between work and love. You will have your full and fair share of romance Too many pressures could tell upon your health A major move within the next 14 days is indicated Changes in the home might not be totally comfortable, and the health of elders could cause some worries

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

The week signifies childbirth, work pressures, contacts, contracts, luck of the draw and travel plans. In romance, you will be desired and adored. Money is already on its winged way. Minor health ailments should not worry you. A chop and change in servants, subordinates and family members; so plenty to think about.

BIRTHDAYS

August 12

Venus conjunction Mercury Success in enterprise and expansion is the indication of this conjunction Love will blossom and kids will be a source of joy This birthyear will be one of numerous changes All the changes will not be pleasant!

August 13

Moon conjunction Mars A new high in the career of Leons Parents, in—laws and elders will play a big role in your life The home will be renovated or a new house bought This is certainly a fine birthyear

August 14

Moon sextile Jupiter Opportunities for business and pleasure do abound for you Journey, ceremony, love, friendship, money and socialising are favourably signified

August 15

Moon sextile sun Name, fame, augmentation of income and expenses will soar though you will defeat your rivals and foes. Psychics will help you You will communicate superbly Certainly a mighty fine birthyear

August 16

Mercury trine Saturn News, messages, trips and signing of deeds and documents will be unusually important Expenses and family problems could bog you down Think clearly and let not emotion cloud your judgement Careerwise, all is well

August 17

Moon opposition Saturn Success is certain provided you exercise grit and determination, as this opposition ends on February 7 The home conditions should improve, giving you more freedom and security A birthyear of changes which should work out to your advantage in the long run.

August 18

After February 9, 1991, you will certainly be a winner Till then health is suspect on account of responsibilities Journeys, ceremonies, functions, publicity, contracts and new assignments are also foretold. A birthyear of power.

Mercer Cross sta cougars at the Yellowstone Nati Park



Perched high in a Rocky Mountain conifer, a cougar has a cat's-eye view of its domain. Because they are so reclusive, mountain lions are seldom seen, and much remains to be learned about their living habits. As civilisation encroaches on their territory, however, encounters with humans are increasing in some places

Livin

The mountain lion is nowhere to be seen at the Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. But the signal from its radio transmitter is loud and clear.

Kerry Murphy parks his pickup truck atop a windy ridge eight miles east of Yellowstone headquarters near the park's northern boundary. Holding a directional antenna high overhead, he turns slowly to pick up the strongest beeps.

"There she is," says Murphy, a biologist for the Hornocker Wildlife Research Institute at the University of Idaho. He points toward a craggy ravine a half-mile away.

Still, the four year-old mountain lion—or cougar, puma, panther, or catamount—remains invisible. Mountain lions usually are. Their success as predators depends on their secretiveness.

The radio signal fades as the tawny cat apparently crawls behind a rock or dips into a ravine. "Uncooperative kitty," Murphy mutters.

The next morning Murphy will be out early, tramping many miles up and down steep, wooded hillsides to learn more about what this particular cougar has been doing. He may find the remains of a rabbit, a coyote, or an elk calf, victim of one of the most efficient hunters in the animal kingdom.

"People are tremendously interested in big, carnivorous animals," says Maurice G. Hornocker, director of the research institute and a leading authority on mountain lions, which he has been studying since the early 1960s.

"And it's high time. When you look around the world at the fate of such animals over the last decade, their numbers have decreased markedly. We've literally killed them off. So it's wonderful seeing an animal that can exist in close proximity to man by staying out of sight and keeping its mouth shut and live in varied habitats—from deserts to swamps, from snow-capped mountains to rain forests—and prosper."

Prosperity has been a long time coming. From the earliest days of US settlement, cougars were considered vermin, hunted and poisoned nearly to extinction. So were wolves, which share honours with mountain lions as the most efficient North American carnivores.

While much attention has focused on wolves—proposed federal legislation would reintroduce a few wolf pairs to Yellowstone—mountain lions have quietly come back on their own, without human help.

"In a national park, it seems fitting that this top carnivore should receive research attention," Hornocker says. "We feel that our research will tell us how wolves and mountain lions might interact in Yellowstone. There will be some interaction, direct or indirect, and we'll be in a position to predict how this will affect either wolves or lions, or both."

Not until the mid-60s, Colorado taking the lead, did Western states start reclassifying the mountain lions as a game animal, with a regular hunting season, rather than vermin. The re-evaluation was

due partly to public education spearheaded by Hornocker, partly to improved game management and increasing populations of deer and elk, the chief natural prey of cougars

Today all but one western mountain state, California, has a couger hunting season, often with restrictions on killing females California bans hunting, an often challenged law that was reinstated in the June 5 elections



Tracking secretive cougars is easiest after a light snow. This one lives in the heavily forested wilderness of the Rocky Mountains. But the large, predatory cats are adaptable to many environments in the Western Hemisphere. Their range extends from the southern tip of South America to northern Canada

Neither Hornocker nor any other expert can estimate how many mountain lions live in the western and southwestern United States They probably number in the tens of thousands, but their elusive habits and their remote habitat make any guess a wild one

The muscular, quick moving cats—adult males may weigh 160 pounds or more—have the widest geographical distribution of any land mammal in the Western Hemisphere, ranging from Patagonia on the southern tip of South America to northern Canada

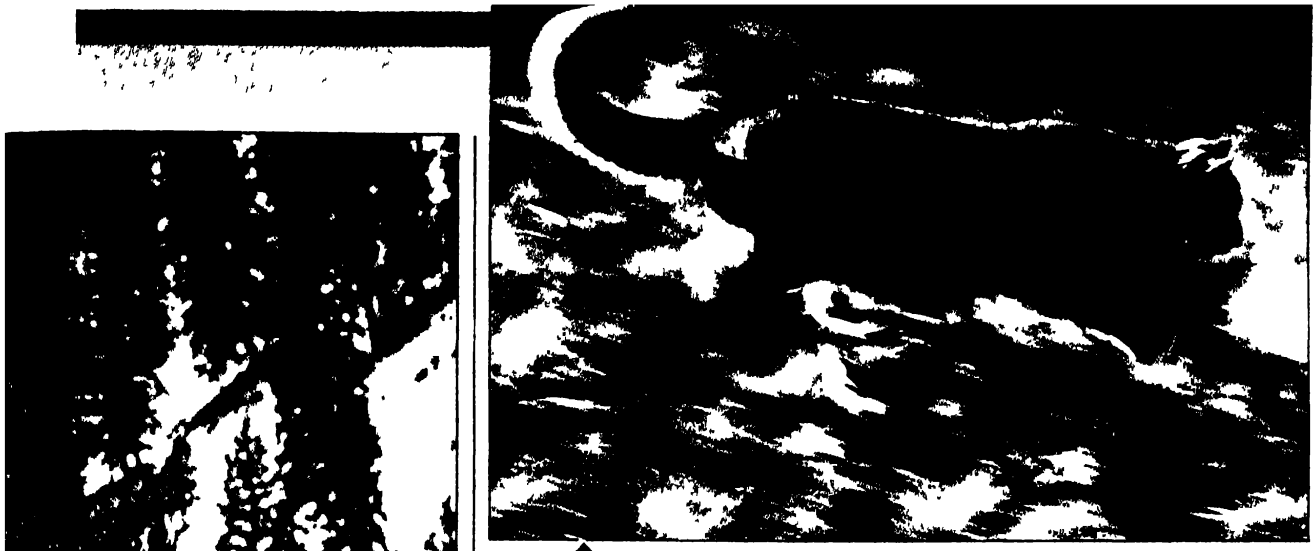
Indiana is the only state in the lower 48 that has had no records of cougars Except for an endangered subspecies called Florida panthers they are thought to be extinct east of the Mississippi River—although unverified sightings have raised questions In New Mexico they create controversy because they occasionally kill sheep Only in Texas are they killed without regulation

In 2 2 million acre Yellowstone Park, all resident cougars had been destroyed by the 1920s, and except for a few transients passing through, no lions lived there for about 50 years

But Hornocker could not believe there were not a few of the silent stalkers in such ideal cougar country, filled with so many elk and mule deer The steadily increasing number of lions killed by hunters on land adjacent to the park, particularly in Montana to the north, was a strong clue

Hornocker and another scientist, Gary Koehler spent three months on skis and snowshoes looking for cougar tracks in Yellowstone in winter 1985 'Lo and behold we found them he says Gary found evidence of several in there

From that survey emerged the current five year study supported in part by the National Geographic Society Hornocker and his team now know that Yellowstone is home to 14 resident mountain lions 10 females and four males Each animal wears a collar with a radio transmitter



In swift pursuit of another animal, a hungry mountain lion prepares to catch dinner. The stealthy stalker is one of nature's most efficient killers, although it lacks endurance for extended runs. Deer and elk are its principal food in the Rocky Mountain West, but it settles for smaller animals when necessary



Face contorted in defiance, a mountain lion snarls at the dogs that have tracked it down and chased it up a tree. Scientists tranquilise lions, then place radio-transmitting collars around their necks for further study. Hunters, who also use trained dogs, find the big cats an easy target once they have been cornered

To place the collars around the cats' necks, the scientists use the same technique as hunters: trained dogs chase the cougars up trees. Once cornered, they are shot with anesthetising darts. The big cats usually go to sleep on the limbs; then the scientists lower them to the ground with a rope.

Winter is the busiest time for the researchers. Extremely deep snow at higher elevations drives both predators and prey to the northern end of the park. Because of potentially disastrous confrontations between dogs and grizzlies, park administrators allow the cougars to be treed only in winter, when the bears hibernate.

What will the study produce? "It's our contention," says Hornocker, "that before we can really understand an animal and how it operates as a population, we need to study it in an unexploited situation, an area where natural behaviour takes over, where we can learn those natural self-limiting processes.

"We know that many carnivore populations limit their own numbers. Like rats in a cage or chicks in brooders, they reach a certain density, and then natural regulating mechanisms take effect."

Much remains unknown about mountain lions, whose wariness means that few humans ever see them in the wild. Hornocker's research in Yellowstone will, he hopes, help refine management programmes.

That includes hunting. "As biologists, we don't oppose hunting," he says. "If there's evidence that there's a biologically sound basis for a hunting season, we don't oppose it any more than we oppose hunting seasons for deer and ducks and pheasants."

Some people oppose, on ethical grounds, killing such a beautiful creature under any circumstances. Others, including some hunters, argue that shooting a treed cougar is hardly sport.

But others think that more mountain lions should be killed. As the human population grows in Western mountains, the natural terrain of the cougars dwindles. Contact between people and panthers increases; pet dogs and cats become occasional prey. In a few places, children have been attacked.

Howard B. Quigley, a biologist at Frostburg (Md.) State University and a former student of Hornocker's, is just starting a study of cougars in Guatemala. He sees the need for new approaches to the problem of cougar interaction with other animals, something beyond simply destroying the offending lions.

He suggests research on "aversive conditioning" of cougars and other creatures—for example, creating some kind of harmless but effective natural barriers to keep the animals out of human habitats. But he concedes that such a concept may be decades from reality.

Hornocker advises caution but not alarm. "As a threat to hikers or people using the back country or wherever lions live, they aren't really a big threat," he says. "But the potential is there, because they are a powerful, predatory animal."

Robert L. Downing, a retired biologist in Clemson, S.C., spent five years directing a federal project to determine if mountain lions exist independently in the East. "There are plenty of stories," he says, but in the absence of tangible evidence, the answer is no. He believes that several reported sightings were tame cougars freed by their owners.

Relocated Western mountain lions may be the eventual answer. "I think we'll have cougars in the East sometime," says Downing, "even if we have to bring 'em in ourselves."

(National Geographic News Service)

Gr[illegible]trophobic Gotham city is [illegible] its mean streets empty [illegible] the Caped Crusader's triumphant return. The Gotham City sets in the Pinewood Studios, England, is probably inevitable. *Batman II* will be filmed one day, but today, even Time Warner executives are not sure when.

Another Time Warner set, a virtual replica of the sprawling shantytown in Kolkata, Howrah is shrouded in ghostly silence. It is almost as if the inhabitants have slunk away at midnight taking away their few belongings, leaving their front doors ajar. Only a few security guards, their antiquated double-barrelled rifles casually slung over their shoulders, aimlessly saunter around the site. Lucky named City of Joy, a tongue in cheek tribute to Roy Walker, the production designer. Filming will begin only in February next year after the differences over the script between Time Warner and the director, Roland Joffe, are resolved, and an American young lion of Hollywood signs for the role of Dr Max Lieb.

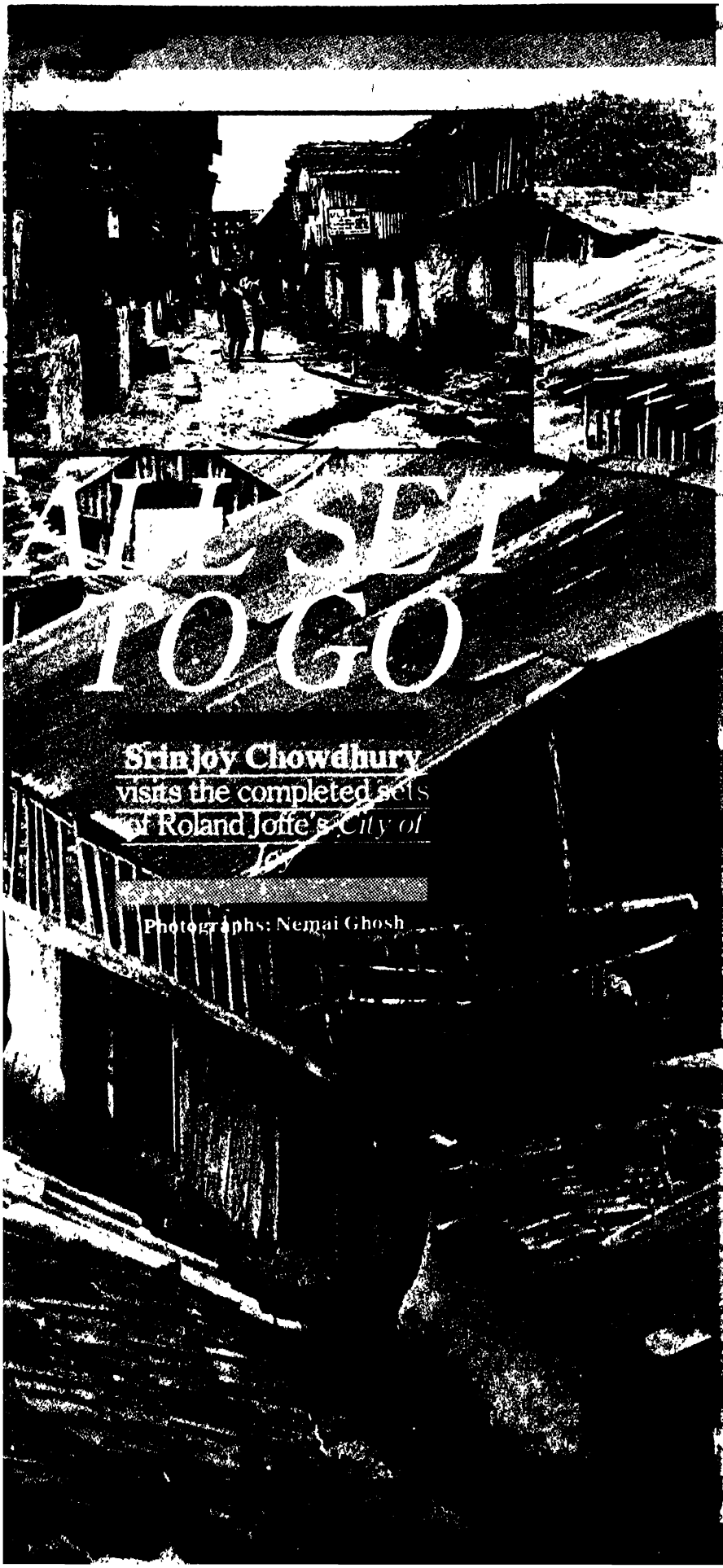
All right. This year, the 2.5 lakh sq ft City of Joy site on Paharpur Road, was plated wasteland tinged with the grime of a dockyard area. Amidst the rubble, a solitary derelict building; close to the [illegible] of rotting bamboos grew [illegible] jungle grass. From the [illegible] towers are visible [illegible] freighters in the Kidderpore [illegible] bulldozers levelled [illegible] workmen fenced off the area. [illegible] and art director John Fenner [illegible] on a rough, 500x150 ft plot. This is the City of Joy's astonishing [illegible] realism. Under the shadow of the giant backdrop, supported by a meccano set of [illegible] steel poles, stretches the set [illegible] street. [illegible] the [illegible] now covered [illegible] Paris. Workmen have [illegible] of broken brick[illegible] [illegible] muddy and [illegible] cinder [illegible] the streets are the squalid [illegible] unbelievably [illegible] repeats [illegible] couldn't believe my eyes [illegible] known director. They [illegible] this [illegible]."

[illegible] ought trickle [illegible] 7,000 [illegible] Tuesday [illegible] ed every day for eight [illegible] The logistics were unbelievable. [illegible] duction manager Phil [illegible] Australian who has worked [illegible] Kubrick on *Full Metal* [illegible] Bertolucci [illegible] number of Bond [illegible] metal, and would [illegible] asbestos sheets [illegible] Somehow everything was welded [illegible] Eventually time was run[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] the curt[illegible]

SET TO GO

Srinjoy Chowdhury visits the completed sets of Roland Joffé's *City of Joy*

Photographs: Nemai Ghosh



The main street opens into two clayey courtyards, where important sequences of the film will be shot. In the middle of one is rooted a rusty handpump, at the edge of another, a *tulsi* plant. Snaking away at different angles are the little bylanes only three feet wide, past lean-tos made of scraps of sheet metal, spoilt wood and other odds and ends. On some of the 200 tenement houses (some of which are two-storeyed, an unusual if improbable feature in the slum areas, are faded signboards. "Gobindo Bhandar," "Sarkar Timber," "Lucy Stores" and "Islamia Dry Cleaning" say the barely legible boards, hinting at the rough commerce of the bustees. In some other houses, little leafy *lau* plants in Dalda tins climb past the windows onto the mossy tiles of the [illegible]. The lower section of many of the 200-odd [illegible] are brick-built but rough [illegible] them, a muddy texture. They have to look like mud huts, but they can't be of mud. They would be washed away in the flood sequence," said Kohler.

At the end of [illegible] Street, [illegible] east-west [illegible] lighting [illegible]

[illegible] the cameras, all [illegible] card-size stills.

Each shack [illegible] square on the [illegible] coloured. Houses [illegible] gali Hindu [illegible] Bihari. [illegible] are [illegible] of The Mutiny [illegible]



MADONNA IN ROME

The high priestess of pop music had her maiden performance in Italy recently. **Santimoy Sanyal** caught some glimpses









"I'm an Italian American and I'm proud of it," said Madonna just before her concert in Rome. "I grew up here and it is this country which gave me the chance to be what I am today." The world's most controversial pop singer was performing in Rome for the first time in her musical career and she had every reason to stick out the olive branch.

"I'm aware that the Vatican and some Catholic communities are accusing my shows of being sinful, they are trying to keep people away from the show. If you're sure that I'm a sinner, then let he who has not sinned cast the first stone. Otherwise, I beg of you as righteous men and women of the Catholic Church who worship God, Who loves unconditionally, to see my show and then judge."

Madonna, the unrivalled queen of pop was at pains to convince the Italians that she was "not endorsing a way of life, only describing it" and went on to add: "Let the audience judge. When a mind is not working, then our spiritual life dies, there is no reason to live. See it as a celebration of love, life and humanity." ■

accurate at the time of going to press.



Amitabh Bachchan, Radhika and Jaya Prada in *Aaj Ka Arjun*

Kirti Singh in *Jungle Love*



REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aaj Ka Arjun.** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442) Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 249828) Krishna (T C Dutta Street 250437) Khanna Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 552932) Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 365108) Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road 363264), Indira (Indra Roy Road 471757) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464440) Madhuban (Regent Park)

A film by K C Bokadia starring superstar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Prada and Radhika The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Dil** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141) Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 551133)—4 shows

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind the film stars Aamir Khan Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Ghayal** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 484808)—4 shows

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the main attractions Others co starring are Amrish Puri Moushumi Chatterjee Om Puri Raj Babbar Kulbhushan Kharbanda Shafi Inamdar and Annu Kapoor The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Jeevan Ek Sanghursh** Lite (S N Banerjee Road 241383) Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street 552270) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road 311090) Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417) Malancha (Regent Park)

Anil Kapoor and Madhuri Dixit are the lead pair in this film directed by Rahul Rawail The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Jungle Love** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue 272473) Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road 277273) Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue 553046) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554033)

Directed by V Menon the film stars newcomers Kirti Singh and Rocky The music is by Anand Milind

• **Mere Pati Sirf Mera Hai** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138) Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956) Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 311522) Kalika (Sadanan da Road 478141)

A social entertainer starring Rekha Jeetendra Radhika Anupam Kher and Utpal Dutt The film is directed by Manobala and the music is by Anand Milind

• **Veeru Dada:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani 241132)—4 shows

Directed by K.R. Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film's chief attractions are Dharmendra, Amrita Singh, Farha and Shakti Kapoor.

Special Events

12 August: 11 am

Calcutta Junior Chamber presents a Kavi Sammelan, featuring Ramrikh Manhar, Shail Chaturvedi and Om Prakash Aditya.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (29 Ashutosh Choudhary Avenue; 759717).

12 August: 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

Padatik Repertory presents *Adhey Adhurey*, a play in Hindi by Mohan Rakesh and directed by Shyamanand Jalan. The cast includes Chetna Jalan, Pradip Roy, Shanchayita Bhattacharya, Shampa Ghosh and Shyamanand Jalan.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

12 August: 6 pm; 13 August onwards: 3 pm — 8 pm (except Monday)

The inauguration of an exhibition of paintings entitled *The Boy* by Bikash Bhattacharjee on 12th. The exhibition will continue till August 22.

At Galerie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

13 August: 6 pm

Youth Guild and Cultural Department of the USSR Consulate General in Calcutta present an evening of Kathak dances, dedicated to Late Durga Lal, featuring students of Ashimbandhu, to be followed by a solo recital by Ashimbandu, disciple of Susmita Misra.

At Gorky Sadan (3 Gorky Terrace; 442791/5407).

13 August: 6 pm

Samantaral's evening of cultural programmes, *Rabindranath, Rakhibandhan O Jatiya Sampriti*, features Dr Roma Choudhury, V. Balsara, Pradip Ghosh, Amitava Bagchi, Bhaskor Deb, Apala Sarkar, Nanda Dulal Bhar and others.

At Manya Sardar Batokrishto School hall (Tobin Road; Baranagore).

16 August onwards: 3 pm to 8 pm

A week-long exhibition of paintings by the students of Calcutta Art Home in the South and New galleries.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

17 August: 6.30 pm

Shinjini presents a solo Kathak dance recital by Keya Chanda.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

17 August: 6.30 pm

Padatik Music Circle presents a classical vocal recital by Agish Goswami.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

18 August: 6 pm

The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture presents a sarod recital by Tejendra Narayan Majumdar.

At Vivekananda Hall (Gol Park).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4): SU-537 at 1525

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep (1,7). IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840. Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6). IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900: Arr. (2). KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily). IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily). IC-265 at 1700; Arr (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945. Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250;Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245. Arr. (2,4). IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030; Arr. (3,5,7). IC-213 at 1540.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6). IC-219 at 1120: Arr.(1,3,5,6): IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400. Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 at 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 1650.

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 1725.

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 1115; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745.

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (dai-

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

ly) PF 706 at 1615
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep (1 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600 Arr (1 3, 5) PF 716 at 1025
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2 4 6) PF 721 at 0930, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-722 at 1805
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep (1 3 5) PF-723 at 1045, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-724 at 1950
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-726 at 1040
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-737 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-738 at 1100

Trains

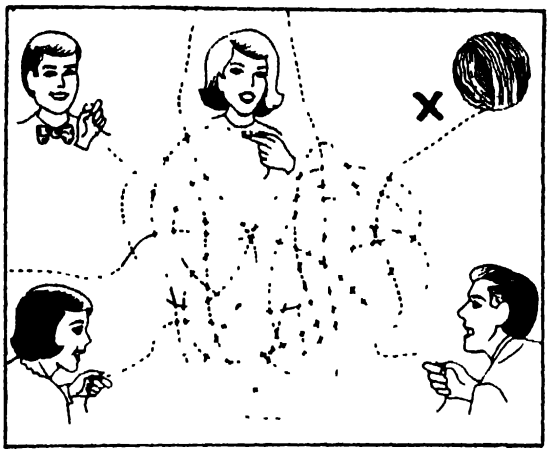
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19 00	**Delhi Kalka Mail**	8 30	**2312**
3005	19 20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	18 00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arri Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18 00	**2304**
2301	16 30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arri Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 00	2302
2373	23 00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Exp** Tri Wkly Dep Tues Fri & Sat Arri Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep Mon & Thurs Arri Thurs & Mon	1 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express via Grand Chord**	20	3010
3007	9 45	**Toofan Express via Main Line**	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15 15	3050
3011	20 45	**Delhi Express via Main Line**	6 10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6 00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21 25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8 45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23 00	**North Bihar Express** Dep Wednesday Arri —Friday	11 10	3026
3071	22 05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep —Tues Thurs & Sat Arri —Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9 55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15 25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep —Thurs Sat & Sun Arri —Tues Wed & Thurs	7 30	2160
1171	15 25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep Tues & Wed Arri Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15 25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan)** Dep & Arr Mon & Fri	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arri —Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19 00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8 45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11 20	**Jammu Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20 45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10 25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express** Tri-weekly Dep & Arri —Wed Fri & Sun	4 30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
		EXPRESS		
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11 30	2842
2611	22 35	**Bangalore Express** Dep —Tues Arri —Sun	13 45	2612
8013	17 30	**Tata Steel Express**	10 20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express**	5 30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7 45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21 20	2822
8079	23 15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11 30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep —Except Saturday Arri Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati Howrah Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
	14 10	**Trivandrum Central Howrah Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah)** Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam)** Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22 35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras)** Dep —Fri & Sun Arri Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Wednesday only	22 15	—
	14 10	**Bangalore City Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack)** Monday only	13 45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Thursday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah)** Wednesday only	13 45	2609

ENQUIRIES For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other informations For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays)



RAVEL-LOG! One of four strands of unraveled yarn leads to the source, at X. Which person is holding that strand?

• SAY WHAT! Use punctuation and or ingenuity to see that sentences make sense. 1. It was and I said not but. 2. You can can can can you not?

1. It was and I said not but. 2. You can can can can you not?

1 W I N
2 W I N _
3 W I N _ _
4 W I N _ _ _
5 W I N _ _ _ _
6 W I N _ _ _ _ _
7 W I N _ _ _ _ _ _



WIN-WORD CHALLENGE

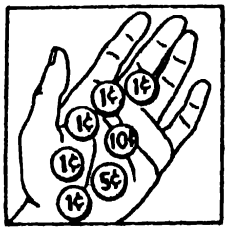
Have you a winning way with words? Let's see. Definitions are given below for words that begin with WIN, each word one letter longer than the one before it. Can you fill blanks appropriately?

1. **Take the marbles (WIN—already in place)**
2. **Eye blink**
3. **Load mover**
4. **Non-battery toy**
5. **Pie apple.**
6. **Wild party.**
7. **Wisconsin lake.**

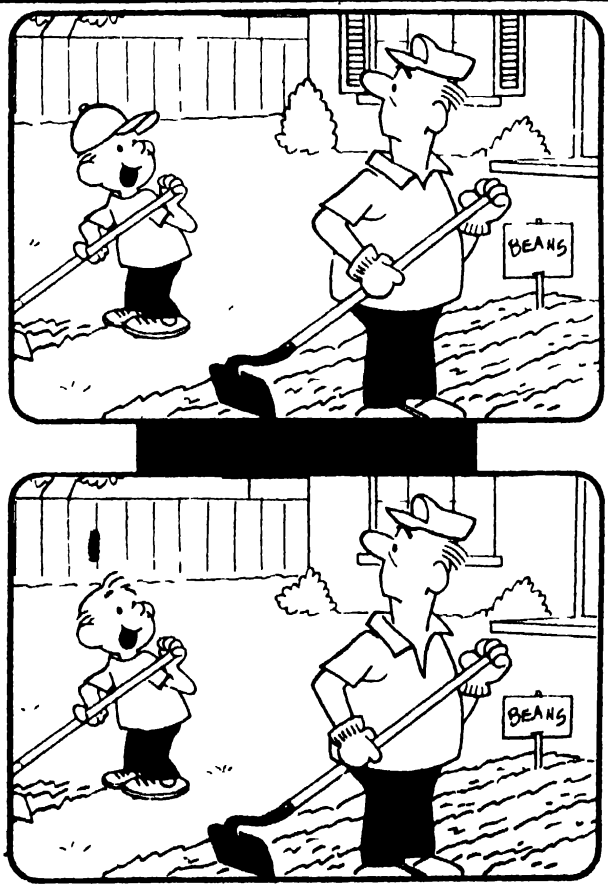
Time limit 2 min. No fair peeking below.

1 Win 2 Wink 3 Winch 4 Windup 5 Wassail 6 Wrangling 7 Winnebago

• **SUM HAND! Extend a hand holding the coins shown in the drawing below. Ask a friend to tell you whether you are holding an odd or even amount. Either answer is right, or wrong—take your choice. The amount is "odd" if you count the number of coins; it is "even" if you elect to add the coin values.**



HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1 Cap is missing. 2 Shrub is smaller. 3 Shutters are missing. 4 Arm is moved. 5 Shirt is opened. 6 Sign is smaller.

FUNSPOT



FLYING COLORS! Color me fast, I must be on my way, says the butterfly above. Code: 1—Red, 2—Lt. blue, 3—Yellow, 4—Lt. brown, 5—Flesh tones, 6—Lt. green, 7—Dk. brown, 8—Purple, 9—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words.

INFERNAL

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram: Nail fern



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

"Question Which is the only state in India to have a pigeon postal service? Ans Orissa!" This question and answer come from Jayanta Seal, Calcutta 17

Pigeons can be used to carry messages because of their speed and remarkable ability to find their way home when set free a long distance away They are still used in many countries, such as China, where their use has been known for centuries, and till recently in Japan, where lines of communication by land may be broken by earthquakes many newspapers in Japan used to have their own pigeon services, and so did some in the United States

The use of pigeons to carry messages probably dates back to the ancient civilisations of Assyria, Persia and Egypt It is certain that the ancient Greeks released pigeons at the opening of the Olympic Games with messages that peace must be maintained during the Games For this reason pigeons have always played a part in the revived Olympic Games The Greeks also sent the names of the Olympic victors to their cities by pigeon post

Julius Caesar used pigeons in his conquest of Gaul, and according to Pliny the Elder the Roman naturalist the general Brutus used pigeon messages at the siege of Modena (43 BC) Since then they have been used in many sieges, among them the siege of Leyden (1574) in the Dutch War of Independence against the Spaniards During the siege of Paris (1870-1) in the Franco-Prussian War, pigeons played a very important part, none had been sent out of the city before the siege began, so they were flown out by balloon During the four months of this siege, 1 5 lakh official letters and 10 lakh private ones were sent by pigeon post into Paris The messages were first written, and then photographed on a thin film about 1 25 inches by 2 inches Each film could then contain 2,500 dispatches of 20 words each The films were rolled up and pushed into a goosequill, which was fastened by a thin wire or silk thread to one of the pigeon's tail feathers One pigeon carried as many as 18 films in this way

The initial success of Reuter s the famous news agency, was based on an efficient pigeon service Many fortunes were made on the Stock Exchange when pigeons were first used to bring news from France, the pigeons arrived in London by mid-day but the Paris mail did not come in until midnight The great wealth of the Rothschild family is said to have been much increased because early news of the result of the Battle of Waterloo was brought to them by pigeon post

Until the coming of the electric telegraph, newspapers had their own pigeon service, and results of horse races and prize fights were regularly brought by this means Till not long ago some newspapers used pigeons to send results from crowded football grounds Carrier pigeons are not used now, message carrying being done by the pedigree racing pigeon

In the First World War, pigeons were used a great deal by the Navy, Army and Air Force Indeed, the rule was laid down that all machines reconnoitring over the sea must carry pigeons, few aircrafts were then equipped with radio They were not so much needed in the Second World War, since the use of radio communications had grown, but even then British fanciers gave nearly two lakh pigeons to the Services, and they were carried in aircraft so that they could be released if the radio transmitter was damaged

They were much used for secret messages A number were dropped by parachute into occupied Europe, and 'partisans' or members of resistance movements in the occupied countries sent messages to the Allies by means of them

CBS

11th Question: **What does the expression "locked up" mean in banking? (Vikas Singh, C/20, Sector-18, Rourkela 769 003)**

***Ans*: It is a protection for the employee concerned. The teller is placed in a small closed office along with his cash box and a calculator and told to balance all transactions for the day.**



QUESTIONS

1 Who is a Coquette? (S R Sundar, Calcutta 29)

2. What is an idiot sheet? (Anand Mundra, Siliguri 5)

3. Artur Antunes de Coimbra plays soccer under what name? (Ismat Afrin Burdwan 51)

4 Who described Indira Gandhi in 1980 after her triumph You are the greatest' ?

5. With relation to insects what is Trophallaxis? (Amit Mathur Sindri 22)

6. Which Canadian city is nicknamed Hogtown ? (Anjanava Datta Calcutta 31)

7 Who is the first person to address the UN Assembly with a gun in his belt? (Jitendra Kr Biswal Bargarh 28)

8 In political terminology, who is a stalking horse? (Suman Paul Howrah 1)

9. Name the twin sisters who won the women s doubles title twice at the World Table Tennis Championship (Mohan Kr Agrawal Bargarh 28)

10. During the centenary celebrations of the Statue of Liberty, 86 New Yorkers were given the Liberty Award Who were the two Indians to figure in the list? (Subrata Haldar, Tribeni 3)

ANSWERS

1. A female who tries to gain the attention of the opposite sex

2. A sheet held before a television speaker but not projected on the film Also known as 'idiot board

3. Zico

4. Mohammed Ali, the great boxer

5 Exchange of food between one insect and another is known as 'Trophallaxis Ants and termites feed one another from mouth to mouth The young exchange food with the adult Some ants feed some beetles coccids and aphids and in return imbibe a fluid secreted by them

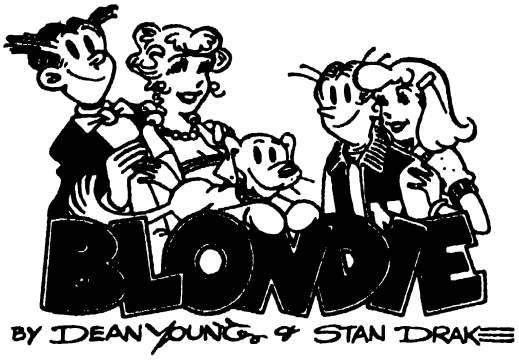
6. Toronto

7. The PLO president, Yasser Arafat

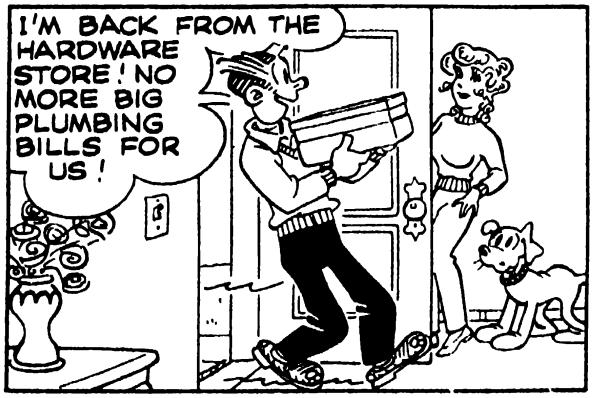
8. A person whose candidacy is advanced temporarily to conceal the actual choice or to divide the opposition

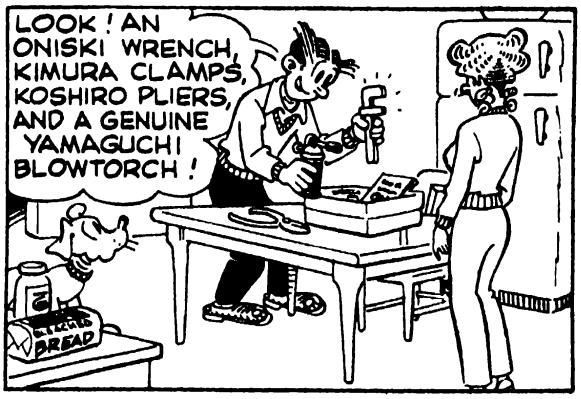
9. Diana and Rosalind Rowe (England) in 1951 and 1954 at Vienna and London, respectively

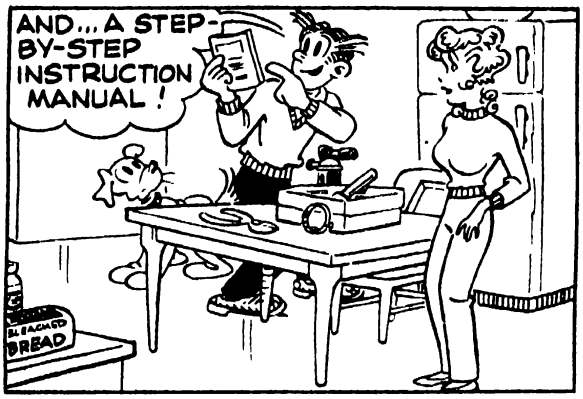
10. Ved Mehta and Zubin Mehta

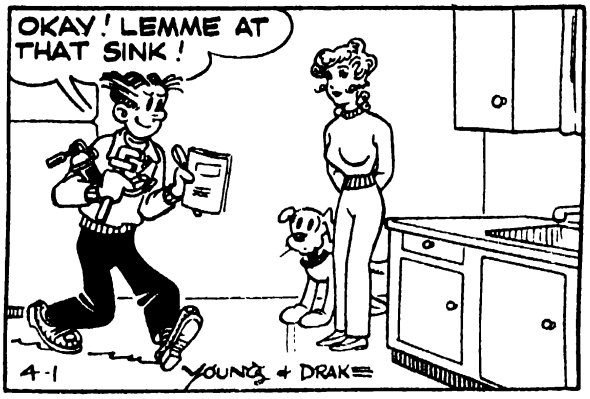


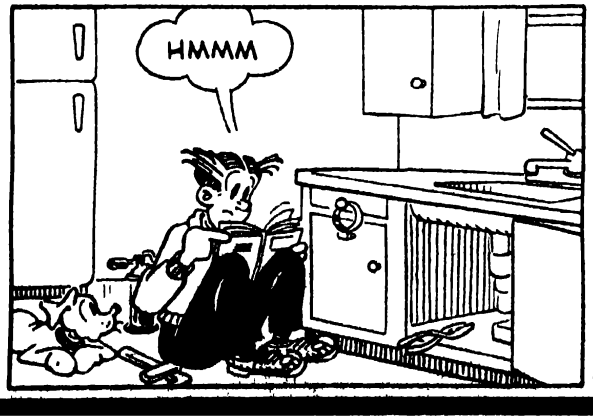




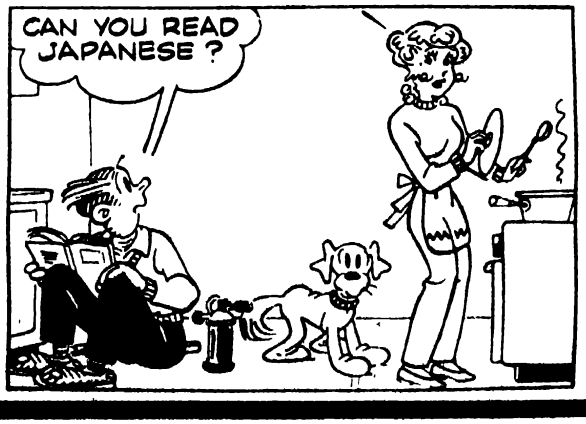




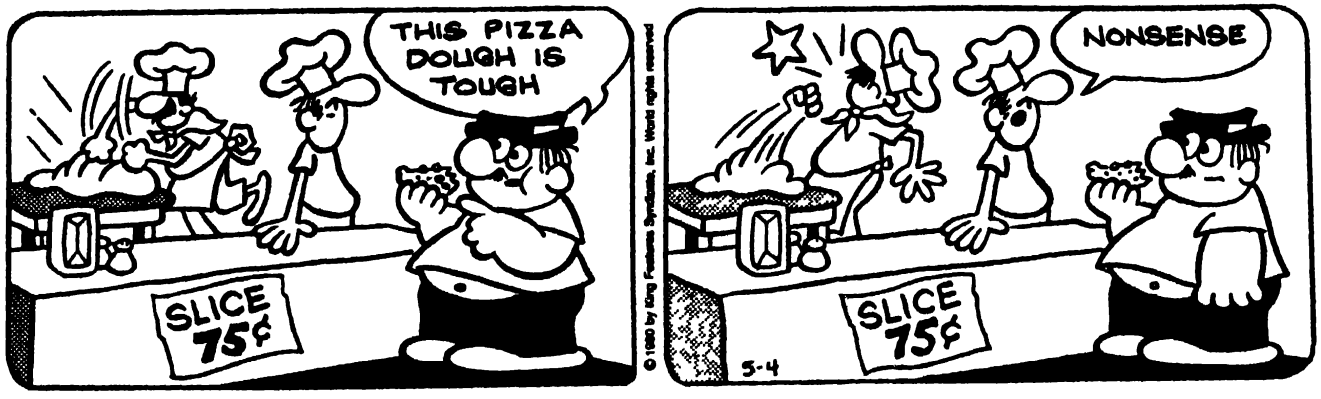


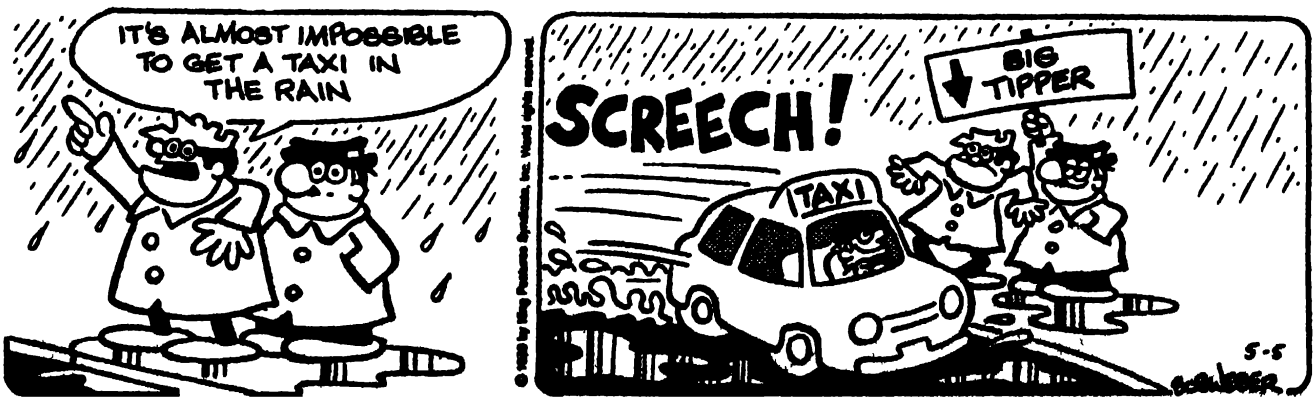


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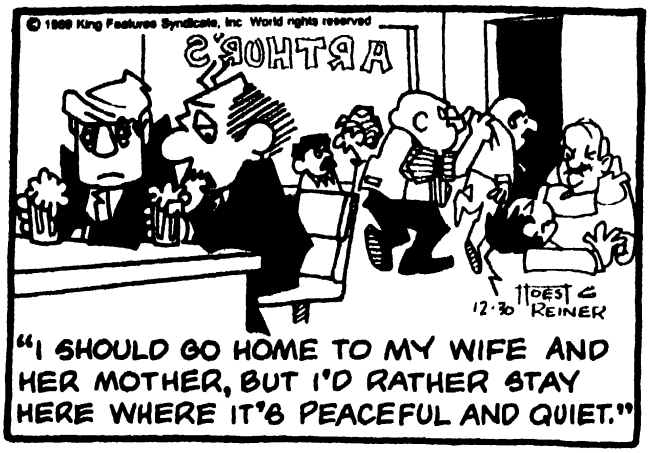


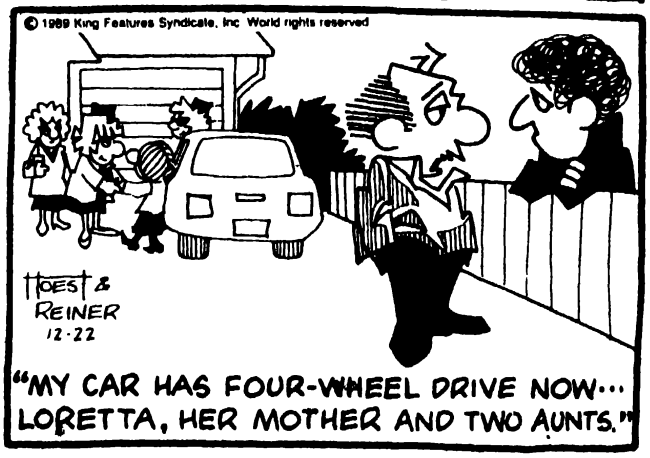

Archie
VERONICA, WHY DON T YOU HAVE A POOL PARTY AND INVITE ALL YOUR FRIENDS?
INVITE ARCHIE TOO!
MR LODGE TOOK VERONICA INTO THE NEXT ROOM TO TALK TO HER IN PRIVATE!
I WISH I KNEW WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT!
WHY DON'T YOU PUT A GLASS UP AGAINST THE WALL SO YOU CAN HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING?
LIKE THIS?
ARCHIE!!
HEY IT WORKS! IT SOUNDS LIKE HE'S IN THE SAME ROOM!
8/12


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NONSENSE
SLICE 75¢
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SCREECH!
BIG TIPPER
TAXI
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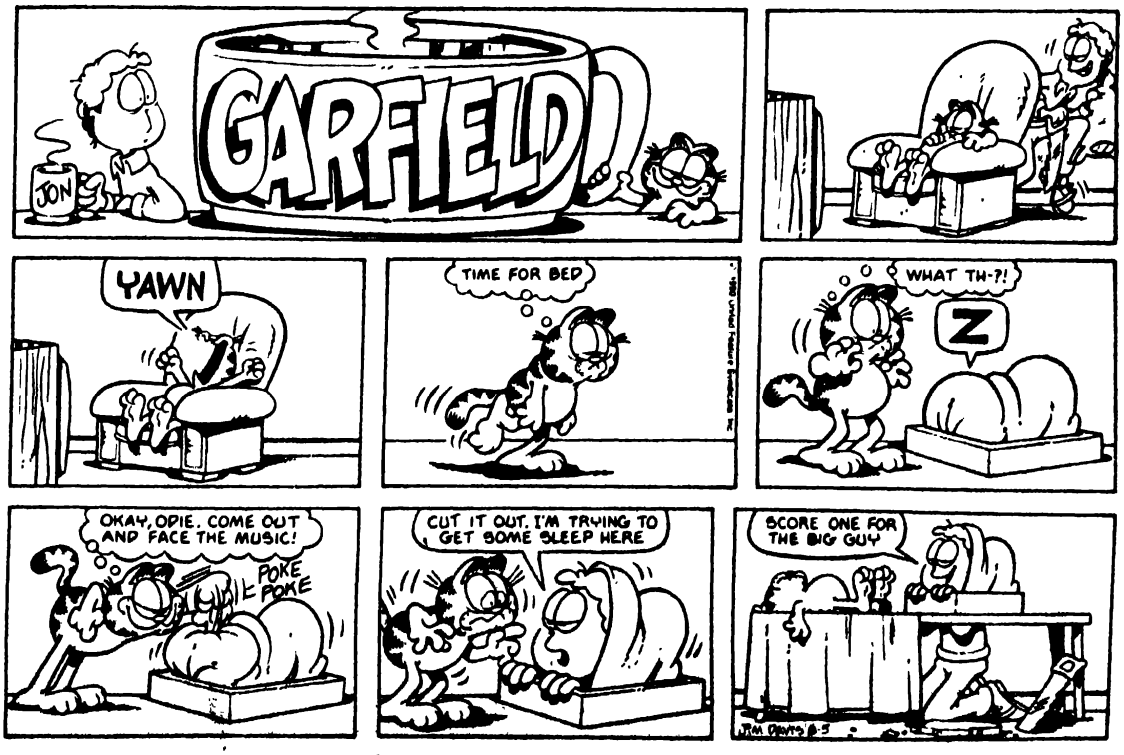








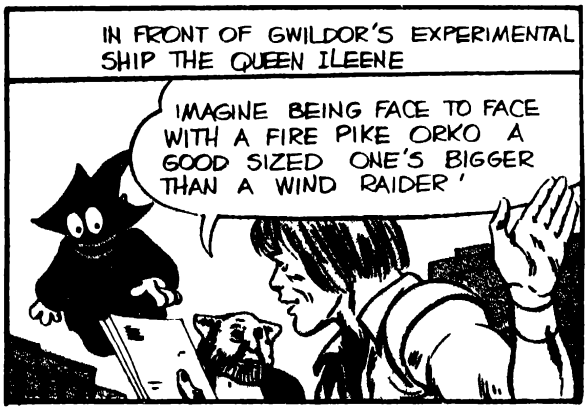
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP



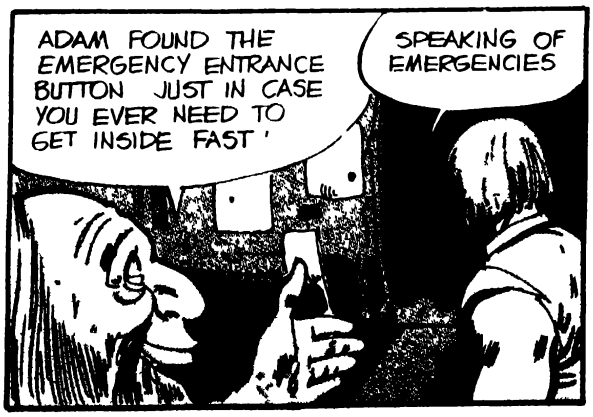








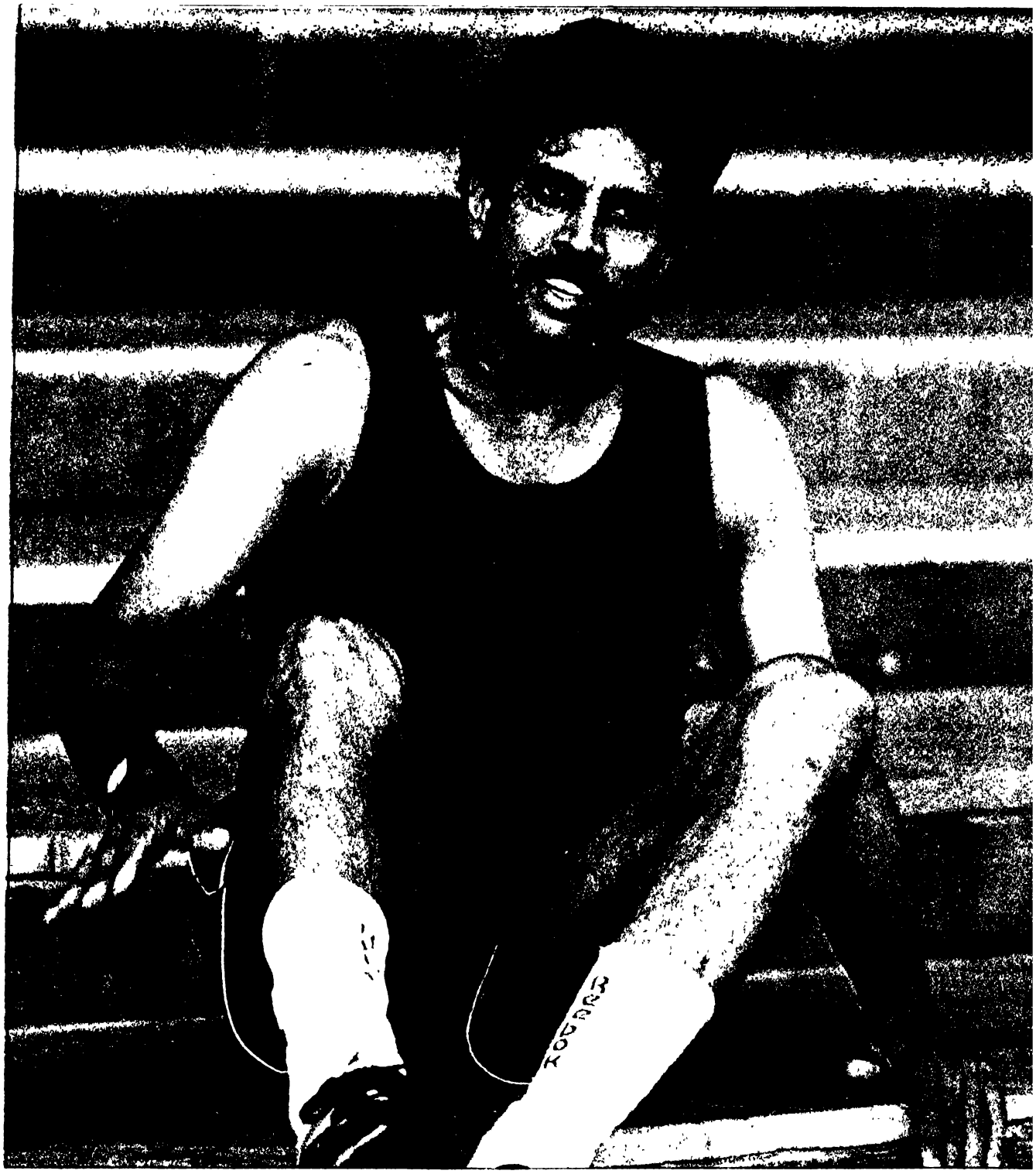




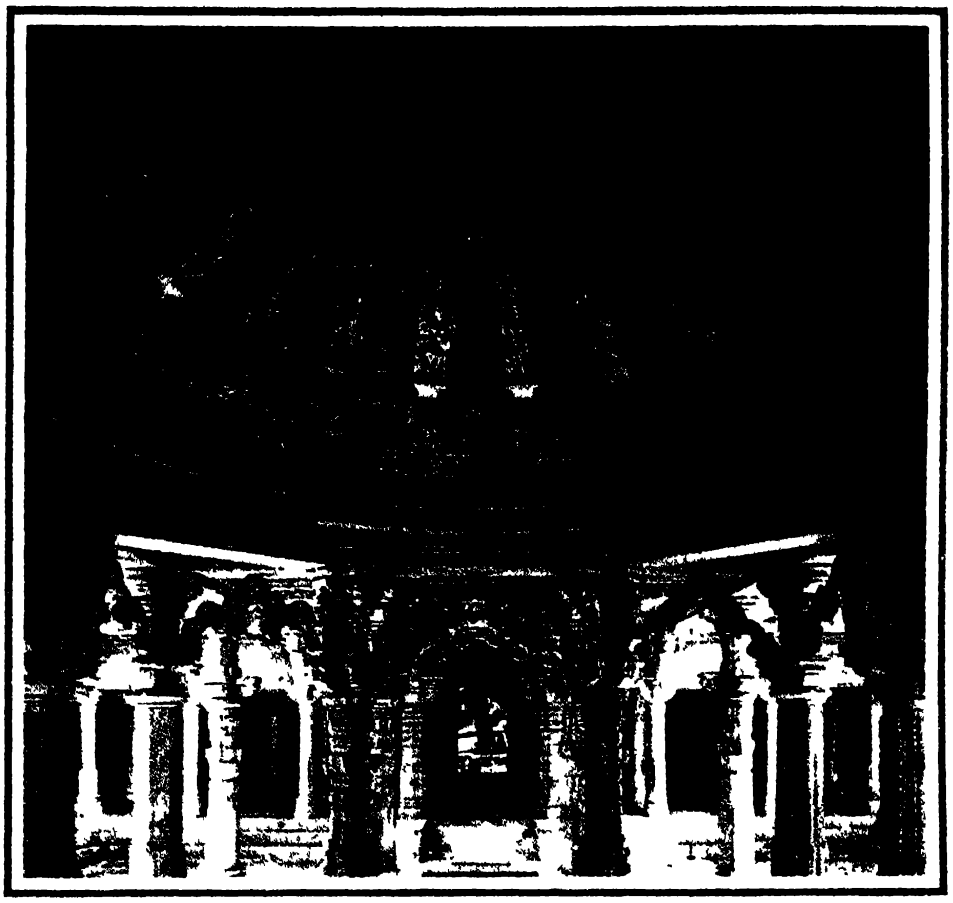
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CANDID CAMERA



He looked out of step for some time, but **Kapil Dev** is the last one to sit on his backside and let the world talk. Our man with the get-up-and-go blasted the Queen's English out of shape when he hit a record four successive sixers in the first Test against them. What a sight for the Lord's it must have been; *hai koi jawab* Kapil *da*? Photograph by NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with superimposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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CENTURY

the dawn of

Reading the Stars

The cover story, 'What the Stones Foretell' (July 22) was a waste of pages It only encouraged the idea that the predictions made by the astrologers were mostly true But most often innocent people are duped by the numerous frauds masquerading as astrologers and palmists whose predictions only cause psychological stress Some of their predictions come true accidentally and people start believing in them

Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

■ The box item, 'Star Connections', contained an error According to the *shastras*, to properly propitiate the planets, the Sun needs a ruby, the Moon a pearl, Mars a coral, Mercury an emerald, Jupiter a yellow sapphire, Venus a diamond Saturn a blue sapphire, Rahu a gomed (garnet) and Ketu a cat's eye

Equally effective and infinitely cheaper substitutes suggested by the same sages are various roots, metals (such as iron, silver copper) conch shells and *cowries* The reason why astrologers attached to famous jewellers promote only costly stones is obvious They, too, get free publicity in expensive advertisements put in by the jewellers Each gains from the other and the drowning man (the customer) snatches at a straw, and wears a stone

Debu Paul,
Calcutta

■ It is wellknown that many of the ministers at the Centre and in the states regularly seek advice from paid astrologers If this be the condition of the leaders, is it any wonder that ordinary people easily become a prey to these soothsayers and godmen?

Sanjoy Kumar Mukherji,
Calcutta

[illegible]

The two World Cups issues (June 3 and July 8) were well compiled and were a real pleasure to go through If only you had given us photographs of other notable performers like Stojkovic, Gascoigne, Donadoni, Alemao, Valderamma, Hagi and Goycochea and the full teams of Italy and Germany

It was, however, incorrect to say that Morocco lost in 1986 to West Germany in a penalty shootout as stated by Chima Okerie ('Black Cats', July 8) Actually, Matthaeus had scored the only goal of the match in playing time.

Manish Kar Ray,
Asansol

[illegible]

I am in total agreement with the letters published on Steffi Graf's Candid Camera picture (June 24) but Siddharth Sharma's letter (July 15) was singularly illogical

For one thing, he does not seem to know what "nude" is, and secondly, to say that posing for a photograph has affected her game is absolute rot Many sports personalities have been involved in extra-sport activities and their game has remained excellent

Mr Sharma has been offensive in his remarks to Graf, her fans and to the Colour Magazine

Radha Rani Bose,
Calcutta

Amiya Tarafder



In Rome

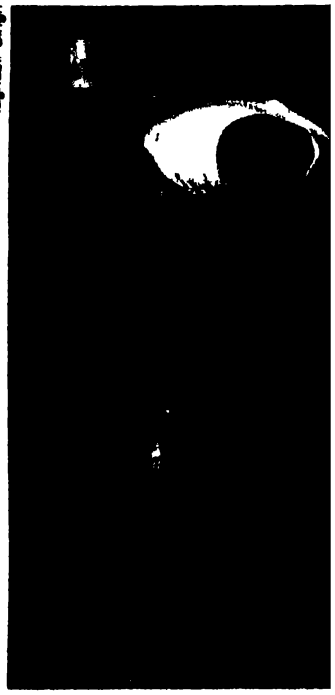
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19 AUGUST 1990

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Raghubir Singh



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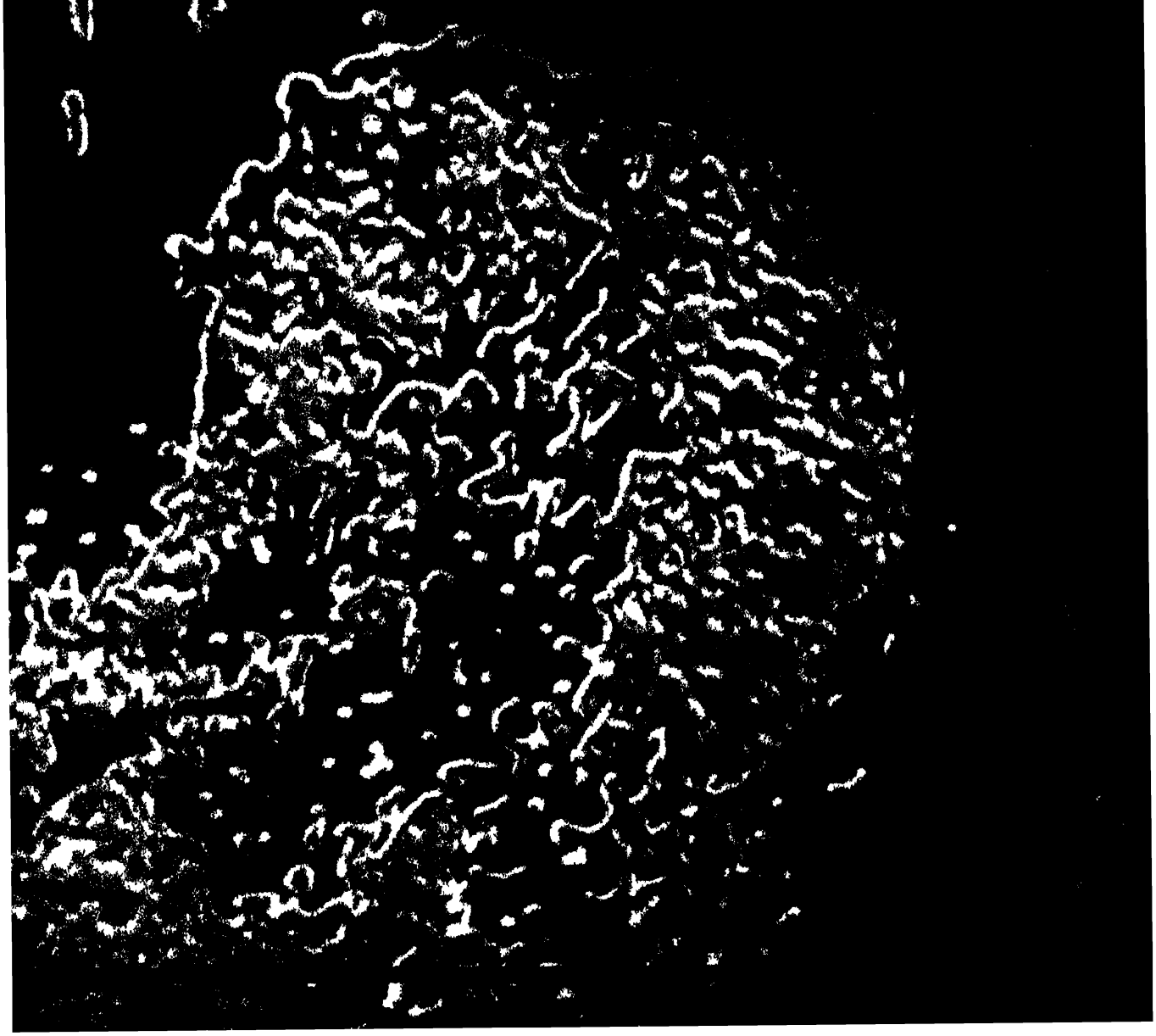
SECTIONS

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COVER STORY

AIDS

STRIKES CALCUTTA



Even as this is being written, two more women have been condemned to death in Calcutta. Not by a court of law, but by a virus the world has no cure for. The women are now carrying the Human Immunodeficiency Virus, or HIV. AIDS, the deadliest plague of this century, has struck again.

As we go to press.the official AIDS toll in the city stands at 15 (two more than what the cover, which was released earlier, states)—and rising with growing frequency. But the actual number, doctors admit, is many times more. "This is just the tip of what could be a huge iceberg", says one, privately. "There could be any number of undetected AIDS carriers who are spreading the virus unwittingly and without check."

The reason why the medical establishment is so totally in the dark is the West Bengal government's complete ostrich-like attitude to the growing threat—even the very first step, of screening potential carriers, has not been taken. "We are sitting on a ticking time bomb which could explode if nothing is done," says the same doctor. Dr K.N. Jalan, chief coordinator of the Kothari Research Centre, is even willing to be on record when he says the city could face a "holocaust".

The three doctors most closely associated with the government's AIDS programme—such as it is —are Drs S.B. Dutta, director of the Central Blood Bank, Sukumar Mukherjee, head of the department of medicine at Calcutta Medical College, and Manish Chakraborty, head of virology, School of Tropical Medicine. They admit they are "not prepared" for an outbreak of the virus, such as the one in Manipur and Nagaland.

Most frightening of all is the fact that Calcutta is the ideal breeding ground for the virus, which spreads through blood and blood products as well as human body fluids like semen, saliva and possibly even tears. Consider the factors working in favour of the killer virus:

- The city has the largest high-risk population in the country: About one lakh haemophiliacs—more than anywhere else—who need frequent blood transfusion; 90,000-odd prostitutes, second only to Bombay; and an unknown number of gays;
- Its port is an entry point for shippies, who are high of the list of potential AIDS virus-carriers;
- Heavy traffic from the north east, which has a huge number of mainliners or intravenous drug addicts (who shoot heroin into their blood, often sharing the same syringe and needle with others). Manipur and Nagaland have, as a result, recently witnessed an alarming rise in the number of AIDS cases.
- Almost all the detections were accidental and not due to any concerted AIDS programme in the state. Some of the detected victims have even vanished.

Of the four foreign students who were found to have AIDS, three were from Africa. All four have been deported but before leaving are certain to have passed on the virus. In the absence of any rules stipulating that all foreigners coming to India and the city should carry an AIDS-free certificate, the chances of the disease being imported will remain strong. Same with Calcuttans returning from abroad, or other cities like Bombay. The marine engineer (mentioned earlier), on return from Africa, was found to have not only the virus, but full-blown symptoms of AIDS. The carpenter, who had gone to Bombay for a holiday, returned with the virus. He has now developed pathological signs of the incurable disease and is being treated at a city hospital.

The official AIDS toll is a joke, except that it's not funny. Even as the authorities delude themselves, the killer disease is silently spreading its tentacles across the city. Amit Ukil and Monimoy Dasgupta investigate

In Manipur and Nagaland new AIDS cases are being detected almost everyday. About 90 per cent are drug addicts. For Calcutta, this can be a major problem. Quite a good number of these addicts come to the city seeking treatment and rehabilitation, besides break-journeying here. No rehabilitation centre has so far reported such a case, but then, no serious screening has yet been done.

Tikli Bai, a prostitute from the Watgunje area, was the first person in Calcutta found infected by the deadly virus. Her detection was the result of an incidental survey by the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases. Since then, 14 more cases have come to light—two prostitutes, five haemophiliacs, four foreign students, one engineer with a shipping company, one carpenter and one other person (profession unknown). The carpenter is now a full-blown case, following his exposure to 80 prostitutes (by his own admission), while the engineer has already succumbed to the disease. For the rest, it is now only a matter of time.

Tikli Bai fled the city after a hue and cry, but is now believed by the police to have returned under a different identity. There is no clue as to the whereabouts of the other two prostitutes either, for their infections were detected from blood samples collected by a medical college in Calcutta under fictitious names and addresses.

Prostitutes by having sex with a large number of unidentified people, both Indian as well as foreigners, run the highest risk of catching and transmitting the disease. Doctors believe that Tikli Bai, or whatever she calls herself now, and the two other prostitutes have by now spread the virus to 10, 20 or possibly even a 100 new clients who must have in turn passed it on to others.

Unlike in the other three metropolitan cities, the detection of HIV positive persons has been the result of incidental activity. There has been no attempt by the state government to carry out surveys, let alone screening, of the high-risk groups even though they are the same and as potentially dangerous as those in Bombay, Delhi and Madras. There is no proper data on which the authorities in Calcutta can act upon, whereas the corporations of the three other cities have not only collected vital information but also swung into action.

In Bombay, an alarming 53 per cent of the prostitutes screened have been found seropositive. An earlier surveillance programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) had revealed that one in 10 prostitutes in Bombay harboured the AIDS virus. The city is said to have about one lakh prostitutes, who on an average are reported to cater to seven clients a night. So, 70,000 men run the risk of infection every night.Many of these males could be married and could go home and infect their wives...the possibilities are immense and very scary.

With so many prostitutes found to be carriers of the virus, the Bombay administration decided to send those from outside the state home; a group of 850 returned to Tamil Nadu and when their blood was screened in Madras, 75 per cent were found to have been infected. The news made other states refuse to take back their girls. The Bombay corporation, with the help of social organisations, started education and awareness programmes for prostitutes and the public, telling them of the fatality of AIDS and how easily the virus could spread if no precautions were taken. A slogan on the walls of red light areas reads: *"Bephikar ghumon koi bhi gali mein, lekin Nirodh rakhon apni jholi mein* (Keep Nirodh for safety and roam any lane without fear).",

Faced with such a surveillance and



The redlight areas are an ideal breeding ground for the sexually transmitted virus ; and (inset) Tikli Bai, the city's first AIDS victim

publicity drive, a large number of prostitutes are feared to have shifted from Bombay to places like Calcutta, where there is no check on them.

In the silence of the night, the threat grows. In May 1986, when Tikli Bai was detected, she was the only one found seropositive in a sample batch of 359 Watgunje prostitutes, suggesting that only 0.3 per cent were infected. A similar survey at the same time in Bombay indicated exactly the same level of infection. But after four years, surveys and screenings have shown that over 50 per cent of Bombay's prostitutes are AIDS virus carriers. Most doctors believe that in Calcutta, too, instead of the one, untraceable Tikli Bai, there could be hundreds of women who are carrying the world's deadliest virus.

A visit to the red light area in Ekbalpore, considered a highly-prone area because of its proximity to the Calcutta port, revealed a high state of ignorance and indifference. Of an average of 20 prostitutes met in four houses, only two or three from each knew about AIDS. They knew that it was a disease transmitted sexually like gonorrhoea and syphilis. They were unaware that blood samples were taken for AIDS testing. But those who did know said they would resist any attempt to sample their blood for the virus. They realise that AIDS does not have a cure, and even if the government or a social organisation took up their treatment, it would be useless. "In the absence of any rehabilitation, why should we give up our profession? Who will feed our children?" Most prostitutes insist that their clients wear condoms, but they do it to prevent STD, not the AIDS virus. "When some customers insist on not using protection, we just jack up our rates." That extra money could cover treatment of STD, but once afflicted by AIDS, they pay with their lives.

Homosexuals are another high-risk

Once the AIDS virus—medically known as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)—is detected in a person, it is only a matter of time before he suffers a total breakdown of his immune system and becomes susceptible to all kinds of ailments. And because there is no defence mechanism in his body, the person dies of minor sicknesses which a normal human being would have been able to ward off.

To screen an individual for AIDS virus his serum has to be obtained. First, this is put through the Elisa test. If found HIV positive, the Western blot test is carried out for confirmation.

The cost of setting up the equipment for Elisa and Western Blot tests is approximately Rs 80,000 to Rs 1.5 lakh although a sophisticated set would cost between Rs 4 lakhs and Rs 10 lakhs, depending on the supplier and the make. In India, the equipment is supplied by INFAR India Limited, Anand Brothers, D.P. Diagnostics, Ortho Diagnostice, Pharmacia and Ranbaxy Diagnostics.

A person who has tested positive for HIV is a carrier of the AIDS virus. He may not show any symptoms of the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome for a long time, up to even five years. HIV has an incubation period of two to three years. However, the antibody is produced within a month or two and is used to identify the infection. An HIV-infected person becomes a formal AIDS patient when he reaches the 'ARC' (AIDS-related complex) or 'full-blown' stage. His immune system then starts breaking down due to an increase in the number of abnormal cells. Opportunistic infection, which would otherwise have been no more than a minor irritant, get a vice-like grip on the patient.

Treatment: Some drugs have been developed to treat AIDS, but any total cure for the syndrome is far off. The best possible treatment in the near future appears to rest with a combination of drugs that act at different stages of the disease's development, a process that has been used to fight tuberculosis. This would allow smaller doses of drugs to be used, reducing the side effects. However, this is not a cure but a way to slow things down so that the disease stays latent longer. AZT is the only drug that has been licensed to treat AIDS symptoms, although about 50 others are being tested now.

The doctors, sometimes under the

AIDSWATCH

The process by which the AIDS virus duplicates and destroys

Ways to interfere with this process

1. The AIDS virus binds to the outside of a cell and fuses with it. The protein coat of the virus is attracted to T 4 receptor molecules found on some types of human cells.

Block binding

2. Once fused, the virus injects its genetic material (RNA) into the host cell. The protein coat surrounding the virus is removed in this step.

Inhibit uncoating

3. The uncoating process activates the virus' reproductive mechanisms. Once activated, three key processes occur:

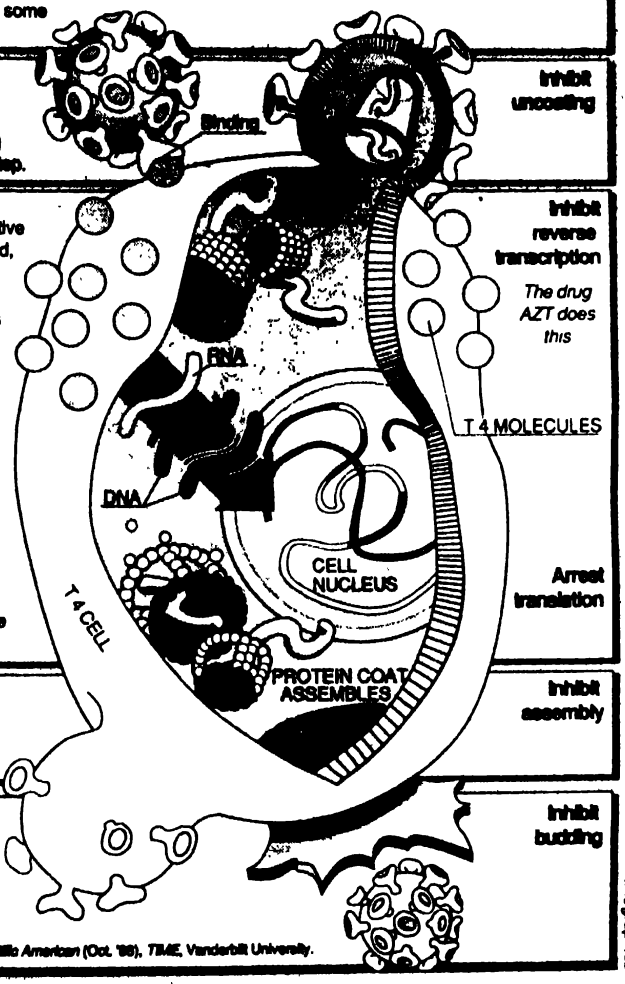
REPLICATION
Through a process known as "reverse transcription", the genetic information (RNA) within the virus is duplicated as DNA.

INTEGRATION
The DNA integrates into the DNA in the nucleus of the host cell. Using the host cell's own mechanisms, viral RNA is reproduced.

TRANSLATION
The proteins and enzymes needed to create coats for the new viruses are produced.

Inhibit reverse transcription

The drug AZT does this



Arrest translation

4. The new protein coats are assembled around the newly produced RNA, creating complete, new viruses.

Inhibit assembly

5. New viruses "bud" off from the cell. They may do this slowly, leaving the host cell intact, or with violent speed, causing the host cell to rupture.

Inhibit budding

SOURCES: Nashville Banner, *Scientific American* (Oct. '86), *TIME*, Vanderbilt University.

Infographics

two other forms of treatments: Plasmapheresis or removing the fluid part of the blood (plasma) followed by the return of the blood cells to the patient. The plasma contains substances which impair the immune system. The other form is bone-marrow transfer, wherein healthy bone-marrow from an identical twin is given to the AIDS patient to help him generate new blood cells. However, this grafted bone-marrow may in turn be infected by the AIDS virus. Despite all this, if a doctor is asked, "Is there any treatment for AIDS?" his answer is a simple "no."

Control: Since AIDS is incurable, what measures are recommended for at least controlling it? The infected person should seek regular medical assessment, counselling and follow-up, and be alert to the features of AIDS. The answer also lies in education and counselling of the public, health-care workers and high risk groups; avoiding sexual contacts with suspects and high-risk groups of AIDS; avoiding multiple sex partners; use of disposable needles mainly by intravenous drug users and professional blood donors; high-risk groups and their sexual contacts should not donate blood, semen or organs; blood donors to be provided information on AIDS infected persons should avoid intimate kissing and oral sex; screening of all blood, semen and organ donors for exposure to the AIDS virus; and formation of coordinating bodies to monitor and keep cases under surveillance and to coordinate research. Also, a person who has tested HIV positive should convince his/her contacts to undergo Elisa test.

Some common questions on how AIDS spreads:

• *Is there evidence to show that AIDS can be transferred through saliva?*

AIDS virus has been isolated in the saliva of patients and their contacts.

• *How contagious then is infected saliva?*

So far, there is no statistical or positive proof that people have been infected via the saliva.

• *What about kissing?*

Very unlikely with dry kissing. However, infection through intimate kissing cannot be ruled out, but these cases must be rare.

• *Through coughing or sneezing or ordinary conversation.*

No proof.

• *Through drinking from a common cup, as in pubs and religious ceremonies, or through communal eating.*

Not likely.

• *Through being in the same room or shaking hands.*

No proof.

• *Through accidental contamination of food with the faeces or urine of AIDS sufferers who may work as cooks in restaurants.*

Not possible.

• *Through sharing of toilet seats.*

No proof.

• *Through the swimming pool.*

No proof.

In short, one cannot contact AIDS through casual contact. The virus cannot spread through air.

group. Though the gay culture is not rampant in Calcutta, the number of professional homosexuals in the city (who are often seen in the Maidan) is on the rise. A homosexual may contract the virus from one of his HIV positive partners and pass it on to others.

Most gays who have reported to different hospitals in the city, mainly for treatment of ruptures in the anal passage, have admitted to having multiple, frequent and anonymous sex partners. These correspondents met two such patients at a city hospital, of whom one is a professional. Both claimed to have had several partners. The only difference was that the first had mostly anonymous sex partners, while the second knew each one in person. The professional said, "My natural attitude towards sex is like any other normal man, but I am compelled to be a homosexual for my livelihood." He knew of the high risk of being in the business but said, "My family will starve if I quit." Asked if he would undergo screening for AIDS, he said, "I am scared of the consequences. But what is the use? If I have contracted the virus, my child and my wife have already got it by now. There is no treatment in any case. The moment I am detected as an AIDS patient, the police will put me in a lockup and my family will be social untouchables. There will be no end to their miseries." The other patient said he, too, was "scared" to undergo AIDS screening. He was aware that he could contract the disease through the cuts in his anal passage and said, "That is precisely the reason why I am visiting the hospital." But, he added, "If I've got AIDS, I've got AIDS. It will automatically show up in my person. What is the use of getting it detected earlier and going through all sorts of anxiety."

Kishor Roy Chowdhury



Most blood banks in the city do not screen for AIDS and are probably passing on the virus to haemophiliacs. Even blood products such as Rhiggal (inset) have been found infected

The five haemophiliacs constitute the single largest group of infected persons in the city. They were all obviously given AIDS-infected blood. The fact that Calcutta has the heaviest concentration of haemophiliacs is worrying doctors in the city. Mostly comprising thalasaemic and leukemia patients, these people mostly have to buy blood from private nursing homes which do not screen the blood they buy from professional donors for the HIV virus. Even if they have the means the cost of testing a unit of blood collected for the AIDS virus would hike up their selling price sharply. With a large number of professional donors, who are known to frequent red light areas, the chances of haemophiliacs falling prey to the virus are quite high, unless all blood collected is compulsorily tested for AIDS.

The AIDS control committee of the Union health ministry has made it mandatory to screen all blood collected for transfusion. The director of the Central Blood Bank in Calcutta, Dr S.B. Dutta, says that since last September, all blood units collected there are being screened for the AIDS virus

On an average, between 80 and 100 units of collected blood are tested daily for the HIV virus. The blood bank has to send all the units to the School of Tropical Medicine, where an Elisa Reader machine tests the blood for the virus. There is a backlog if a major blood camp is held, when up to 500 units can be collected on a single day. Besides blood from the CBB, there are other samples that require testing, and there is only one Elisa Reader machine regularly working for all government medical establishments of the state.

Shockingly, the state government has five other Elisa Reader machines lying idle in the care of STM since May 1989, even though personnel have been trained in their use. The machines, each costing Rs 1.5 lakhs, were given to the state government by ICMR in May 1989 and were meant for the four medical colleges in the city.

As a result, the public is often compelled to buy blood from nursing homes at high rates. Blood banks attached to well-established nursing homes that have Elisa testing facilities charge up to Rs 350 per unit of blood. In a life and death matter, a person who knows of the consequences of AIDS, will have to buy blood at that price, But sometimes, he cannot even if he wants to. Blood available at the banks of posh nursing homes are usually kept for their own patients.

For those who cannot afford to buy blood at Rs 350 per unit and are turned away by the CBB, which always faces a shortage, the only option is the small banks which have mushroomed in the city. The average price of blood here is anywhere between Rs 150 to Rs 160 per unit Going by the costs involved (even assuming overhead costs at the minimum) it is not possible for blood banks in lanes and bylanes to ensure that they are selling virus-free blood. The cost of screening for HIV virus is Rs 40; packing, storage, preservation chemicals and transfusion set Rs 34; test for syphilis and gonorrhoea Rs 3; grouping Rs 5; RH factor Rs 5; test for hepatitis Rs 10; and another Rs 40 to Rs 50 for the professional donor: all this takes the total cost, including other overhead and miscellaneous costs to more than Rs 150, leaving almost a zero profit margin. Therefore, the small blood banks have no other option but to sell blood without screening for HIV.



Kishor Roy Chowdhury

The School of Tropical Medicine's Elisa Reader and Western Blot machines are the only ones being used in the city for regular screening. Others are lying unutilised

Dr K.N. Jalan, chief coordinator, Kothari Research Centre, who has undertaken a study of professional blood donors in Calcutta, has found that only 10 per cent of them have good blood to sell. He strongly feels that the government should make the screening of all professional donors mandatory. In a developing country, where people are more susceptible to disease, the HIV virus can be lethal. It breaks down the defence mechanism of the body, making it easy for opportunistic infections to take hold. In Calcutta, where almost 50 per cent of the population already suffers from one chronic ailment or the other (amoebiosis, tuberculosis, etc), an AIDS infection would not only mean certain death, but a death far more rapid than anywhere else. "It would be like a nuclear holocaust," Dr Jalan said of an HIV viral outbreak in the city. "And everyone would be caught offguard."

Doctors privately admit that proper screening of high risk groups could reveal any number of AIDS infections. "For all we know, we may be in a situation like Manipur—or even worse—where, in a period of six months, 678 confirmed HIV positive persons were detected from scratch. At least there, screening of high-risk groups started on a regular basis from 1987."

Dr Chakraborty claims that paucity of funds have made it difficult to start screening of high-risk groups in "right earnest". Only a "sentinel surveillance" programme has so far been possible with spot checks being made at the blood banks of government hospitals. But the fact remains that random sampling of blood units is of no value. If the unit selected as a sample is virus-free, there is no guarantee that the unit next to it isn't infected. And while Rs 6.5 lakhs and five Elisa Reader machines, given by the Centre for AIDS surveillance in the state, lie unutilised for over a year, small nursing homes, private blood banks and many government hospitals are not even paying lip service to the directive to screen all blood units.

The state government's seeming reluctance to carry out surveys (to gauge the extent to which the virus has spread) is just the beginning of a tale of indifference and apathy, which could prove very dangerous for the city.

The state AIDS committee which was formed under the chairmanship of the chief secretary, Tarun Dutt quite sometime ago, has so far had only one full sitting. According to the director of health ser-

THE SILENT SCOURGE

Global distribution of HIV infection and AIDS cases, as of May 1, 1990

Continent	HIV(AIDS virus) infection	AIDS cases reported	AIDS cases estimated
Africa	3,500,000	63,842	375,000
Americas	2,500,000	153,720	250,000
Asia	150,000	644	1,200
Europe	50,000	33,896	45,200
Oceania	30,000	1,976	2,500
Total	6,500,000	254,078	650,000

The first HIV seropositive persons, or AIDS virus carriers, in India were detected at the Christian Medical College Vellore (a group of prostitutes from Madras) in April 1986. The discovery sounded alarm bells in medical circles nationwide and in some quarters of government. But to the public in general, the news was of no direct concern; how many of us visit brothels, one thought.

Subsequent events and findings, all positive indicators to the spread of the virus, helped in changing attitude, but not to the desired extent. The first male victim of HIV was detected at an STD clinic in Tamil Nadu; a blood donor, his wife and child were found infected; the first full-blown AIDS patient was identified in Bombay; the first death from the disease occurred in Bombay (a blood transfusion patient in June 1986)...The latest major development is the detection of a large number of seropositive persons in Manipur, most of whom are intravenous drug addicts.

The number of reported carriers of the AIDS virus in India as of July 1990 was 2900, of whom 48 were confirmed AIDS patients, as reported to WHO. In comparison to the West, these figures may be low but considering the fact that screening programmes there are far more exhaustive and advanced, it cannot be said that India is less prone. Besides, on the basis of epidemiological studies, it has been concluded that for every case of AIDS, there could be between 25 to 100 HIV-infected persons. This implies that there may well be up to 44,800 persons infected with the AIDS virus in India, 50 per cent of whom could die of the disease within the next five years if there is no breakthrough in cure. The potential threat posed by HIV infection and the urgent need for finding out which areas it has reached must be realised in order to check further spread.

vices, Dr A.K. Dutta, the brunt of the panel's work has fallen on the three specialists—Dr S.B. Dutta who is responsible for the screening of all blood and blood products received by government medical establishments; Dr Mukherjee for the treatment of AIDS patients, and Dr Chakraborty for detection and surveillance.

The state government is yet to set up a ward for in-patient treatment of full-blown AIDS cases. Such wards require special equipment, barrier nursing and trained and motivated personnel. There are plans to establish a two to four-bed ward at the Calcutta Medical College and Hospital.

The Centre had sanctioned Rs 10 lakhs for its establishment early last year. According to sources at the CMCH, the ward, at the Ezra block of the hospital, could take another six months to complete. In the meantime, the only known AIDS patient in the city or for that matter West Bengal, is being treated at the outpatient department of the hospital.

Nor has the state government bothered to keep a ready stock of AZT, the antiviral drug prescribed the world over for the treatment of AIDS patients. Since the drug has to be imported through the Centre, this is bound to result in a crucial time-lag between order and supply.

To cap it all, medical personnel are not yet in a state of mind to have anything to do with an AIDS patient. When the health minister, Prasanta Sur, announced some time ago that a ward would be set up at CMCH, junior doctors vehemently protested: "Why should the ward be in our hospital?" Informed circles say such concern stems largely from the doctors' own "superficial knowledge" of the disease—AIDS is not in the MBBS curriculum.

Hardly an encouraging sign for the thousands who might even now be in the grip of the silent scourge.

BARTER BANK

• **Study materials:** I offer Brilliant's Elite course for IIT-JEE '90 for anything of corresponding value. Write to S. Jaluka, 4 Debinibas Road, Dum Dum, Calcutta-700 074.

• **Walkman:** I wish to exchange a new Sanyo walkman with headphones and adaptor for a scientific calculator and/or anything of corresponding value. Contact Dibyendu Pramanik, room no. 102, block A-2, main hostel, Jadavpur University, Calcutta-700 032.

• **Study materials:** I offer all my ICSE text books with their guides and the ICSE question paper for '85-'89 for anything of corresponding value. Write to Kaushik Basu, Purbalaya (P-42), Madhyamgram-743 275, W.B.

• **Guitar:** I wish to exchange a new C-150 Concord Hawaiian guitar in excellent condition for a walkman or anything of corresponding value. Write to Jayanta Nandy, village Hatiara, dist 24 Parganas (N), pin-700 059.

• **VCR:** I would like to exchange a National VCR (G-33) for anything of corresponding value. Contact Partha Pratim Pal, Jamrultala cooperative, 103 Satyen Roy Road, Behala, Calcutta-700034.

• **Books** and **posters:** I offer Imran Khan's *All Round View*, Kapil Dev's *By God's Decree*, over 100 issues of the *Sportstar* and lifesize posters of Sabatini, Imran and Becker for anything of corresponding value. Write to Saif A. Khan, C/30, sector-1, Rourkela-769 008, Orissa.

• **Books:** I would like to exchange *The Middleman and other Stories* by Bharati Mukherjee for 10 issues of the *Sportsworld* or *The Illustrated Weekly of India*. Contact Sudipta Saha, c/o Jitendra Nath Debnath, village-Mohiary (Bastutala), p.o. Andul Mouri, Howrah, pin-711 302.

• **Study materials:** I wish to offer Brilliant's course books for ITT-JEE part-I (for students of classes IX and X) for anything of corresponding value. Write to Avi Sarkar, flat-3, block-Z, 40/1 Tangra Road, Calcutta-700 015.

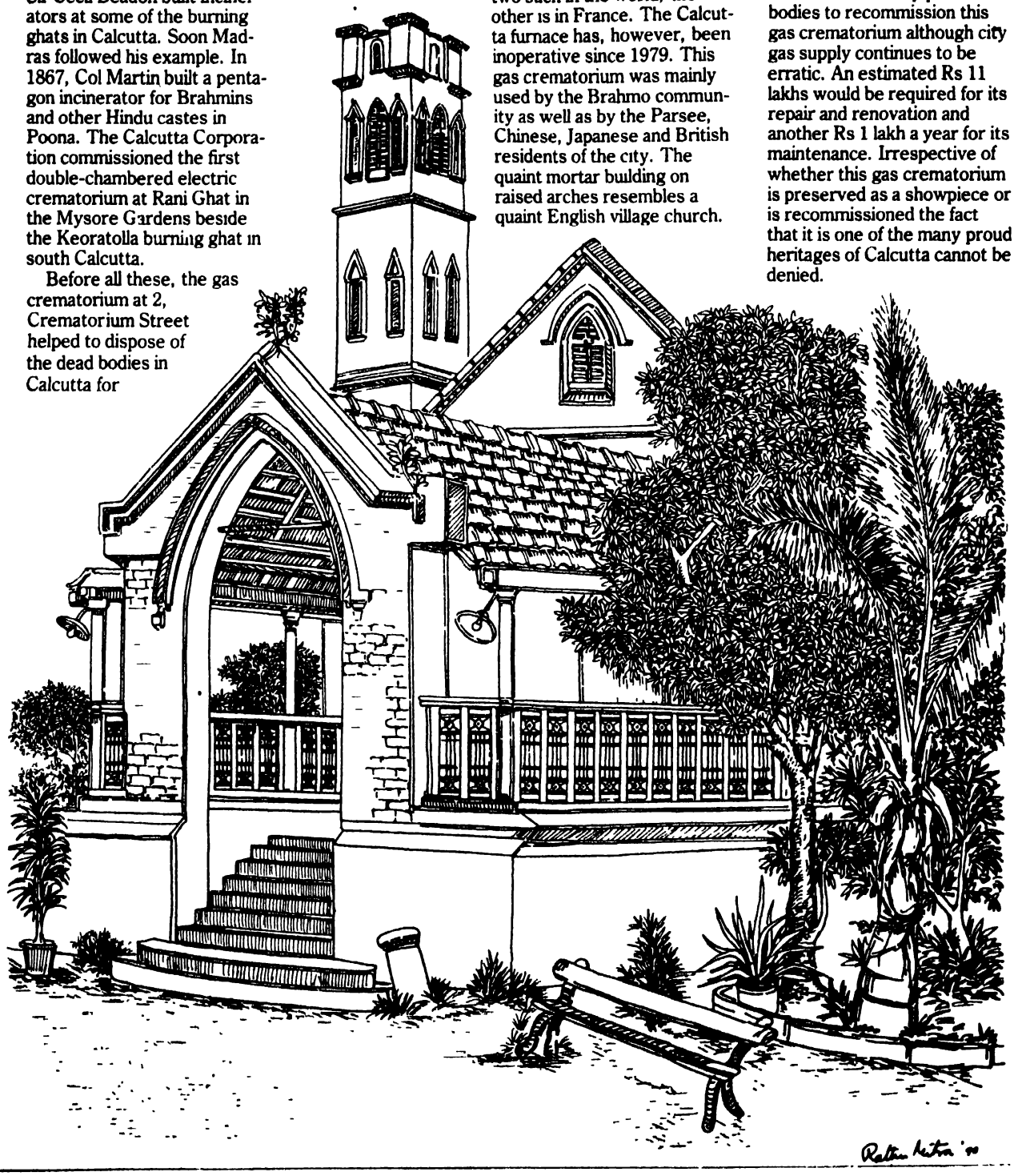
• **Novels:** I would like to exchange *The Almighty* by Irving Wallace and *The Devil's Alternative* by Fredrick Forsyth for the *Bourne Supremacy* and the *Bourne Ultimatum* by Robert Ludlum. Contact Rishabh Sood, F-2, Sravanti Apartments, 153/2 Jessore Road, Calcutta-700 074.

THE GAS CREMATORIUM

The concept of cremation is over a century old. The first legal cremation took place in England on March 26, 1885. In the middle of the 19th century, Sir Cecil Beadon built incinerators at some of the burning ghats in Calcutta. Soon Madras followed his example. In 1867, Col Martin built a pentagon incinerator for Brahmins and other Hindu castes in Poona. The Calcutta Corporation commissioned the first double-chambered electric crematorium at Rani Ghat in the Mysore Gardens beside the Keoratolla burning ghat in south Calcutta.

Before all these, the gas crematorium at 2, Crematorium Street helped to dispose of the dead bodies in Calcutta for almost 100 years. Commissioned in the late 1850s this Parisian 18-burner gas-fired *Toisul Fradet et Cie* furnace (sketched) is one of only two such in the world; the other is in France. The Calcutta furnace has, however, been inoperative since 1979. This gas crematorium was mainly used by the Brahmo community as well as by the Parsee, Chinese, Japanese and British residents of the city. The quaint mortar building on raised arches resembles a quaint English village church. A sloping roof and chimney tower add to the illusion. The remnants of a pretty garden and a gravelled driveway still exist.

Efforts are on by private bodies to recommission this gas crematorium although city gas supply continues to be erratic. An estimated Rs 11 lakhs would be required for its repair and renovation and another Rs 1 lakh a year for its maintenance. Irrespective of whether this gas crematorium is preserved as a showpiece or is recommissioned the fact that it is one of the many proud heritages of Calcutta cannot be denied.





ARIES
March 21—April 20

Wealth and wisdom are assured Yes you will be generous and pass it on to those less fortunate August 19 and 20 are ideal for romance and adventure Focus on work and colleagues during August 21 23 So gird up your loins right now and be ready for action Those in research teaching preaching entertainment and sales steal a march over their rivals

TAURUS
April 21 May 20

The new moon is in your property and home sector obviously activating both these factors Renovation decoration parents in laws buying and selling are highlighted Also a home away from home is indicated Expect good news during August 21 23 Many of you will be exceptionally creative However watch your health Guess one cannot have everything!

GEMINI
May 21 June 20

This is the right time to launch a venture sten to the flute of love social se and thus have a ball Remember there is more to come rom the next week as according to Western astrology Jupiter will change signs thereby ing essing your angle of publicity anfare and subtle communications August 19 and 20 will be ewsy and fast paced so get set or it

CANCER
June 21 July 20

The name of the game is perks position and power as the moon onjuncts Jupiter Opportunities r business job and trade will pen out and it is up to you to ake the most of these Many of ou will receive important messages through calls letters word mouth publicity and telegram terviews and examinations will rn out to be a great success

LEO
July 21 August 21

The new moon in your sign according Western astrology makes you tremely high spirited bold and aginative Naturally you will ke the initiative and do wonrs Strictly speaking your cky period starts from August 3 as by Western astrology upiter then comes into your gn So why worry needlessly e best is yet to be!

VIRGO
August 22 Sept 22

Expenses will mount Travel is foretold You may have to look after those less fortunate than you say family members or friends Mercury in your sign certainly helps you to negotiate deals and transactions successfully Deeds documents and contracts will be signed Do not neglect your health and that of your family

LIBRA
Sept 23 Oct 22

All will be well and there is more to come Therefore reach for the moon and the stars literally and figuratively Around August 19 or 20 you will find a turn for the better as Jupiter according to Western astrology will tip-toe into your eleventh sector of gains camaraderie kids romance and high adventure

BIRTHDAYS

August 19

Moon square Pluto A few inevitable changes affecting your lifestyle are absolutely certain These will have a longstanding effect Health of parents leaders and boss could cause concern On the material and personal side, you do well But caution is the key

August 20

New moon, Leo, Western astrology You could have a shaky start, but it will definitely improve It would be best to play your cards close to your chest There is an element of self deceit and of mistaking the woods for the trees Home and family conditions need your attention and tact

August 21

Moon trine Uranus Many of you will be catapulted to fame and fortune Buying, selling and investing should turn out to be very fortunate It will pay to entertain and be amiable to others Success is now certain Love, trips and housing give tremendous pleasure

August 22

Moon trine Saturn Hard work and imaginative brilliance help you to be triumphant You are certainly on a good wicket Business, job profession and personal relationships show great going

August 23

Moon sextile Jupiter You surely come into your own Take help whenever possible do not hesitate Children give enormous pleasure Travel is a distinct possibility A few inevitable changes in your job or profession could cause a little discomfort

August 24

Moon square Saturn You could feel slightly unsettled and unsure After February 9, you find your moorings and, therefore, all should be well You will have more freedom to do what you like and that itself is worth a fortune

August 25

Moon-Jupiter conjunction. Victory and well-being for you It is the time to take chances The house or office could be in for a facelift Romance blooms, kids give joy and your work will be done A good birthyear.

SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 20

Soon you will be at your brilliant best and that is something to look forward to Many of you will be in for a promotion a possible job-switch or in a position of greater responsibilities and trust You will respond magnificently Your ability will thus be fully recognised Be liberal and tolerant and the world will be yours

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 21 Dec 20

Shoot straight and hard and you will hit your target be it your lady love increase in production and demand of goods expansion of business a job switch a major house or office move children or grandchildren collaborations and a career in the arts research and invention It is time to shout your wares and show the world how good you really are! Health safeguards are advisable

CAPRICORN
Dec 21 Jan 19

Matters of finance in surance loans funds public trusts banking mortgage transfer and shifts will be of tremendous importance because Jupiter changes signs according to Western astrology entering your money angle The accent will be on investments buying selling love romance and the arts The snag is that you must take extra care of your health

AQUARIUS
Jan 20 Feb 18

Marriage romance collaborations travel shift and plenty of movements too in the course of your life are signified Things will start happening willy-nilly so better learn to accept them and just go ahead This is the astro way to succeed A sudden help and advice will be the bonus of the week August 21-24 are ideal for business and finances

PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

In your profession and career expect changes for the better That also means you must be prepared for a round of sustained hard work and pressures Marriage and engagement are on the cards Travel is another important ingredient of the astro cookies, but only if it is necessary Do not neglect your health and that of your family

Waxing

Soviet Union Goes a Madame Tussaud

Photographs: APN



Maya Plisetskaya

One of Moscow's larg
parks, Sokolniki, s
the opening of the
called historical theatre et
In fact, it is a replica of Mad
Tussaud's—further proof t
the Soviet Union is not go
to fall behind the West.

The wax figures on disp
are arranged in a somew
absurd fashion. It was
exhibition's chief desig
Nikolai Zelenetsky's intent
to bring together well-kno
Russian historical personalit
belonging to different epoc
Tsar Ivan the Terrible kills
poet Alexander Pushkin (
sculpture group is reminisc
of the famous Russian paint



Ivan the Terrible holding
Pushkin in his arms

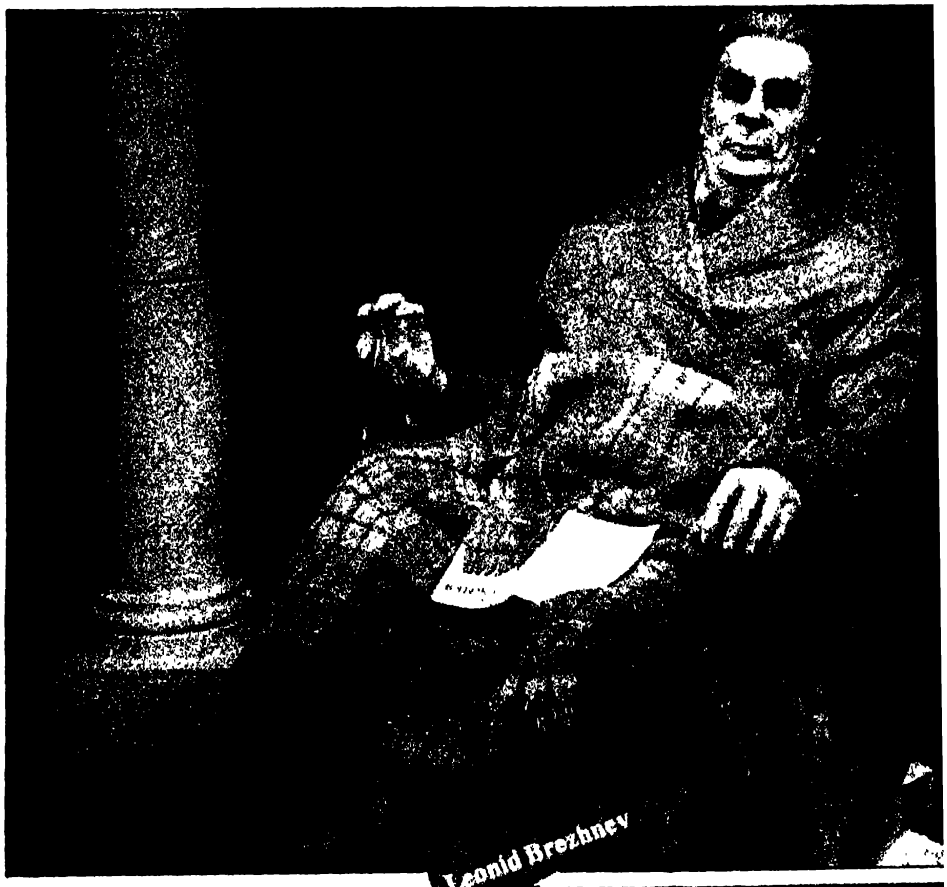


Lavrenti Beria

Tsar Ivan the Terrible Kills his Son). Josef Stalin is standing in front of his portrait. Nearby, his associate, the smug brute Lavrenti Pavlovich Beria is seen playing a game of chess with moody Malyuta Skuratov, the first Russian secret police chief. What do they stake on in their game? Were not human lives just pawns in their hands? Leonid Brezhnev and the last Russian Tsar Nicholas II complete the list of figures, nine in all. The onlooker is prompted to ask: is it not too early to have such an exhibition?

"If the public gets interested in the show, and the exhibition pays its way, we plan to replenish it with wax sculptures of Empress Catherine the Great, academician Andrei Sakharov and St Sergy of Radonezh," Nikolai Zelenetsky says.

It took the team of arrangers a year to complete the exhibition. The dynamic wax sculptures were made by artists I. Brodsky and S. Kogan. ■



Leonid Brezhnev

It is morning in Rambagan a north Calcutta sprawl of a hundred half *pucca* bustee houses, grimy and congested In the roadside tea stall the men sit crosslegged on benches gossiping over their earthen *bhars* of tea and slices of salted cucumber Under the dripping community tap lie piles of aluminium utensils waiting to be washed The women scouring the pots complain loudly the children taking their cue from local politicians crowd the bylanes clenching their fists and shouting "zindabad Then the strains of *taag bhairavi* wail through the air Oblivious to the clamour of the slum Nandalal Pakri (70) is completing his early morning *riyaaz* his delicate fingers dancing over the sitar strings, his white hair neatly brushed, his *dhoti kurta* still spotless

In the bylanes a pavement tailor is at work his feet on the pedals of an ancient Singer sewing machine Next to frayed election posters on the walls are the little shrines In every street corner artisans in *lungis* crouch over their work piles of sawdust and bamboo shavings beside them hammering little nails into slivers of bamboo and cane The *doms* of Rambagan bustee don't burn corpses They are master craftsmen artists musicians puppeteers and bamboo and cane workers with magic at their fingertips

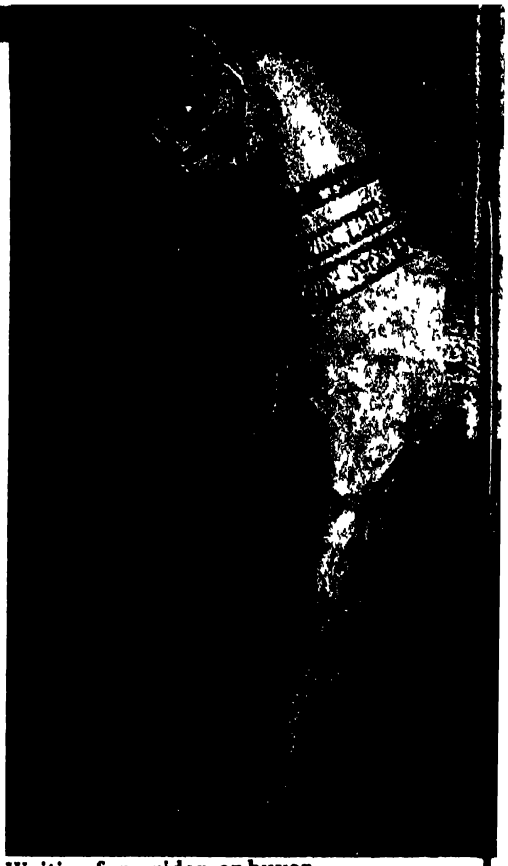
The *doms* are unsure of their origins, but they have lived in Rambagan a stretch between Chitpore Road and Chittaranjan Avenue, for as long as anyone can remember 'Our ancestors lived in the Calcutta of dirt roads and horse driven trams and yes untouchability, says Pannalal Manik, a social worker

Dom children never went to school They were untouchables Instead, the children of Rambagan learnt to weave baskets make rickshaw hoods, *taazias* before Muhurram and *chupris* or sandesh boxes From the Chinese they learnt the finer points of furniture making, especially work with milkcane imported from Singapore During World War II when the RAF

For many, they are the untouchables. But unlike members of their community elsewhere, the *doms* of Rambagan do not make a living out of the dead. They are creators, above all, and have shown the outside world that art can thrive in the slums

paradropped food packets to the Allied troops surrounded by the Japanese, the craftsmen made food packets of cane But the children of Rambagan remained in the darkness a people dogged by poverty and ill health, tainted by persistent rumours of theft We lived next to a brothel, and many of our people are still afraid of the police ' adds Manik

The derelict buildings across the street are brothels, deserted during the day, flutter and brightly lit at night "We were



Waiting for a rider, or buyer

THE F
OF R

Photographs b



It's morning in Rambagan...



At an artist's street-corner studio, a silent observer



LOWERING RAMBAGAN

Raghubir Singh; text by Srinjoy Chowdhury



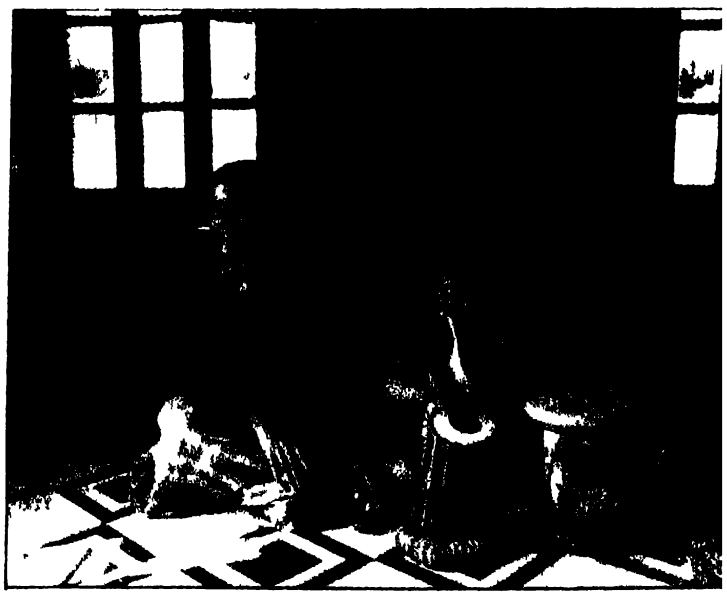
poor illiterate and branded as anti socials says Manik Between the brothels and our bustee there is only this narrow lane And at night we can hear the bargaining Only our art and the discipline that it brings has saved us Today an image of Durga made of slivers of bamboo by Lakshman Patra is at the National Museum in New Delhi Patra and four others spent a fortnight in Moscow during the Festival of India while Nripen Ghorui s puppetry fascinated Parisians in June 1985 All of them, and many others are the children of Rambagan

Under a tarpaulin in a corner lies Nripen Ghorui's puppets a messy tangle of torsos, loose heads and limbs The puppets were his inheritance Some of them belonged to my grandfather They are over a hundred years old, says the wizened man, his iron grey hair brushed back from his forehead A puppeteer for 55 years, Ghorui began his career in a *jatra dal* where he learnt at the age of 10 to play the *kansi* and then to dance and sing My father Satyacharan taught me puppeteering I was his understudy for nearly a decade before my first performance at Ziaganj in Murshidabad

It is the memory of another virtuoso performance on a sunny pale spring afternoon in Paris that Ghorui remembers Paris was like a *mela* a splash of vivid Indianness on the banks of the Seine Under the shadow of the Eiffel Tower exhuberant Parisians watched the master puppeteers *Marjina Abdullah* and *Nabadwiper Notun Pandit* The *pharashi sahebs* went wild but it was the Bengali boys the ones who married French girls and stayed on who clapped the loudest

From Paris Ghorui went to Moscow where he performed *Marjina Abdullah* and *Aaynawala* the story of a *pheriwala* who sells mirrors to lonely housewives—first for the television cameras in the eerie silence of a darkened studio and then for an appreciative audience I went to Kiev and after that to Yalta on the Black Sea Though the Russian puppets are better the Indian puppeteers are more skilful But when the Russians wanted him to donate one of his puppets to a local museum Ghorui in a patriotic fit refused I didn t If I have to donate my puppets I would give them to an Indian museum He works alone painstakingly writing his scripts in longhand on bits of paper dressing his rod puppets in their tinsely finery for the shows and quietly putting them away after the shows with the cheers still echoing in his ears

Scriptwriters write for the theatre and for films never for puppet shows complains Ghorui wiping his thick spectacles with the corner of his *kurta* Whether it is



Prafulla Hazra with a diligent pupil



ce lessons for Sutapa Manik, under mother Manti's watchful eye



Craftsmanship amidst the chaos

mythological like Brahma Vishnu Mahes war or a social I write my own script A sprightly 67 Ghorui dismisses all thoughts of retirement Puppeteering is a *nesha* and a *pesha* (an addiction and a profession) for Ghorui Money is important Applause is even more important When people applaud I am happy this is how I keep my father s memory alive

If puppets were Ghorui s inheritance tablas were Prafulla Hazra s Fifty years ago the *dom* children of Rambagan had no teachers only their fathers to teach them a trade Prafulla s father Lakshman was a *tabalchi* the childhood lessons honed by a lifetime of perspiration his served Prafulla well There is a rhythm in his emaciated arms a life in his fingers as his palms move effortlessly over the tablas *Hath batha howe gache* he complains softly sitting crosslegged on the floor in a frayed checked *lungi* As Abhijit a student picks up the beat Hazra leans back beads of sweat glistening on his brow My father was a tabla teacher at a local school Now I teach the *para* boys who come to the Kalyan Samiti building a stodgy two storeyed structure in the middle of Rambagan I ve even worked with Ali Akbar Khan once It was during the filming of *Kshudita Pashan* he says gently tapping his knee and nodding reassuringly every time Abhijit looks up I can also play the dholak the karanagra the khol and the phakhwaj

But Hazra shrugs when asked why Rambagan is different why Rambagan a bustee besides a brothel teems with talent I don t know We all chose a profession a line

It is Manti Manik all elegance and sinuous grace who searches for the answer We are *doms* To other people we are dirty we are untouchables So we had to prove ourselves We wanted to do something that would make a society sit up and look at us We wanted to do something that people would love us for

One of the first women of Rambagan to be formally educated Manti Manik (35) the daughter of a musician took her first dancing lessons at the age of four I danced during cultural functions at school And now I have started teaching We are a conservative people and it is difficult being the first When she is not organising cultural functions at school she gives dance lessons to her daughter Sutapa (12) We have a heritage It hasn t dissipated Instead our children will be better educated They will be more interested in our culture says Manti homemaker and folk and classical dancer

For far too long the squalor of Rambagan had shrouded the skills of the people There is no shortage of talent only of opportunity says Nandalal Pakrı This is a special place a musical bustee I used to do *riyaz* for two or three hours every morning and evening I even learnt to sing says Pakrı who learnt to play the sitar from his father Bijoydas and grandfather Kshudiram at the age of 14 The other problem says Bimal Pakrı (28) is the lack of resources If this instrument breaks we won t have the money to buy another one Nandalal Pakrı cradles the sitar and the sounds of a *raag* fill the room The clamour is forgotten So is the pain of being an outcast

More than their musical skills the residents of Rambagan are remembered for their magic touch their craftsmanship Patra and three others Dasarathi Mandal Kashinath Patra and Arup Pakrı—built the entrances to the stadiums during the Festival of India at Moscow Leningrad and Tashkent

The gates were over 100 feet tall and about 30 feet wide They really liked our work says the 55 year old grey haired man in a grimy sleeveless vest A long way indeed from making *latais*

Patra who made magician P S Sorcar s bag of tricks is also a leading painter of stage backdrops Whether it is the interior of a *bajee s* bedroom or a control tower or



difficult facade of a building in Soumitra hatterjee s *Nayakban*, the set directors urn to Lakshman Patra 'Our site in eningrad was an old prison beside the iver We had to turn it into an Indrapuri emembers Kashinath Patra (35) They eally liked our work and they even gave is certificates he remembers Only rare y are the craftsmen of Rambagan invited o participate in such extravagant festivals Aore often come commonplace work like lesigning puja pandals and *shamianas* for veddings

'The work is seasonal There are bad ycles shrugs Jayanta Mali who has elped to design ISKCON *raths* for the ast 15 years Even during the bleak nonths Rambagan has the air of a derelict anta Claus toyshop On the streets midst the piles of spliced bamboos stands n enormous peacock its bamboo frames overed with a gaudy fantasy of green range and blue In the corner beside a oot stained wall stands an off white orse its golden mane and saddle shim ering in the evening sun During peak eason a few weeks before an *utsav* ambagan becomes a fairyland every reation an expression of joy flashes of amboyant colours playing counterpoint o the dingy surroundings



Nripen Ghorui ponders over his puppets

With Moscow s Indian summer only a memory Rambagan s craftsmen are already working on a project that will stretch their imaginations and sinews to the limit For the spectacular festival organised by the Swaminarayan Temple authorities in the United States next year the craftsmen have already begun work in their makeshift studios in Ahmedabad The blueprints are ready the sketches complete And in their minds the artists can virtually see the 35 feet high main gates It is going to be 108 feet wide with 22 peacocks says Lakshman Patra The lion gate will probably be of jute and the swan gate all bamboo with hessian backing The craftsmen will use paper pulp bamboo and for the first time synthetic materials to build the spectacular pigeon gate A hundred artisans will also build models of four temples with foil *sholo* and strips of bamboo and cane Ahmedabad will be our ultimate test admits Hiru Bagdi a disciple of Lakshman Patra

Imagine a huge model of a figurine of the Sun God or a chariot pulled by seven horses We will make one with paper and bamboo This and 20 other images as well as the gates will have to be completed by next year says Patra We are confident we can end the work he adds oozing self assurance Everything has to be specially made We will have to fit everything into containers and ship them to America from Ahmedabad

Time and the first faltering footsteps towards financial self sufficiency have changed the *doms* of Rambagan We have always had the talent Now we are a more self assured people believes Pannalal Malik After decades of social work by the Ramakrishna Mission this area of darkness has clinics adult education centres primary schools and vocational training centres From their shabby lean tos the artisans are shifting into modest flats in the multi storeyed buildings jointly funded by the Mission and the artisans Ninety six of the apartments were completed recently another 250 flats one for each family will be built soon Everything has changed even the name Rambagan bustee is now called Vivekananda Palli ■

eside a soot stained building, a splash of vivid colour



REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aaj Ka Arjun** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442) Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 247266) Krishna (T C Dutta Street 250437 Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 360108) Kajal (Belighata Main Road 364264) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464440) Madhubun (Regent Park

A film by K C Bokadia starring superstar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Prada and Radhika The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Dil** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141) Mitra (Bidhan Sarani 551133) 4 shows

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind the film stars Aamir Khan Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Ghayal** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 484808) 4 show

Sunny Deol and Meenakshi Seshadri are the main attraction Others starring are Amrish Puri Moushumi Chatterjee Om Puri Raj Babbar Kulbhushan Kharbanda Shafi Inamdar and Annu Kapoor The film is directed by Rajkumar Santoshi and the music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Jeevan Ek Sanghursh** Elite (S N [illegible]erjee Road [illegible]83) Talkie Show House (Shoo's Bhadur Street 552270 Gem (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road 49828) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road 311090 Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417 Malancha (Regent Park)

Anil Kapoor and Madhuri Dixit are the lead pair in this film directed by Rahul Rawail The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Jungle Love** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue 272473) Natz (Lower Chitpur Road 277273) Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue 553046) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554033)—4 shows

Directed by V Menon the film stars newcomers Kirti Singh and Rocky The music is by Anand Milind

• **Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138) Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956) Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) Kalika (Sadananda Road 478141)

A social entertainer, starring Rekha Jeetendra Radhika Anupam Kher and Utpal Dutt The film is directed by Manobala and the music is by Anand Milind

• **Veeru Dada:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani 241132) 4 shows

Directed by K R Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal the films chief attractions are Dharmendra Arfinta Singh Farha and Shakti Kapoor

Bengali Films

• **Badnaam** Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 271282)—2 5 7 45

Shibu Mittra's maiden Bengali directorial venture starring Prasenjit Neelam and Shakti Kapoor The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Bhangagara** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani 558080) Purna (S P Mukherjee Road 474567) 3 shows

Directed by Guru Bagchi the main attractions of this film are Prasenjit Satabdi Roy Deepankar De Subhendu Chatterjee Debika Mukherjee and Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury The music is by Ravindra Jain

• **Debata (A)** Minar (Bidhan Sarani 552753) Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road 473462) Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road



Debashree Roy and Victor Banerjee in *Debata*



Neelam in *Badnaam*

Rekha, Jeetendra and Radhika in *Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai*



352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Victor Banerjee, Debashree Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, Kali Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullic comprise the main cast of this film.

Special Events

19 – 22 August: 3 pm – 8 pm (except Monday)

An exhibition of paintings by Bikash Bhattacharjee entitled, *The Boy.*

At Galerie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

19 August: 6 pm

Lions Club of Calcutta Ganga presents the Calcutta region concert featuring Pankaj Udhas, to mark the release of his latest double-album, *Rubayee.*

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086/432197).

19 August: 6.30 pm

Sangit Kala Mandir will stage the Hindi play, *Sabse Bara Rupaiya.*

At Kala Kunj (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086/432197).

19 – 22 August: 3 pm – 8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by the students of Calcutta Art Home in the South and New galleries.

19 August onwards: 3 pm – 8 pm

Sumitra Bhattacharya's exhibition of paintings in the West Gallery, till August 26.

• The Group will hold an exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery till August 26.

19 – 24 August: 3 pm – 8 pm

Tapan Chakraborty, Sudip Saha and Tandra Bhattacharjee will hold their paintings exhibition in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

23 August: 2.30 pm

Progressive Educational Techniques Society will hold a language teaching workshop.

At Loreto House (Middleton Row).

23 August: 7 pm

An evening of classical dance and music, featuring Sushmita Banerjee (Kathak) accompanied by Gopal Mishra (tabla), Prateep Banerjee (vocal), Nazim Khan (bol paran) and Arabindo Sen (sitar), and dhrupad recitals by Nandy Sisters (Aloka and Ashoka), disciples of Ustad Aminuddin Dagar.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

24 August: 6.30 pm

Padatik Music Circle presents a classical vocal recital by Anita Roy.

At Padatik Little Theatre (6/7 AJC Bose Road; 446087).

24 August onwards: 3 pm – 8 pm

The 29th week-long annual exhibition by the members of the Children Studio of Academy of Fine Arts in the Central and South galleries.

25 August onwards: 3 pm – 8 pm

A week-long exhibition of paintings by the students of Silence Training Institute in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6) IC-841 at 1115, Dep (6): IC-841 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-094 at 1620, Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (1,7) IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6). IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7). IC-224 at 1540, Arr (2,4,6): IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep (6) IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2): KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7). AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5) AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily): IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily): IC-229 at 1250; Arr. (daily) : IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4). IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorh

Guwahati - Calcutta: I (3,5,7) IC 213 at 1030, (3,5,7) IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Di pur: Dep (1,3,5,6) IC-219 1120; Arr.(1,3,5,6) IC-220 at 1

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep (lv) IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (da IC 222 at 1320

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (lv): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2 IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3,5,6 IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC at 1400, Arr. (daily). IC-24 0900, Arr. (2,4) IC-244 at 1 Arr. (3,5, 6,7) IC-244 at 1 Arr. (1) IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Impl Dep (daily): IC-255 at 0600; (daily) IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswa Nagpur - Hyderabad: I (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: D (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: D (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2 IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Nicobar: Dep. (1). IC-287 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 12

Calcutta - Ranchi - Pa Lucknow - Delhi: D (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwah Silchar: Dep. (daily): PF-701 0940; Arr. (daily): PF-702 at 16

Calcutta-Cooch Behar: D (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0610; (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-708 at 0910.

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorh Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep. 3, 5, 7): PF-709/735 at 0815; (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-710/736 at 172

Calcutta-Imphal-Dimap Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-727 at 11 Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-728 at 1745

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalp Kailashar-Agartala-Calcu Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0 Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040

Calcutta-Jamshedpur: D (1, 3, 5): PF-717 at 0600; Arr. 3, 5): PF-718 at 0800.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1 5, 7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (1 5, 7) PF-730A at 0830.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar: D (daily): PF-705 at 1120; Arr. (

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines sche dule. But the schedule has been curtailed due t the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passen gers are advised to keep track of announce ments made by Indian Airlines in the press. Fo assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 an 569633.

ly) PF-706 at 1615.
Calcutta-Rourkela-Ranchi: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5). PF-716 at 1025.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Lilabari-Ziro-Daparizo: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-721 at 0930, Arr (2, 4, 6). PF-722 at 1805
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Passighat-Along: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-723 at 1045; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-724 at 1950.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Patna: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-726 at 1040.
Calcutta-Dhanbad-Gaya-Patna-Dhanbad-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-737 at 0600 Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-738 at 1100.

Trains

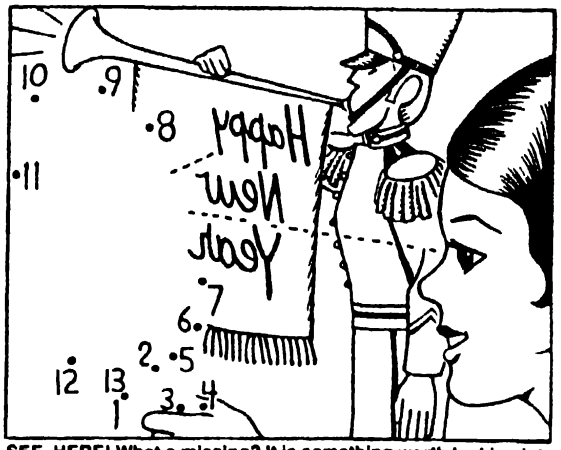
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr - Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep -Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep- Tues Fri & Sat Arr Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13 15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9 45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13 05	**Amritsar Express**	15-15	3050
3011	20 45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20 55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16 00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22 00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6 30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18 20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21 00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11 10	3026
3071	22 05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15 40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21 40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



SEE, HERE! What s missing? It is something worth looking into if you wish to read the banner shown Draw dot to dot

• BUSTERS! Ghosts in your sandwich who ya gonna call? Toastbbusters Ghosts at the shore who ya gonna call? Coastbusters Ghosts on a fence who ya gonna call? Postbusters Any to add?

TAKE ONE STEP AT A TIME

1 ONE_____
2 _ONE____
3 __ONE___
4 ___ONE__
5 ____ONE_

Add four letters in each step to form five words containing the word ONE progressively, as shown in the diagram above

Definitions.

1. One's own being, who else?

2. Northernmost county of Ireland.

3. One who leads the way, such as an early settler of US West.

4. "No matter how thin you slice it, it's still—" said Al Smith

5. Seashell source of mother-of-pearl

Remember, each word is missing four letters

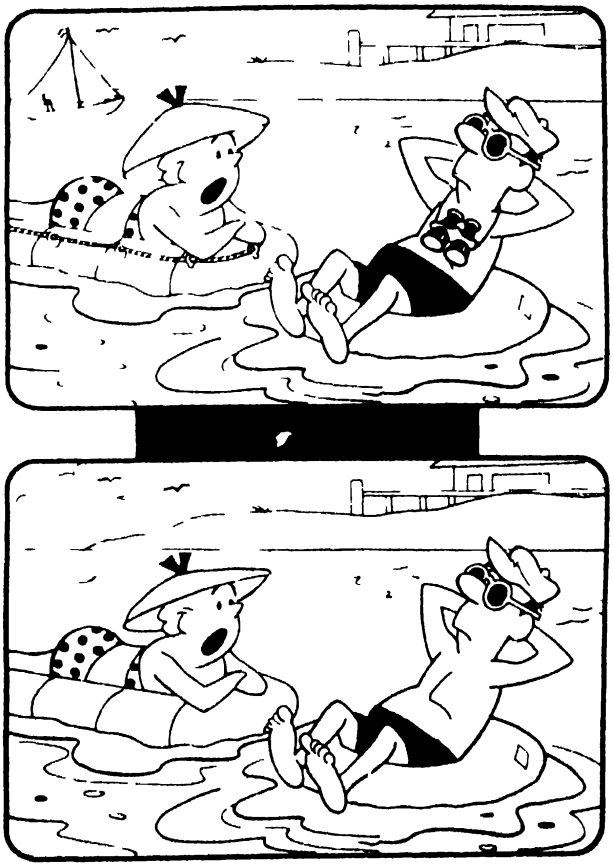
1 Oneself 2 Donegal 3 Pioneer 4 Baloney 5 Abalone



• KNOT SO! Measure off a length of string about three feet long and place it along the edge of a table. Now, challenge a bystander to pick up the string, holding an end in each hand, and ask him or her to tie a knot in it without letting go of either end Alakazam! It can be done in a jiffy. How?

Fold arms before picking up string Unfolding of arms ties knot

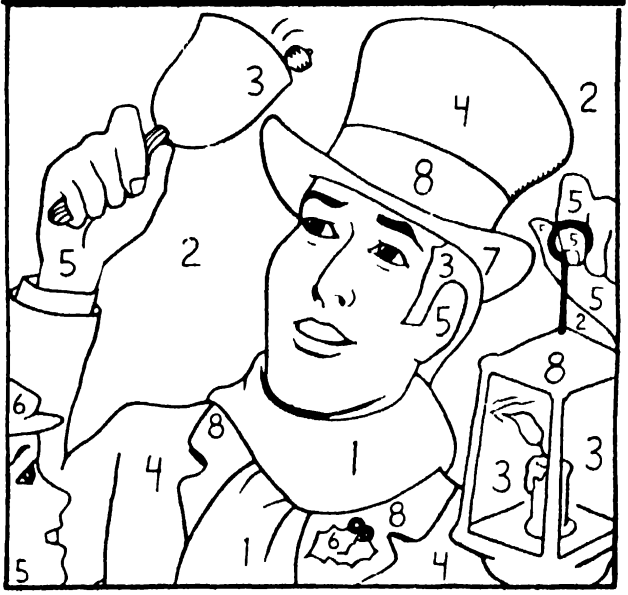
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Boat is missing 2 Hat is different 3 Rope is missing 4 Arm is moved 5 Binoculars are missing 6 Bathing suit is smaller

FUNSPOT



HEAR YE! Tis the town crier making his rounds Apply these colors neatly to scene 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

MAGNETIC

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible anagram Mint cage

"What was the name of Christopher Columbus flagship?" queries Arun Kumar Saha, Calcutta 17

The *Santa Maria* was the ship in which the Italian-born sea-captain Christopher Columbus sailed across the Atlantic and discovered the New World Columbus did not set out to discover new land, but to find a new way to China and India In the light of the belief that the world was of round shape he very reasonably thought he could do so by sailing westward across the Atlantic, for he knew nothing of the whole continent of America nor of the Pacific Ocean which lay between For some time he tried to persuade the King and Queen of Spain to provide him with ships and men to make this voyage of discovery When, in 1492, Columbus had received the King's support, he was sent to a little port near Seville, where the inhabitants were in disfavour with the King and as a punishment were ordered to provide and equip two caravels—small fast sailing ships Columbus chartered in addition a larger ship, the *Santa Maria*, direct from its owner

We learn from the diary kept by Columbus that the *Santa Maria* was rigged as a typical ship of the period and carried a mainsail, foresail and mizzen, spritsail, and main-topsail He had 90 men with him in all, and the *Santa Maria* probably carried 40 of them Her size has been variously estimated, she is unlikely to have measured more than 75 ft in overall length, and was probably of carrack construction, relatively short on the keel compared with her overall length, and with great breadth We know she carried her ship's boat on her deck There would have been a poop-deck aft, with cabins below, and a higher forecastle over the stem, making forward

Columbus sailed for the Canaries with his three vessels at dawn on August 3 After delay amongst the Canary Islands he sailed away into the unknown on September 6 On October 10, there was nearly a mutiny among the frightened sailors, but the next day one of the caravels, the *Nina*, picked up in the water a green branch bearing a little flower, which indicated the nearness of land That night Columbus himself saw an unexplained light and at 2 am on the morning of October 12, 1492, the lookout on the forecastle of his other caravel, the *Pinta* saw a white sand-cliff gleaming in the moonlight This was the first sight of the New World the land was part of one of the many islands off the coast of the American mainland the island is unknown though some geographers believe it was Watling Island in the Bahama group The *Santa Maria* was later wrecked on Christmas Eve and Columbus came home in the *Pinta*, believing that he had reached the Indies Ever since then, the islands near America have been known as the West Indies

Which Austrian Chancellor was murdered by the Nazis? asks Subrata Goswami Calcutta-45

Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss the diminutive fascist leader of Austria had long resisted the rise of Nazi power in his country In an attempted coup Austrian Nazis (about 150 men of the SS Standarte 89) with Hitler s secret backing tried to take over the Austrian Government on July 25 1934 seizing Vienna s main radio station and important government buildings including the Chancellery Austrian leaders had been warned minutes beforehand and all but Chancellor Dollfuss had left the Chancellery As he was preparing to flee a gang of SS men led by Franz Holzweber and Otto Planetta burst into the Yellow Salon Dollfuss private offices The chancellor at first tried to reason with them but Planetta brushed through the SS men and raised a pistol Dollfuss shielded his face with his hands Planetta fired two shots through his hands one penetrating his throat the other going through his spinal column, leaving Dollfuss alive but paralysed from the hips down He lived for several hours begging his captors, who were by then under siege by government troops, for a doctor His pleas were ignored He died with the words Children, be good to one another I always wanted to do only the best " The coup was quickly put down Most of the assassins were executed When Planetta and Holzweber mounted the scaffold, they stood to attention, faced Germany and shouted "Heil Hitler!" But Hitler refused to recognise their attempt to unify Austria with Germany through revolt and assassination, denouncing the very men he had sent to kill Dollfuss Four years later, Hitler took over Austria in a bloodless *Anschluss*

CBS

11th Question: **When does a male urine sample test positive for pregnancy? (Dr Yajati K. Ghosh, 238-B Rashbehari Avenue, Calcutta 700 019)**

Ans: **In case of chorion epithelioma (a testicular tumour) human chorionic gonadofrophin (HCG) is secreted which is analogous to that secreted by pregnant women which gives the positive urine test.**

QUESTIONS

1. Who was shown the first yellow card in Italia 1990? (Niraj Kumar, BIT Sindri)

2. Who was shown the first red card in 'Italia 90'? (Riazul Arfin, Calcutta 14)

3. What is the full name of Nelson Mandela? (Manohar Mandal, Nabadwip 2)

4. What is a hard-top in the US? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral 5)

5. Who said, "When a man says he approves of something in principle, it means he hasn't the slightest intention of putting it into practice"? (Dabboo, Calcutta 14)

6. Which British politician is nicknamed "Tarzan"? (Ismat Afrin, Burdwan 51)

7. Name the sherpa who was with Junko Tabei when she reached the top of Mt Everest. (Subir Kr Das, Guwahati 11)

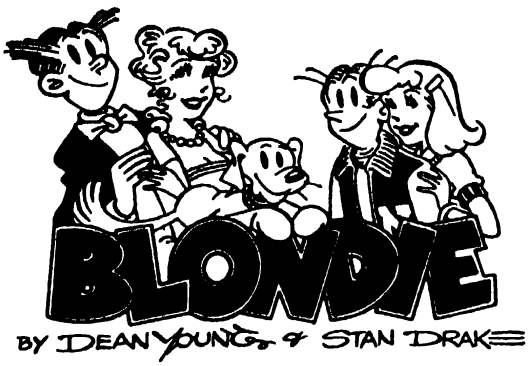
8. What is unusual about Zaheer Abbas' three centuries in one-day internationals? (Saif M. Hussain, Calcutta 14)

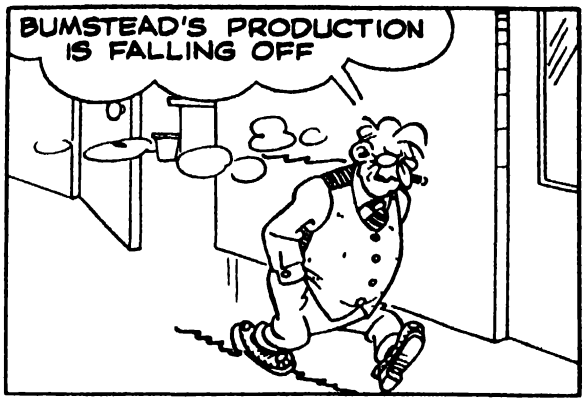
9. Which British Royal liked to explore antiquarian bookshops, looking for second-hand volumes? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)

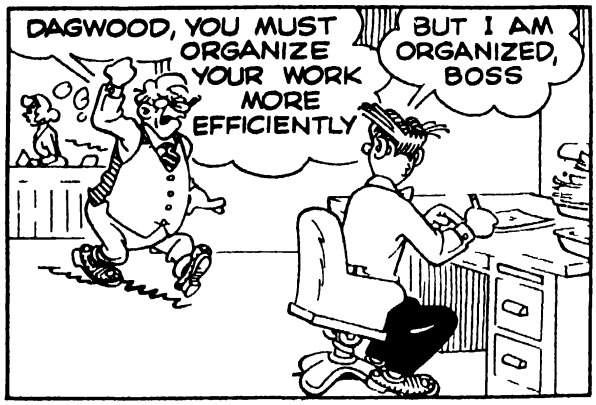
10. Which world famous writer said, "After hearing the bewitching performance of Yehudi Menuhin in London, 1929, "Listening to such an artiste like Yehudi makes even the atheist believe in God"? (Sheik Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)

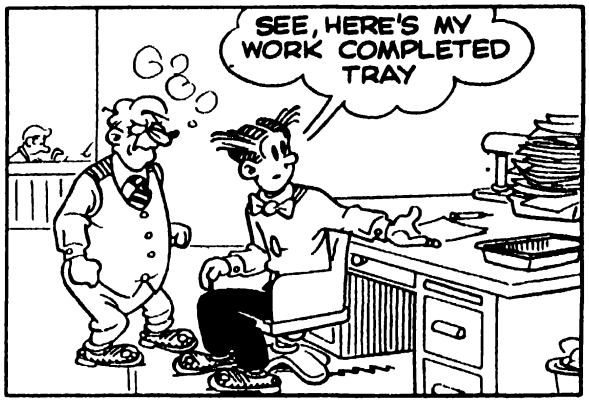
ANSWERS

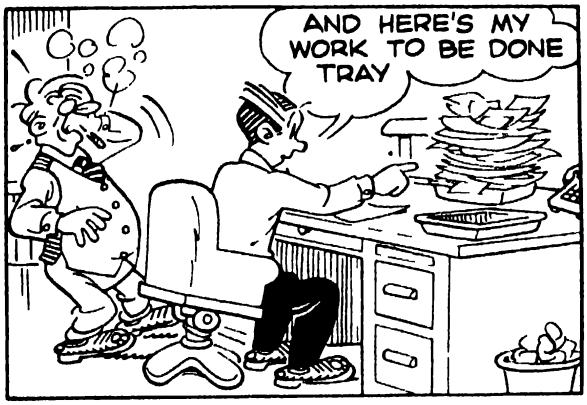
1. Missing of Cameroon vs Argentina.
2. Kana Biyick of Cameroon in the opening match against Argentina.
3. Rollinhia Nelson Dalibhunga Mandela.
4. An automobile having a rigid metal top and no centre posts between windows.
5. Otto Von Bismarck
6. Michai Heseltine.
7. Ang Tsering.
8. He is the only batsman to score three centuries in three successive one-day matches
9. Prince Albert was hanpier roaming around second-hand bookshops than indulging in the high life of court.
10. George Bernard Shaw

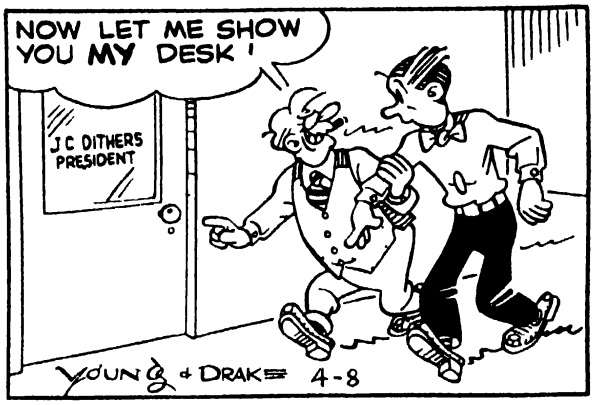


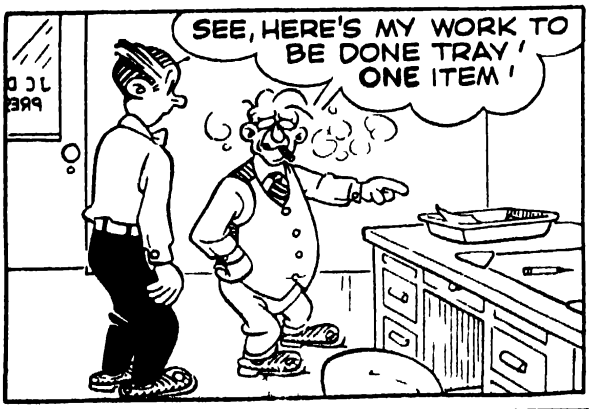








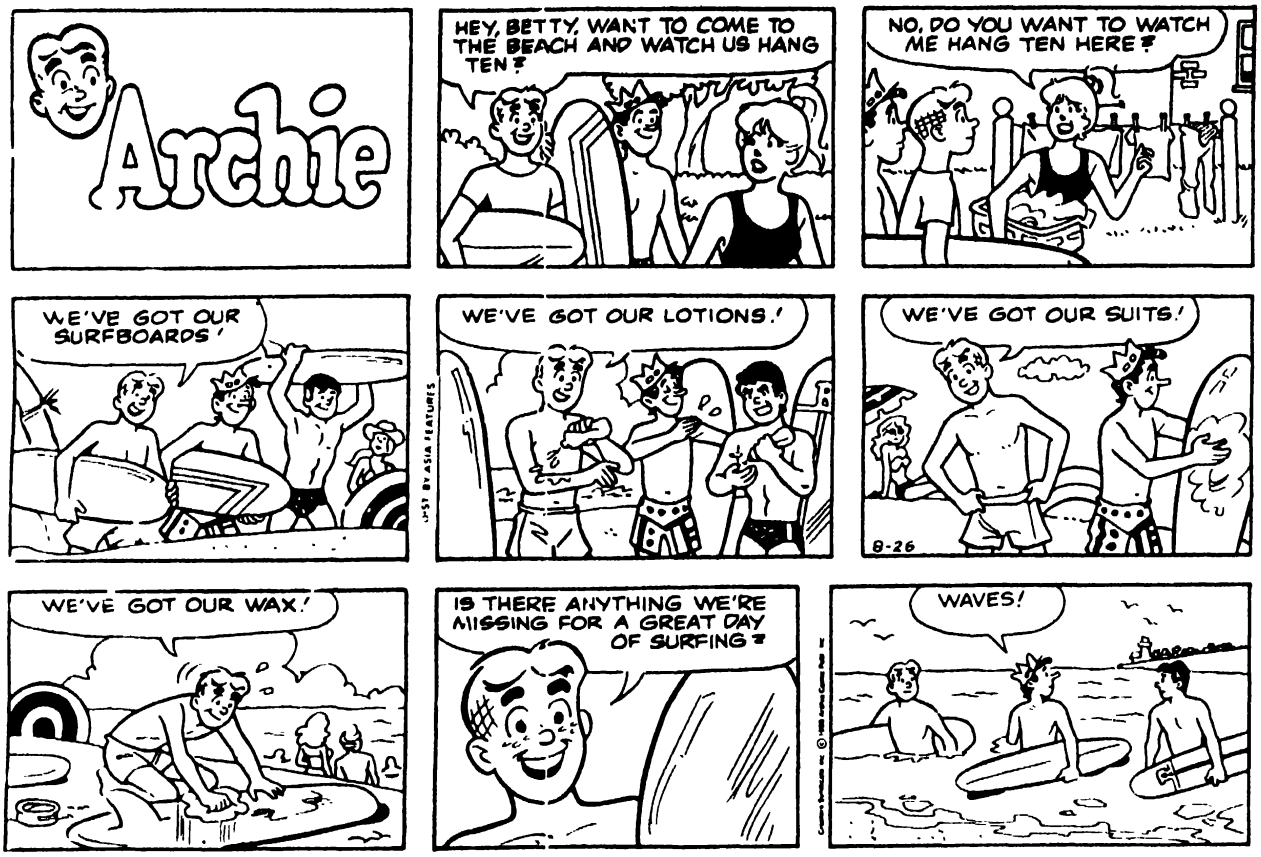




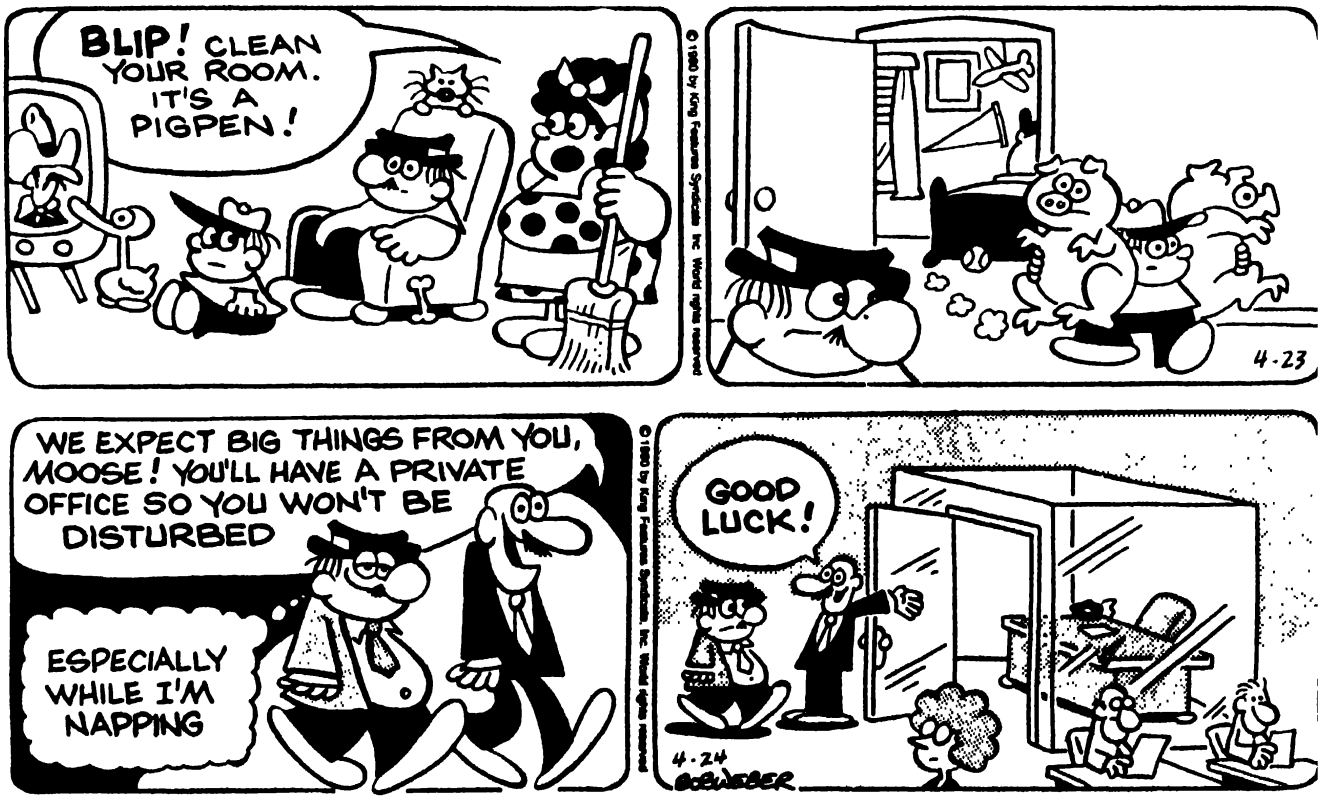
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ARCHIE

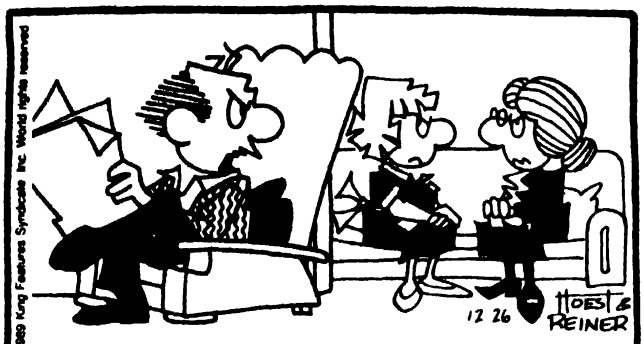


MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber

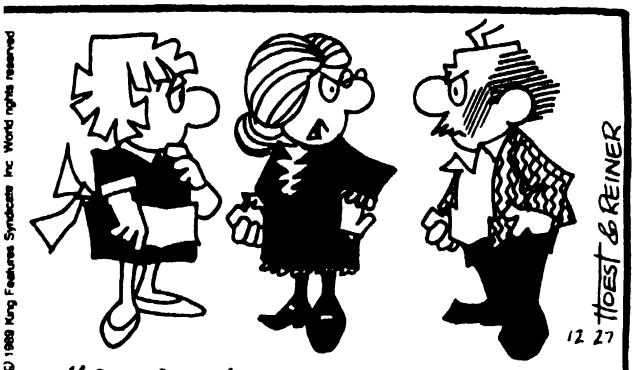




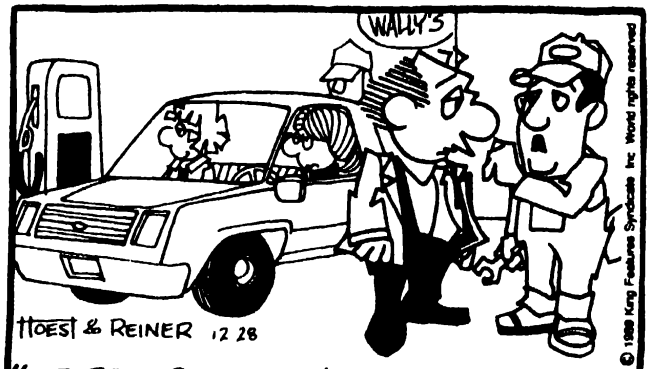
"LEROY HAS NEVER FORGIVEN MOTHER FOR PRESENTING AN OPPOSING VIEWPOINT AT OUR WEDDING."



"SHE DOESN'T NEED A FACE LIFT. IT WOULD JUST MAKE MORE ROOM FOR HER MOUTH!"

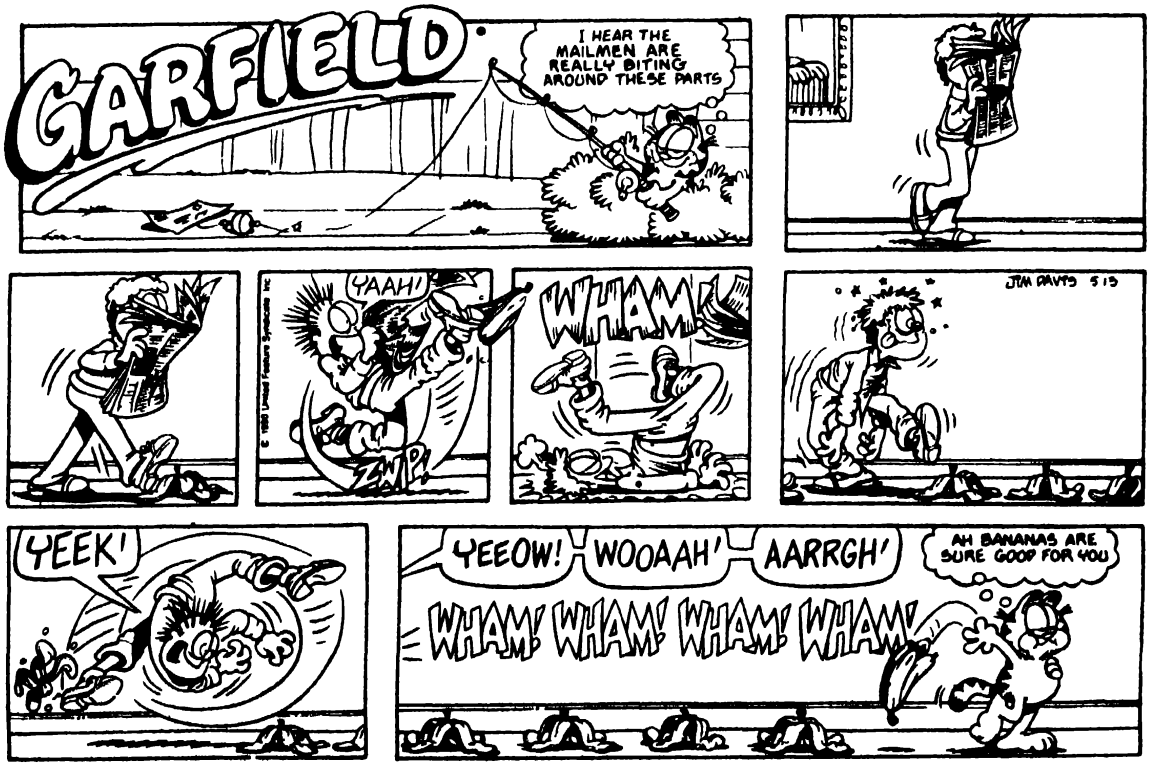


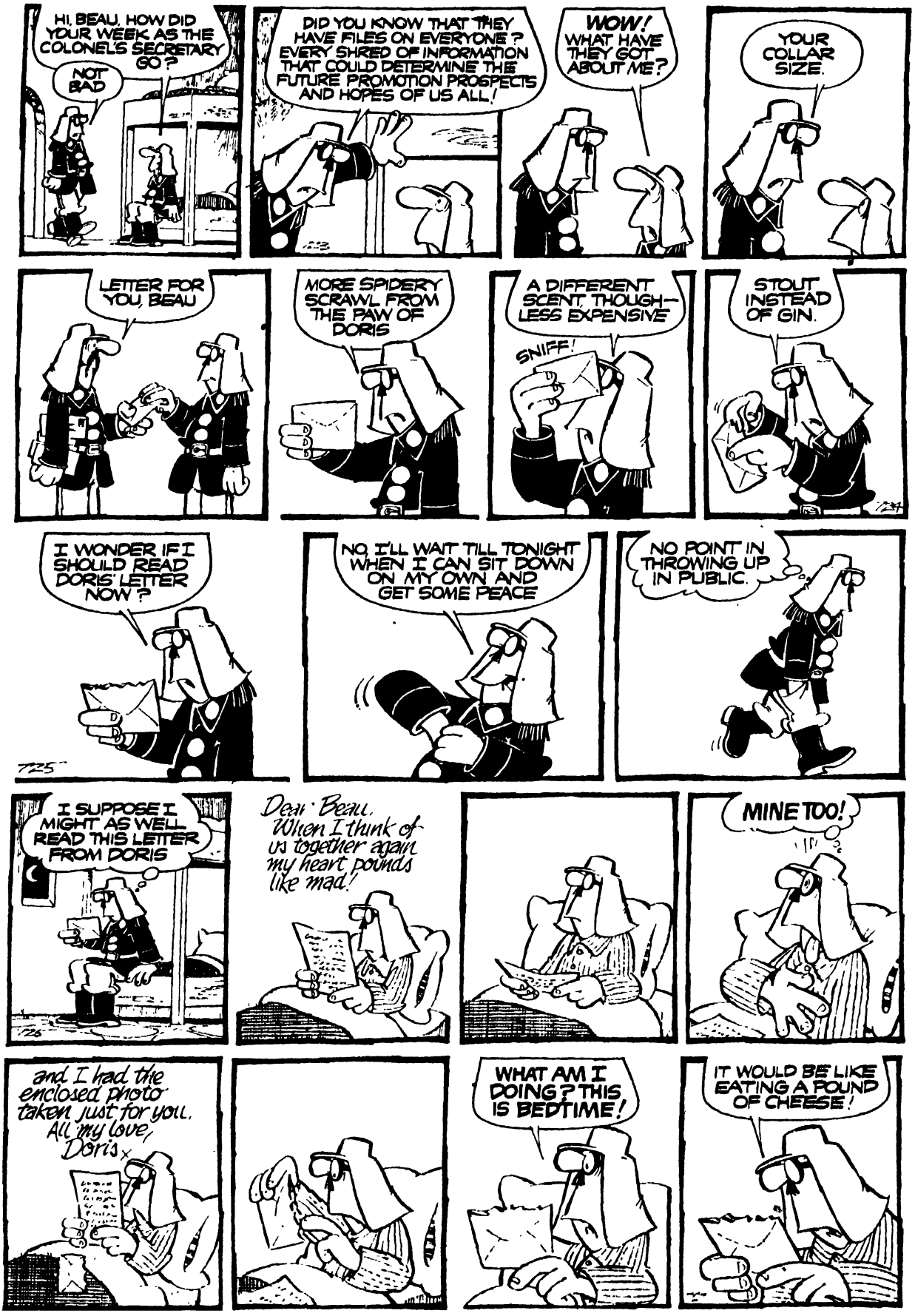
"DON'T YOU INTERRUPT WHEN LORETTA'S LISTENING!"

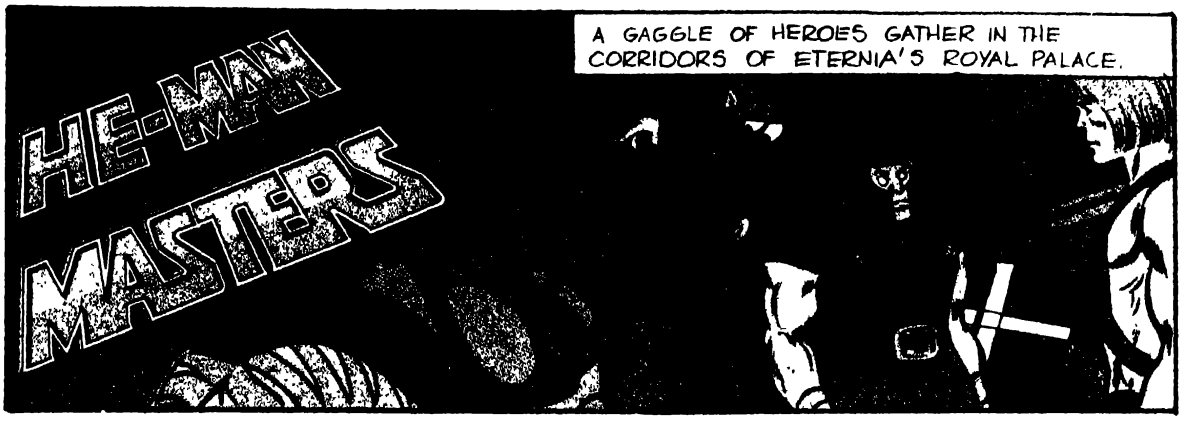


"WE FOUND THAT MYSTERIOUS WHINING SOUND···IT'S YOUR MOTHER-IN-LAW."

GARFIELD By Jim Davis



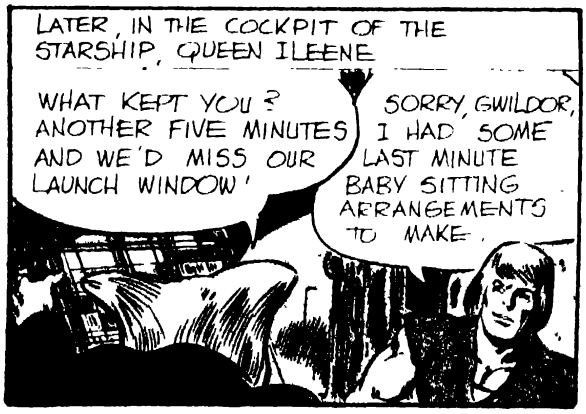

HI, BEAU. HOW DID YOUR WEEK AS THE COLONEL'S SECRETARY GO?
NOT BAD
DID YOU KNOW THAT THEY HAVE FILES ON EVERYONE? EVERY SHRED OF INFORMATION THAT COULD DETERMINE THE FUTURE PROMOTION PROSPECTS AND HOPES OF US ALL!
WOW! WHAT HAVE THEY GOT ABOUT ME?
YOUR COLLAR SIZE.
LETTER FOR YOU, BEAU
MORE SPIDERY SCRAWL FROM THE PAW OF DORIS
A DIFFERENT SCENT, THOUGH— LESS EXPENSIVE
SNIFF!
STOUT INSTEAD OF GIN.
I WONDER IF I SHOULD READ DORIS' LETTER NOW?
NO, I'LL WAIT TILL TONIGHT WHEN I CAN SIT DOWN ON MY OWN AND GET SOME PEACE
NO POINT IN THROWING UP IN PUBLIC.
I SUPPOSE I MIGHT AS WELL READ THIS LETTER FROM DORIS
Dear Beau, When I think of us together again my heart pounds like mad!
MINE TOO!
and I had the enclosed photo taken just for you. All my love, Doris x
WHAT AM I DOING? THIS IS BEDTIME!
IT WOULD BE LIKE EATING A POUND OF CHEESE!



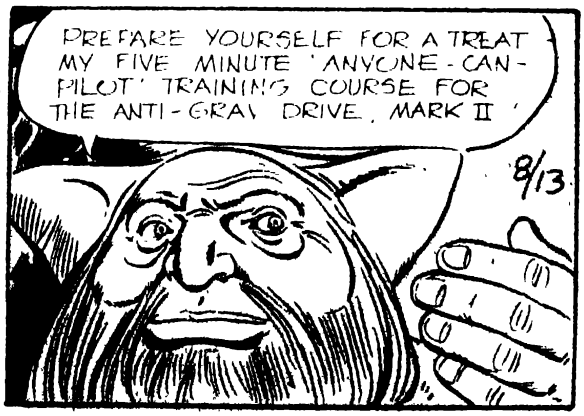








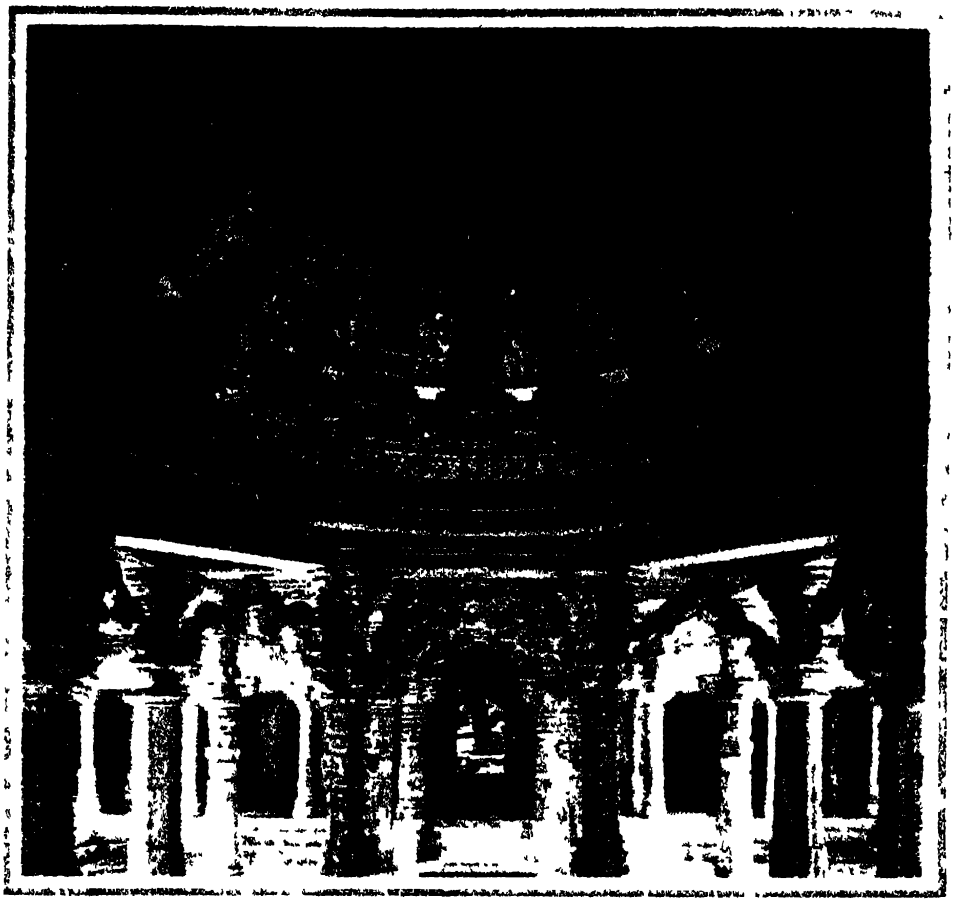




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Politics may have been a marriage of convenience for Pakistan Prime Minister **Benazir Bhutto.** But when things became too hot to handle, she began beating the war drums. Now, with her being dismissed and the Army moving in, things could hardly be looking up for her.



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

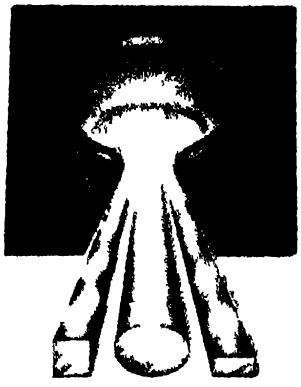
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

POWMEX is emerging as Asia's first plant to produce High Speed Steel and Super High Speed Steels through Powder Capsule Forging Technology.

POWMEX, in collaboration with the world leader BOHLER of AUSTRIA is setting up a Rs. 700 million high tech plant near Titlagarh in Orissa. This will put the Indian High Speed Steel on par with the finest available in the world. POWMEX product mix includes both Tungsten and Molybdenum High Speed Steels of various sections in rounds, flats and squares, and are indispensable for making drills, reamers, dies, forming tools, punches, special bearings etc. The tools made out of Super High Speed Steels will bring about a seachange in their durability and quality turning out better components.

POWMEX reduces imports and saves precious Foreign exchange to uphold the country's ideal of self-reliance and growth.



POWMEX

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POST MORTEM

Bring Back Strong Governors

The extract from Dharma Vira's book, *Reminiscences*, was correctly described as 'The Tempest' (June 24). One should hang one's head in shame over the manner in which the governor was treated in the Assembly by the leaders of the United Front.

It is high time that strong men like Dharma Vira are once again chosen for gubernatorial assignments to strengthen our Constitution.

Kali Charan Banerjee,
Calcutta

■ In 1969, Jyoti Basu remarked that Dharma Vira was making things difficult for everybody. It is ironic that after 21 years, the ill-fated people of West Bengal feel that Jyoti Basu is making things difficult for everybody!

Shovanlal Bakshi,
Calcutta

New Hopes

Leander Paes and Vishwanathan Anand ('Young Masters', July 29) have done every Indian proud with their skill, stamina and sheer conviction in themselves.

At a time when the standard of Indian sport has fallen sharply, these two young lads have shown us a ray of hope. I am sure they will figure in your cover stories several times in the near future.

Manohar Mandal,
Nabadwip (W.B.)

■ I think you were unfair to Vishwanathan Anand. He deserved a separate story.

Anand has qualified as a contender for the world champion title. Leander Paes' win was stirring no doubt, but he has a long way to go before he can be ranked among the top 20 in his field.

Deepak Gangadharan,
Kharagpur

■ If these two masters do not stagger in the coming days as many other Indians have done in the past, they will be world toppers.

Gopal Khemka,
Siliguri

■ A question lingers: will our new champions come up to normal expectations over the years? Many so-called masters and aces in India have declined after a meteoric rise. Let us hope for the best for Paes and Anand.

Riaz ul Ahsan,
Calcutta

Very Simple

Pradip Chaudhury (July 15) appeared very worried about India's chances of making it to the World Cup final rounds. There is a simple solution to that: just stage the finals in India!

Debasis Mitra,
Calcutta

It Figures!

I was very surprised to note that the information given about our health club in 'Figuring It Out' (July 22) was not correct.

First of all, it is situated in the Taratala area of New Alipore, not Behala, as stated. I do not think anyone from your magazine visited our health club and saw the facilities.

Our club does not work on the "herbal diet" principle. Our programmes are based on strength, endurance, flexibility, diet regulations and mental therapy. All the new members are subjected to medical examination and then put through aerobics/yoga/weight training programmes, under the supervision of experienced instructors. These various modes of body building/shaping are carried out with the use of a multigym and all-body shaping electric gadgets, steambath, etc.

You are welcome to visit our club on any working day to physically verify.

[illegible]

V. Anand: King of the Board



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The Telegraph

26 AUGUST 1990



V S Naipaul, in an extract from his latest book, *India A Million Mutinies Now*, talks to Calcuttans to get a deeper insight into the city

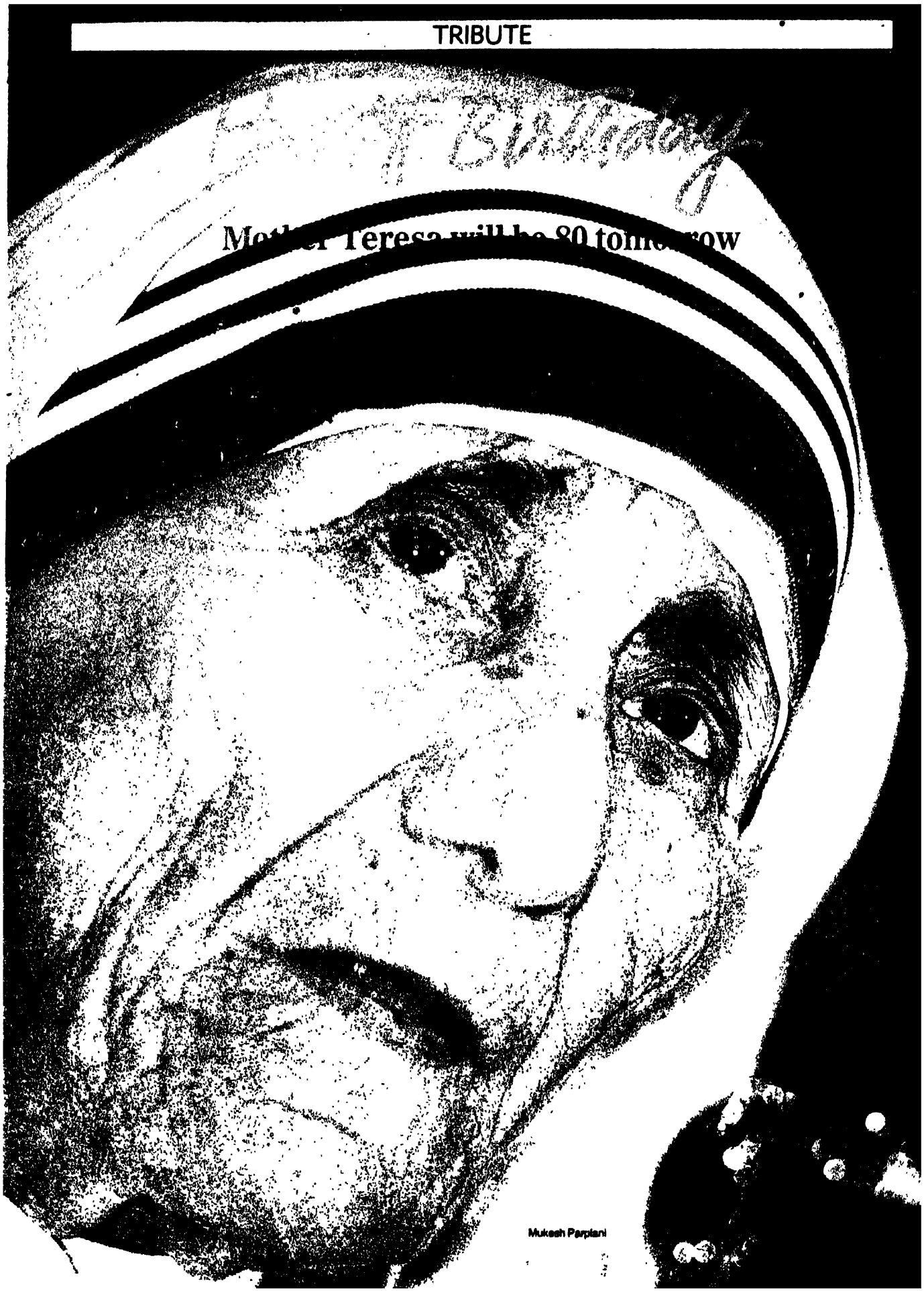
The Oral School for the Deaf in Calcutta completes 25 years this week Its students have shown a great will to overcome their odds and prove a point

A look at the fascinating island of Dominica in the Caribbeans

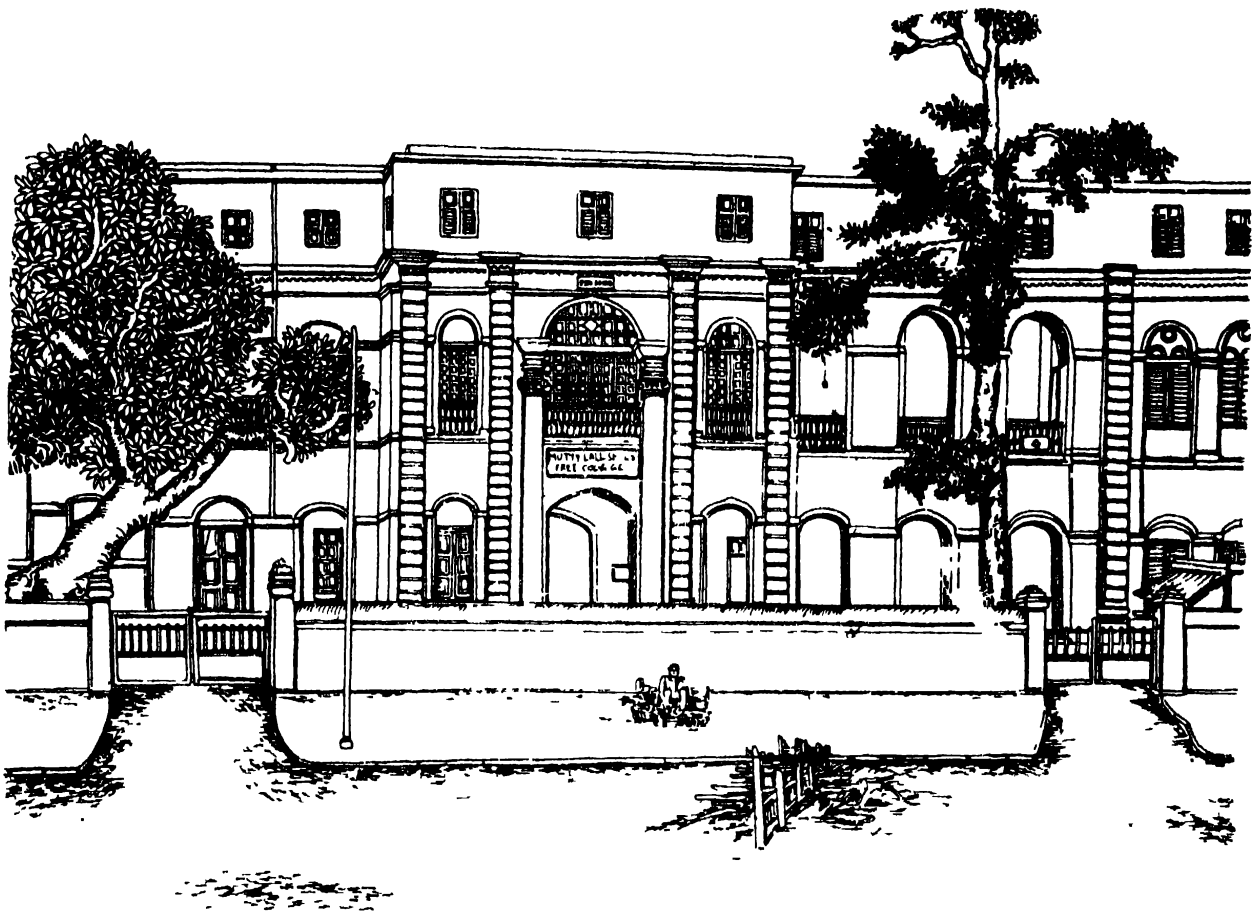
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Cover Anup Ray


Mukesh Parpiani

MUTTY LOLL SEAL'S FREE COLLEGE (Founded 1843)



Situated on Chittaranjan Avenue in central Calcutta, the object of this institution was "to provide for the education of Hindoos so as to fit them to occupy posts of trust and emolument in their own country". The course included English literature in all its branches, history, geography, elocution, writing, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, higher maths, the philosophical sciences and the practical application of maths.

The college was open free of charges to such Hindoos who were selected by the founder. A monthly fee of Re 1, however, was charged to cover books and stationery expenses. The surplus, if any, went towards furnishing the college with mathematical instruments.

The college was put under the direct management of the directors of the parent college of St Francis Xavier, Chowringhee, who appointed teachers as per the demands of the establishment. The number of scholars was limited to 500. The college functioned between 10.30 am and 4.30 pm everyday, except Sundays and restricted holidays.

The institution initially functioned from Baboo Mutty Loll Seal's (1791-1854) house. He had lost his father at an early age and was educated at Martin Bowl's school, Colootola, and Nityananda Sen's school. He worked as *baniyan* to eight European firms before launching his own enterprise. He exported indigo, sugar, silk, saltpetre, etc. and imported cotton piece goods and iron. Later, he diversified into shipping and owned a fleet that competed with foreign liners.

NAIPAUL'S CALCUTTA

In India in 1962 I took much of the British architecture for granted. After what I had known in Trinidad and England, British building in India seemed familiar, not a cause for wonder. Perhaps, too, in 1962, just 15 years after independence, I didn't allow myself to see British Indian architecture except as background. I was saving my wonder for the creations of the Indian past. Even Lutyens's great achievement in New Delhi I saw in a grudging way, finding the scale too grand, looking in his ceremonial buildings for the motifs he had got from the Mogul builders, and finding in his adaptations further evidence of vainglory.

I looked in this partial way even at the lesser architecture of the British, the bungalows and houses built for officials in the country districts. They were pleasant to stay in; with their porticoes and verandahs, thick walls, high ceilings, and sometimes additional upper windows or wall-openings, they were well suited to the climate. But they seemed too grand for the poverty of the Indian countryside. They seemed also to exaggerate the hardships of the Indian climate. So that, though absolutely of India, these British buildings, by their exaggeration, seemed to keep India at a distance.

But the years race on; new ways of feeling and looking can come to one. Indians have been building in free India for 40 years, and what has been put up in that time makes it easier to look at what went before. In free India Indians have built like people without a tradition; they have for the most part done mechanical, surface imitations of the international style. What is not easy to understand is that, unlike the British, Indians have not really built for the Indian climate. They have been too obsessed with imitating the modern; and much of what has been done in this way—the dull, four-square towers of Bombay, packed far too close together, the concrete nonentity of Lucknow and Madras and the residential colonies of New Delhi—can only make hard tropical lives harder and hotter.

Far from extending people's ideas of beauty and grandeur and human possibility—uplifting ideas which very poor people may need more than rich people—much of the architecture of free India has become part of the ugliness and crowd and increasing physical oppression of India. Bad architecture in a poor tropical city is more than an aesthetic matter. It spoils people's day-to-day lives; it wears down their nerves; it generates rages that can flow into many different channels.

This Indian architecture, more disdainful of the people it serves than British Indian architecture ever was, now makes the most matter-of-fact Public Works Department bungalow of the British time seem like a complete architectural thought. And if one goes from there. and considers the range of British building in India, the time span, the varied styles of those two centuries, the developing functions (railway stations, the Victoria Memorial in Calcutta, the Gateway of India in Bombay, the legislative buildings of Lucknow and New Delhi), it becomes obvious that British Indian architecture—which can so easily be taken for granted—is the finest secular architecture in the sub-continent.

The much-reviled, much-admired writer returns to what he calls the British-built city of India after many years. And what does he find?

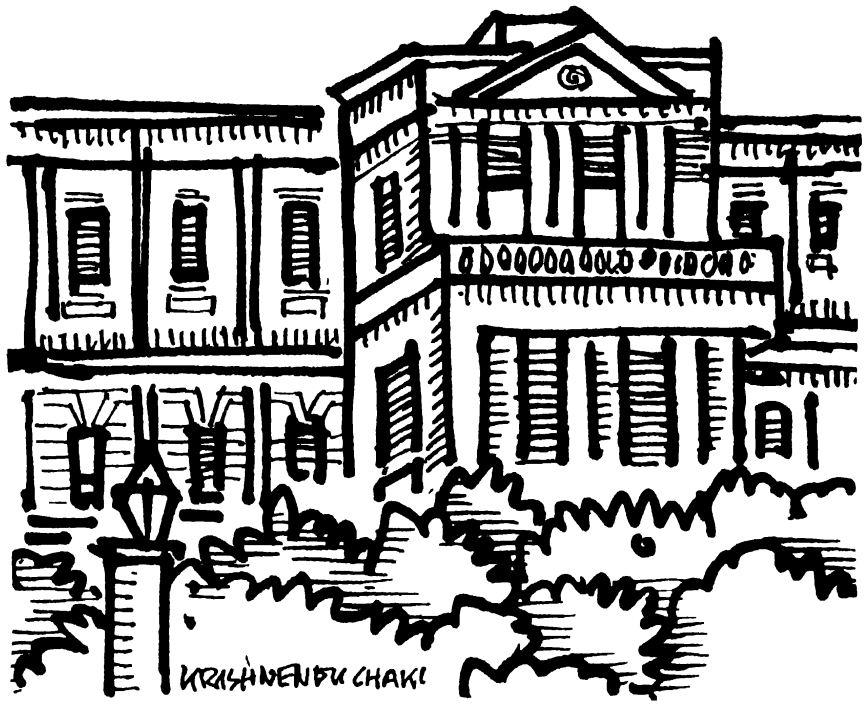
Calcutta, more than New Delhi, is the British-built city of India. It was one of the early centres of British India; it grew with British power, and was steadily embellished; it was the capital of British India until 1930. In the building of Calcutta, known first as the city of palaces, and later as the second city of the British Empire, the British worked with immense confidence, not adapting the styles of Indian rulers, but setting down in India adaptations of the European classical style as emblems of the conquering civilization. But the imperial city, over the 200 years of its development, also became an Indian city; and—being at once a port, a centre of administration and business, education and culture, British and Indian style—it became a city like no other in India. To me at the end of 1962, after some months of Indian small-town and district life, Calcutta gave an immediate feel of the metropolis, with all the visual excitement of a metropolis, and all its suggestions of adventure and profit and heightened human experience.

Twenty-six years later, the grandeur of the British-built city—the wide avenues, the squares, the attractive use of the river and open spaces, the disposition of the places and the public buildings—could still be seen in a ghostly way at night, when the crowds of the day had retreated to their nooks and crannies, to rest for the restless vacuity and torment of the new Calcutta day: the broken roads and footpaths; the brown gasoline-and-kerosene haze adding an extra sting to the fierce sunlight, mixing with the street dust, and coating the skin with gift and grime; the day-long cicada-like screech, rising and falling, of the horns of the world's shabbiest buses and motor-cars. The British-built city could still be seen, even in this ghostly way, because so little had been added since independence; so little had been added since 1962.

Energy and investment had gone to other parts of India. Calcutta had been bypassed, living off its entrails, and giving an illusion of life. Certain buildings in central Calcutta seemed to have received no touch of paint since 1962. On some walls and pillars—as on the walls and pillars of buildings awaiting demolition—old posters and glue had formed a tattered kind of papier-mache crust; you felt that if you tried to scrape off that crust, you might pull away plaster or stucco. The famous colonial clubs—the Bengal Club, the Calcutta Club—were in decay, and Indians now moved in rooms once closed to them. Decay within, decay without: Calcutta in some places had a little of the feel of an abandoned Belgian settlement in central Africa in the 1960s, after Africans had moved in and camped. Camped: it was the word. At independence, with the partition of Bengal into Indian West Bengal and Pakistan East Bengal, there had been a very big movement of refugees from the east. They had camped where they could; they had clogged up large areas in and around the city. And since then the population of the city had doubled.

There was no room by day on the streets or in the large sunburnt parks. There was no place to go walking. You could drive very slowly along a dug-up road and through the crowds to the Tollygunge Club, and there you could go walking on the golf course. But the drive was exhausting; and the drive back, in the kerosene-and-gasoline fumes, undid the little good you might have done yourself. People told you that up to 15 years ago the streets of central Calcutta were washed

Extracted from *India: A Million Mutinies Now* by V.S. Naipaul; Rupa & Co., 1990; Rs 250.



every day. But I had heard that in 1962 as well. Even then, just 15 years after independence, 16 years after the great Hindu-Muslim riots which had marked so many memories, people were looking back to a golden age of Calcutta. The British had built Calcutta and given it their mark And—though the circumstances were fortuitous—when the British ceased to rule, the city began to die.

One of the people I met in Calcutta in 1962 was Chidananda Das Gupta. He worked at the time for the Imperial Tobacco Company, later known less provocatively as the ITC. Because he worked for such a grand British company, Chidananda was one of the select and envied group of Indians known as 'boxwallahs'.

These boxwallahs represented in their own eyes a synthesis of Indian and European culture. They were admired and envied by Indians outside the group because their boxwallah jobs were secure, in addition to being, with the British connection, a badge of breeding. The salaries were very good, among the best in India; and—to add to the boxwallah superfluity—there were company cars and furnished company apartments. And the work was not hard. Any firm a boxwallah worked for more or less monopolised its particular field in India. All that was required of a boxwallah was that he shoud be a man of culture, and well connected, an elegant member of the team.

Chidananda had another interest. He loved the cinema, and was one of the founders of the Calcutta Film Society. It was at the Calcutta Film Society that I met him one evening.

Of the society office I had the merest impression: a dim ceiling light in a small room full of old office furniture Of Chidananda I carried away a boxwallah picture: a slender moustached man of forty in a grey suit.

Chidananda didn't last at ITC He became a film-maker and writer, that became his career, and it took him away from Calcutta Twenty years or so later, as a semi-retired man, he had come back to Calcutta. He worked for half the week as editor of the arts pages of THE TELEGRAPH newspaper. The rest of the week he lived at Shantiniketan, the university founded by Rabindranath Tagore, the poet and patron saint of Bengal.

Shantiniketan was two and a half hours away by train from Calcutta. Chidananda was building a house there, living in the house while it was being built around him I went to see him there one Sunday

Chidananda was at the station to meet me. Twenty-six years on, we were like actors coming on in third act of a play, exiting young at the end of act two, and reappearing with powder or flour on hair and eyebrows. He was in casual Indian clothes (and not in the grey boxwallah suit my memory had fixed him in), and he had an old Ambassador car. It was far cheaper to run here than in Delhi, he said; that was one consideration when he had decided to move to Shantiniketan.

Chidananda first saw Shantiniketan in 1940, when he was nineteen. He was living with his family in the neighbouring province of Bihar, and his father suggested that he should go and spend a holiday there. He stayed in the guest house. He shared a room with an Indonesian teaching batik at the university. It excited Chidananda to be with someone from abroad, and he was also excited by the Indonesian's name, which was Prahasto. This was a name straight out of the Hindu epic, the Mahabharata. Chidananda immediately had a greater idea of India and Asia; and he felt—what Tagore intended students at his university to feel—that in going to Shantiniketan he had gone to a place that was part of the world, not just of India

A few days later Rabindranath made a speech at the temple.

'It was very early in the morning, December, quite cold—there were few houses in Shantiniketan then, much more open ground—and we sat on the cold marble floor in the glass temple, with pieces of glass of various colours. When the sun came up it threw all kinds of colours on the faces and clothes of the people We all sat there and waited for Rabindranath

'He was wheeled in. Then he got up from the wheelchair. He was very tall, but bent with age. He walked in on his own. He was in a white dhoti and koortah and shawl. I was impressed by that sight. It was like an evocation of ancient India, a romantic feeling of encountering a sage from olden times. He sat on a very low stool. Everyone else was seated on the marble, without any spread

'Then the singing began No modern instruments, all traditional instruments, No harmonium, though—Rabindranath disliked it because it has a fixed scale, a western scale, and it is impossible with it to sound the semi-tones or micro-tones which are important to the Indian system of classical music. Then they sang a hymn, one of Rabindranath's hymns

'He read from a prepared text, in Bengali, with Sanskrit quotations. He was a very big man, six foot two, and he looked very strong, and I was struck by the contrast between his voice, which was thin and high, and the largeness of the man I had expected a deep, rich voice. It took a few minutes to overcome that feeling. But very soon the spell of what he was saying took over. This was December 1940, and the war was very much with us. The subject of his address was the crisis in civilization—he was concerned about the movement towards self-destruction.'

So Chidananda was introduced by Tagore to a way of thinking about the world. It was one of the blessings of the Indian independence movement, that many of its leaders should have been men of large vision, capable of looking beyond their Indian cause.

'Here it's only two and a half hours away from Calcutta, but I feel I've come a very long way from my previous incarnation The boxwallah incarnation which you saw in 1962 was quite far away from the roots

of my culture and upbringing.

Chidananda had wanted, when he was a young man, to be a teacher. At one stage he had even wanted to be a Brahmo missionary, like his father. But then his wish to prove himself in the world had led him to advertising and then to the tobacco company.

When the news came that he had got the job, everyone congratulated him. But his wife said, 'Why do you want to take this job? Don't you realize we will become a different kind of people?'

Chidananda said, 'In 1962, when you met me, I was looking after the company's advertising, which was one of the biggest advertising operations in the country. The company itself was a kind of tobacco monopoly dating from the British times. Anything that was made was sold, almost regardless of its quality. I will give you this idea of the complacency of that boxwallah world. There was a highly paid staff manager who spent a large part of his time measuring the carpet that a particular category of officer should get, and discussing the colours of curtains with the wives.

'The boxwallah was manufactured into a highly peculiar animal. The system was created to answer the needs of the British, their life-style, their ways of eating, sitting, sleeping, shitting. The Britishers who came out here for the company looked upon their time in India as a stay in a hotel, where everything was provided—down to the last towel and last spoon—in preparation for the time when they would go back home and buy themselves a house and wash their own clothes. Even servants were provided.

'Within six weeks of joining, I wrote a report saying that the name of the company should be changed from the Imperial Tobacco Company to the ITC. All it caused at the time was laughter.

'Like the administration of the British Empire itself, the commercial empire, which was an extension of the first, separated a handful of Indians from the rest and made them into an integral part of the system of governance. The object was to make them idenfity more with British interests than with Indian interests. This was done in a very subtle way. The British would unhesitatingly serve Indian officers whether in political administration or commercial administration. I don't think this happened with other empires, and it still doesn't happen with foreign companies operating in India. French or American or Japanese companies almost never have one of their nationals serving under an Indian.

'The company was highly hierarchial. There were two distinct classes, officers and men. We, the officers, would have chauffeur-driven cars, and our wives would be provided with separate cars to go out shopping—choosing carpets and curtains. There were colleagues of mine who would straighten their tie if the chairman telephoned, or send the car home to get a fresh jacket if they were going out to lunch. And, of course, at work the officers had separate lavatories.

Energy and investment had gone to other parts of India. Calcutta had been bypassed, living off its entrails, and giving an illusion of life...When the British ceased to rule, the city began to die

'My wife got quickly used to the comforts and loved them. I enjoyed the luxury of the life—it would be hypocrisy to say otherwise. And I must say that way of living left a mark on the nature of our needs in later years.

'My problem was that because of my interest in literature and the cinema I was constantly associating in my private life with people who were utterly different. At the end of the day's work I would go to the office of the Calcutta Film Society. I had founded that along with Satyajit Ray in 1947, the year of independence. Our main work was sticking envelopes and writing addresses. We were lucky to have a fan over our heads—in a dingy office of a film distributor. Here we discussed the greatness of world cinema.

'Ray was closely associated with our work. With his enormous height and his wide shoulders, he came to remind me a great deal of Tagore, and I now see him as the last great representative of the Tagore era. But, unlike Tagore, he has a big, booming voice. He is swarthy; Tagore had fair, delicate skin. In his culture, his Indianness, his universality (not to be compared with fashionable cosmopolitanism), his honesty, Ray has some very Brahmo virtues.

'So I was living a Jekyll and Hyde existence. Western clothes, quite formal, during the day, and the Film Society in the evening. Occasionally a colleague would become curious about my leisure pursuits. He would come to the Film Society to see a French or German film, but he would be repelled by the smell of sweat on the bodies of my close associates, who'd travelled long distances on buses, trams, or walking, and worked all day in offices that were not air-conditioned, and didn't have the means to go back home to change their clothes.

'A very acute illustration of the kind of spiritual disquiet that the Jekyll and Hyde existence caused me came in the shape of something very material. I remember going with my colleagues to the wedding of a British executive of our company with an Indian girl, something that had caused a great deal of consternation in the higher echelons of our management.

'Perforce I was in a western lounge suit, along with my colleagues. Or perhaps it was a lack of strength of will on my part. I found, on that extremely hot and sultry evening, the place full of Bengalis in their comfortable thin poplin koortahs and dhotis. As I was sweating inside my completely unsuitable clothes I suddenly realized which side I belonged to, and I said to myself in disgust, "What have I done to myself?" This incident crystallized a lot of things inside me. I began to consider leaving the company, giving up the style of existence it imposed on its executives.

'I would say there was a lot of underemployment of intelligence in those jobs. Many of us, in sales, went out to the bazaars in Calcutta and in small towns all over the country, but their main job there, I found, consisted in picking up random packets of cigarettes to check the code numbers at the back, which told you how fresh or how stale the cigarettes were.

'So people drifted from breakfast to office to lunch to an outing at the bazaar and then to the club and a late night every night. There was air-conditioning in the office and at home and in the club, so one wouldn't have to spend more than half an hour or an hour without air-conditioning.

'The main virtue of this style of existence was that it prevented you from thinking. If you started thinking it could cause you discomfort. It damaged some of the Indians, permanently affecting their ability to be themselves, and printing on them a kind of pretence. I've seen a fair number of people who've become incapable of holding their own without this protective umbrella. And I've seen people go through an infernal amount of humiliation within the organization.

'These jobs were more or less sinecures. So they would humiliate you by taking away certain visible symbols of authority and leaving you without any work. I've seen people go day in, day out to the office and just sit there, and then go back home—Oxford and Cambridge graduates who, if they had gone into other jobs, might have used their capacities better. The whole office would know about this humiliation. It was made very visible. But for many people resignation was unthinkable. It would have been like being thrown out of a warm and well-lit room into the middle of a winter in northern Sweden.

'At that time Indian business had not expanded that much, and opportunities were very limited. In any case, Indian

businesses wouldn't have given the boxwallahs the kind of life-style they had become used to. Nowadays Indian business will give you certain facilities and very expansive life-styles—provided you deliver the goods. They make certain of that: there are no sinecures left in Indian business.

'By the mid-60s the new movement in business had begun. The realities were closing in on the beleaguered boxwallah regiment. The tobacco company changed. It transformed itself over a short period, 10 years—which is quite short for a change of culture. This transformation was brought about by Indians. The British trained their men, but they didn't try to run the business themselves. Today ITC has diversified and is coping very well with the slowdown in the tobacco business.'

That transformation was proof of the positive side of the boxwallah culture; that positive side had to be remenbered.

'The work ethic was very high. There was a lot of drive and discipline, though they didn't always know what they were driving at. They were at heart good Indians, patriotic Indians. In 1962, at the time of the China war, about the time we met, I remember there was a meeting of the finance committee. The finance director said, "Well, gentlemen, do you think the next meeting of the committee will be held in Peking?" I answered, "Sir, not unless our Prime Minister takes to wearing an umbrella under his arm." And I will say this for the British, they liked this kind of repartee, and respected you for it.'

'The boxwallah was manufactured into a highly peculiar animal. The system was created to answer the needs of the British, their lifestyles, their ways of eating, sitting, sleeping, shitting'

The burnt-out Maoists I had met in Madras had been on the periphery of a much larger peasant movement. This movement had its centre in Bihar and Bengal, almost 1000 miles to the north-east; and it had been at its most active in the late 60s and early 70s. Communism in Bengal had a long history. It was another colonial import, one of the things that had come after the New Learning of the 19th century, and the mixed culture. Even now, in the dead British-built city, and almost as an aspect of its death, there were frequent, solemn communist marches through the litter and rubble and hopelessness. Even now, while a communist party ruled in the state, people could still be moved by the poetry of red flags and revolution.

Dealing in poetry and passion, never really persecuted, at times even hostile to the idea of Indian independence, fighting its own sometimes remote wars, the communist party had split and split. There had been the Communist Party of India; then there had been the Communist Party of India (Marxist); then there had been the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist). It was this last, Maoist faction that had got the peasant revolt going. The revolt had been crushed. But the movement, while it lasted, had attracted and consumed many thousands of educated people in Bengal and other parts of India.

There were survivors. One of them was Dipanjan. He was now a science professor in a college in central Calcutta. It was a real, working college, but physically it was in a state of decay, Calcutta decay.

The signboard was peeling; the windows of the two-storey building were broken. But there was a gate-man, guarding the double gate. He sent me upstairs to Dipanjan, up a narrow, half-walled concrete staircase at the far end of the main building, to a broken-down room with tables with pieces of simple equipment. The uneven floor was unswept, just like that. Dust adhered to all the mouldings or extrusions of the tall dun-coloured doors; the plaster on the wall was broken in many places. The room gave one no sense of applied colour, no sense of surfaces made even or lines made straight.

Dipanjan was a small, slender man with glasses. He wore a short-sleeved beige-coloured shirt and trousers. We went to a tall, cupboard-like room just off a central doorway. A desk and two chairs and some tall metal cupboards took up most of the space. The little bit of wall that could be seen between the cupboards was stained: something brown and oily had dripped down from the window.

I asked Dipanjan, after we had talked for a while, 'Do you see what I see here?'

He said in his soft, steady, precise voice, 'It's like other colleges. It's India.'

But he didn't see all that I saw. He said he could see the equipment on the lab tables: he could ignore what surrounded it. What he did see in a special way, what upset him and worked on his nerves far more than it did on mine, was the unswept dust on the floor.

The college was for drop-outs, he said, 'defeated soldiers' (though they looked active enough and healthy enough in the small college yard). They were people who couldn't get into other colleges. Their chances of getting a job were small—a B.Sc. degree didn't get you a job anyway—and they were not motivated. The girls at the college were better motivated. They didn't have the great need to achieve that the boys had; they didn't have that pressure; and, paradoxically, they made better students. The college wanted more girls. The fees were 30 rupees a month, £1.20, which even in India wasn't a great deal.



In that cramped space off the lecture room we talked that afternoon of his background. In physique and voice, and features and manner, he was a gentle man, a mild man. He would not have stood out in any Calcutta gathering. It wasn't easy to see in him the revolutionary who, 20 years or so before (he was now fortyfive), had gone out into the countryside to live among the peasants, preaching the idea of revolution and then, in accordance with the party directive, calling for the annihilation of certain people, class enemies.

His mother had been from a well-to-do family. Her father had been high up in government service, a member of the IES, the Indian Educational Service. Before that, he had been 'a minor scientist', Dipanjan said. He had devised one of the early instruments for measuring radioactive particles, and had made a name for himself.

I said, 'I don't see how you can call him a minor figure.'

Dipanjan, not losing his evenness of manner, said, 'In Calcutta minor scientists are quite common. This is the city of M.N. Saha, S.N. Bose, J.C. Bose, and P.C. Ray. The first three were Fellows of the Royal Society. It is only recently that Calcutta has become a backwater. Even in the 1960s, Presidency College of Calcutta had a congregation of physics teachers which could hardly have been excelled anywhere else in the world at that time. So you must understand why I cannot look upon my maternal grandfather as anything but a minor scientist.'

In the South, science had grown over two or three generations out of the brahminical tradition of abstract learning. In Bengal, in the British-built city of Calcutta, science had come with the New Learning; scientific achievement had come out of colonial competitiveness and the wish of Indians to prove themselves.

On the father's side, Dipanjan came from the Bengali gentry. It was only on this trip that I had heard this word in India. I had thought of 'gentry' as an English word, suggesting people rooted and attached to ancestral land, and protective towards it. And the word here in Bengal was in fact an English word, from the early 19th century. Dipanjan said, 'The British made the gentry hereditary. From their point of view, they were creating a class of hereditary farmers of revenue.'

Dipanjan's father's family came from the Faridpur district. In 1947 this became part of East Pakistan. The gentry of Faridpur were in the main upper-caste Hindus. They rented out their land; the cultivators were Muslims and Hindus of the scheduled castes. During the Hindu-Muslim massacres in Bengal in 1946-47, the Hindus of Faridpur had to flee: not only the upper-caste landowners, but also the scheduled-caste cultivators. But long before that flight from Faridpur, Dipanjan's father's family had become impoverished. The ancestral land of the family had been so divided that all that had come to Dipanjan's grandfather (and his dependents) was one room in the big ancestral family house.

In 1940 or thereabouts, while he was studying in college, and when he was seventeen or eighteen, Dipanjan's father became a communist. Dipanjan never thought to ask his father later why he had become a communist: he took it as normal. Membership of the party was a serious affair. When, in 1943, Dipanjan's father wanted to get married, he had to get the permission of the party, because his prospective bride came from a family that was in government service. The party gave its permission on condition that Dipanjan's prospective father-in-law (the minor scientist, the IES officer) made out a cheque—for any sum—payable to the Communist Party of India.

After the war, in 1946, when Dipanjan was two and half years old, the party advised Dipanjan's father and mother to go to Hungary for their higher studies. Dipanjan was left behind with his grandparents. Dipanjan's father and mother returned in 1950—after all the upheavals of partition and independence. Dipanjan's mother had done a teacher-training course in Hungary; she was able to get a job soon after she came back to Calcutta. But Dipanjan's father, who had become a Ph.D. in biochemistry, couldn't get a proper job. He moved from one unsatisfactory position to another until 1955, when he found something in his own field; and then he left the Communist Party. And just as Dipanjan had never asked his father why he had become a communist, so he never thought later to ask his father why he had left the party: it wasn't in the Hindu or Indian tradition, this questioning of elders by young people. There was an odd relic of that Hungarian interlude of his parents: they had both learned Hungarian, and in Calcutta it became their private language, when they wanted to keep things from Dipanjan.

High up on the wall, just below the ceiling, was a large framed photograph. It was a photograph of J.C. Bose, the scientist whose name Dipanjan spoke with reverence. There was an intention of honour; but, in that setting, whatever work the great man might have done seemed to have led to nothing

Dipanjan developed asthma when he was seven, in 1951. His mother became protective; the boy lived a retired life, drawing sustenance from books. There were many books in the apartment. There were his father's communist books. There were also the books of the father's uncle, to whom the apartment belonged. This uncle was a nationalist; he had books that took the nationalist side. But Dipanjan at that time was not too interested in politics.

He was getting, though, some ideas about the world. In 1952 he had gone with his mother to a slum, where she was teaching children the alphabet: this was party work. He had also gone sometimes to see some of his grandfather's relatives who had fled from Faridpur in East Bengal. These relatives were living in one of the refugee colonies around Calcutta. Dipanjan didn't understand at the time; but later, when he began to read about the events of 1947, he remembered the refugee colonies he had gone to as a child, and the events had more meaning for him. But he didn't think that his generation had been influenced politically by partition.

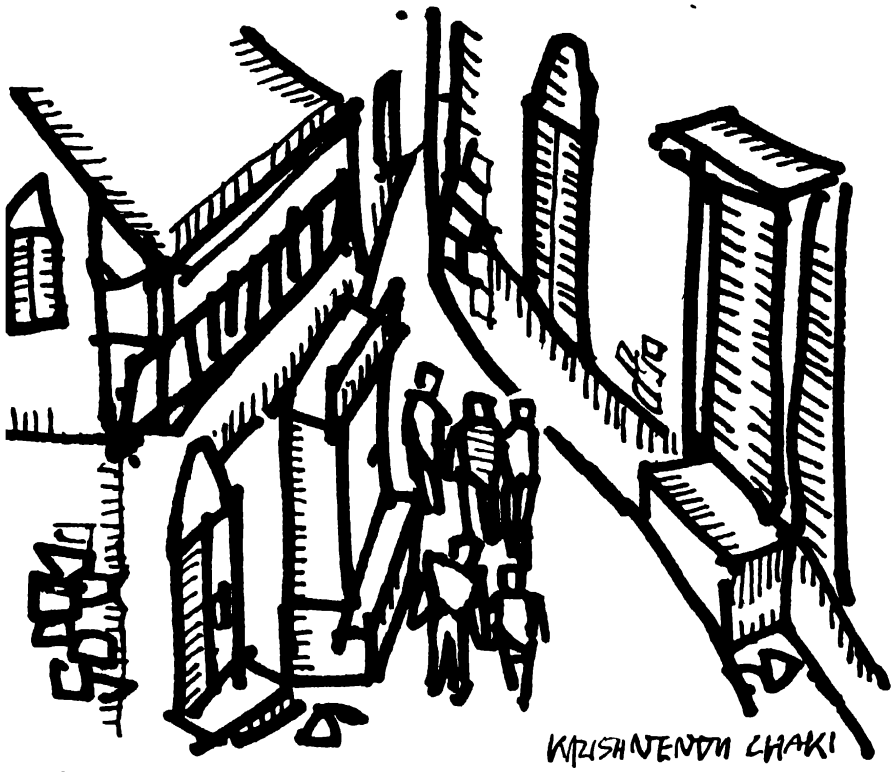
He was good at his studies. 'My mother slowly became ambitious for me. And now, with hindsight, I think that must have taken up a lot of my mental space. In 1960, when I was sixteen and about to leave school, my major preoccupations were shining academically and writing poetry. I had become interested in literature, and was writing in Bengali and English.'

He was romantic, but in that setting there was no opportunity for him to meet girls. What was open to him, though, was the city of Calcutta. 'I was fond of the city even then, and even now I am fond of it. My roots are only in Calcutta. I have no village in Bengal to which I can lay claim. I felt Calcutta as a very living city, because Bengali poetry had become really modern in Calcutta, after Rabindranath and after the revolt against him.'

What about the crowds and dirt of Calcutta? Did he see that, or react to it?

'Calcutta has always been like this. It was even worse in British times. To a Calcuttan it is the perennial challenge—to rise above the all-absorbing task of just keeping yourself clean, which is time-consuming, energy-consuming. The challenge is how to do that and find time for other more significant things. That is the challenge faced by the ivory-tower intellectual and the rickshawpuller.

'In J.C. Bose's time there were not many underground drains in the Indian areas of Calcutta. The drains would have been ditches.



'We are cursed with a corrupt corporate life Cleaning the streets is a corporate act, and they will never be cleaned. Corruption here is a way of life, and it has existed here from the time of the East India Company.'

It was now the end of the working day. The motor-car horns and hooters were shrieking a little more exuberantly or impatiently in the streets outside The college attendant who had brought tea and sodas—adding wet rings to the little stained table at which we sat—now came to close up, and to padlock doors.

Dipanjan took me down to the staff room on the lower floor. No one was there. The room had an enclosed, damp, musty smell, which not even the ceiling fan could blow away. In one corner there was a small, rough, chalk-faded blackboard, crookedly hung. No piece of woodwork or joinery was elegant or finished. What would have been the effect on the teachers? And on the students, the defeated soldiers?

High up on the wall, just below the ceiling, was a large framed photograph. It was a photograph of J.C. Bose, the scientist whose name Dipanjan spoke with reverence. There was an intention of honour; but, in that setting, whatever work the great man might have done seemed to have led to nothing.

The next day was Dipanjan's day off from college, and he thought I should come to where he lived. This was in South Calcutta, in a lane so hard to find he drew a detailed map for me to give to the car-driver Someone whom I consulted thought the journey might take up to an hour, depending on the traffic So I started early.

The traffic was easy that morning, but after some time the city thoroughfare appeared to shrink, to collapse in on itself from its increased human density. The roadway narrowed; roadside huts and lean-tos, without pronounced colour, just a mish-mash of brown and black and grey, appearing to encroach on space meant for vehicles, hid the solider concrete buildings behind them, and gave the impression of a very long village road set in dirt, such freshness as had come with the morning already burnt up here by brown traffic fumes and sun-shot traffic dust. What seemed to threaten in many places in central Calcutta appeared to have happened here: it was like witnessing the creation of a ruin: a large inhabited city was reverting to earth.

Forty years before, he said, all this area was rice land. This was one of the areas outside Calcutta where refugees from East Pakistan had settled after 1947.

Dipanjan's apartment was the lower floor of a small two-storey house. His landlord lived upstairs. Dipanjan made me take my shoes off in the little verandah, which was just a few feet away from the lane. The front room was a combined bedroom and sitting room. It was 10 feet by 10 feet. 'And what is worse', Dipanjan said, 'by 10 feet'. He meant that the room was 10 feet high as well: an absolute little cube.

There was a big bed in one corner. There was also a cane-bottomed settee; bookcases full of books and papers in apparent disorder; and some red box files in another corner. The apartment had another room, for the children; and there was also a space—it was the word Dipanjan used: he didn't say 'room'—with the kitchen at one end and the bathroom and W.C. at the other end.

The two children had been waiting to see their father's guest. The elder was a girl of nineteen, who was studying to be an engineer at the university of Jadavpur, not far away. She was smiling, open, handsome, with glasses; there was an outgoing quality about her which I had not seen so far in her father. She said mischievously of her plump brother, who was thirteen and was clearly going to be physically bigger than his father: 'He wants to go to America.' It must have been partly true, partly teasing; but the brother took it well. And then they were both off, into the little verandah, and then a few steps down into the lane.

Dipanjan had moved into the apartment in 1980. They were quite cramped there now; but they didn't think so in 1980. The children felt cramped, though. The little apartment cost 600 rupees a month, £24. There were some neatly kept houses around. There was a nice small house next door, with a hibiscus shrub against the ochre-coloured wall, really quite close to the windows of the room in which we were. That house belonged to an ayurvedic doctor, someone practising traditional Hindu medicine.

They had nice neighbours in the lane; they couldn't complain about that; but the house was terribly dusty. That was why Dipanjan was so particular about getting me to take off my shoes: to keep out the dust which my shoes might have brought in. Trucks often went down the narrow lane; when they did, dust blew straight into the house. And there were mosquitoes.

Dipanjan said, 'That reminds me. I should put on a coil.'

He went to the inner 'space'—his long dhoti was brown or beige, with a plaid or check pattern—and he came out after a while not with the green mosquito coil I was expecting, but with a plastic blue Japanese 'gadget'—Dipanjan's word—that had to be plugged into a power point. The chemical in the plastic container was released by heat.

A sweeping woman, speaking no word, looking at no one, bending down low from the waist, her legs quite straight, passed through the front room, flicking her little broom at those small areas of the terrazzo floor that were not covered by furniture or the red box files.

• *To be concluded*



ARIES

March 21—April 20

Journey ceremony, functions, childbirth, travel and a lucky break are the week s highlights Your work will be done, so give your best Your heart will certainly do the new rap and talk to a musical beat Chunks of money and plenty of opportunities come your way Travel is signified, including overseas collaborations Health poses no major problem Changes in the home and family will be for the better and may involve visitors trips hobbies, romance and marriage

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Loans funds children creative pursuits, hobbies and entertainment keep you busy The home, house and property once again figures prominently for both business and pleasure Romance will not be denied and will not take a backseat Those in trade, commission and business do exceptionally well Work may force you to undertake a journey

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Contacts collaborations, interviews, assignments, contracts and legal deeds dominate the week Romance is strongly emphasised around August 28 In finance, outgoings will be considerable but you will make both ends meet Commuting trips and newsy letters are favourably signified Watch you health, specially on August 30 and 31 Changes in the home may be in process but that does not include kids and elders

CANCER

June 21—July 20

The accent this week is on the work frontier News and messages will certainly be of prime importance as will be trips and connections You will have your share of romance, so do not worry Financial deals and expansions are indicated during the next 21 days Needless worries cause health problem, otherwise you have the energy to go ahead Buying, selling,investing and decorating are foretold

LEO

July 21—August 21

The week is replete with a tremendous burst of activity You will organise and be exceptionally creative and imaginative Those in journalism, sports, entertainment the arts, research, education, technology, science, media and communication will do well Romance will blossom and childbirth is probable Travel is one of the dominant directions, and this includes communication

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Home, property, long-distance connections, news romance deals, negotiations and trade-offs favourably signified Romance will be up your street and you will relish it Travel only if necessary, as there will be plenty to occupy your attention now Somehow health and trips are inter-related Health of others may cause some concern

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

It is time to move—mentally, physically emotionally and spiritually You will have to spend a lot Open as well as secret alliances and rendezvous are destined In finance, what you do now will have a cumulative effect in December latest, as you will take the right decisions Travel is destined as usual Your health will withstand all pressures and emergencies

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Money, promotion and power are the week's highlights You will now make an extra effort to get to the top Success is certain in September In finance, be friendly, set a fast pace and open up avenues of expansion and growth Entertain lavishly for future benefits In romance, you will sing the eternal song of love

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

The moon s quarter in your sign gives you the necessary impetus for change, expansion or a totally new direction Work and love probably go hand in hand Be amiable but not very intimate Schemes for making money expanding and opening a new branch have an excellent chance of success. Expect a new position shortly

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Journey contacts collaborations and a certain satisfaction in doing your duty are the week s main trends In romance, expect more coop eration, thanks to Venus New beginnings, expansion, investments buyng and selling are foretold Healthwise there will be a marked improvement

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Loans funds emotional ties and innocent and splendid relationships are predicted You are in for a torrid and fender romance Investments and business links are foretold Travel is on the cards, including transfers and shifts Rest and hobbies lead to better health

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Links, connections and a new high in income, expenses and position including job, trade and profession are indicated Loans, repayment of debt, reshuffle of staff and a new, major assignment are also predicted Romance is certainly meant for you, thanks to Mars Passion characterises your love You must learn to live in a changing situation if you want to be in the pink of health A trip with a stopover is indicated

BIRTHDAYS

August 26

Moon conjunction Pluto This makes you dynamic and restless and therefore you will strive with all your might to crash through all sorts of barriers and obstacles Success is foretold Be generous to the underdog and the downtrodden, and you will be blessed

August 27

Moon sextile Saturn Long-range benefits could accrue if you play your cards well You might have to balance love and business Travel stars are strong and children give satisfaction

August 28

Moon trine Jupiter Home, property, parents, in-laws, travel and collaborations are what the year is really about Be ready to take the initiative and continue persistently That is the astro way to make it big

August 29

Moon trine Venus Luxuries, comforts, investments and property form the quartet this birthyear A sudden journey and hectic communication are indicated A bout of love may end in a permanent relationship

August 30

Moon conjunction Uranus Those in electronics, publicity, sales and management do splendidly Children, hobbies and sports give ample joy In your line of work, anticipate changes

August 31

Moon trine Sun Look before you leap and all will be well Despite rivalry and bad blood you will finally win the game, thanks to the moon-Saturn conjunction Foreign connections, outings, journeys and a home away from home are the other outstanding trends of this birthyear

September 1

The Sun-Moon sextile leads to pleasure and profits, so you can eat your cake and have it Travel, sales, creativity, marriage, business collaborations and publicity are only a few of the outstanding features of your birthday.

THE POSITIVE Personality OF VIRGO





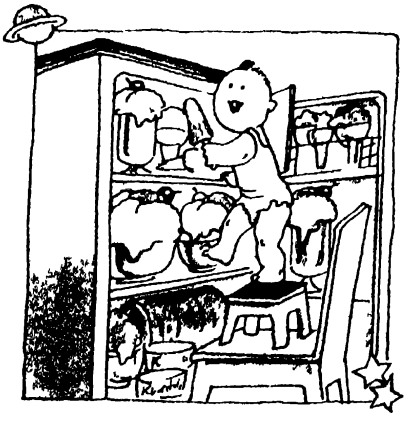
She savours fine literature



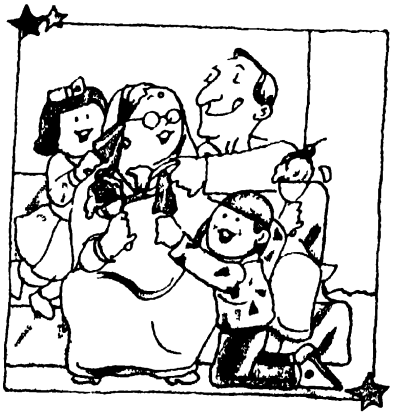
He travels with a warm attitude



A perfectionist down to the last mouth watering detail



To him success at work!



She caps up love and kissed



We've all the quality of a real virgo

Speaking Volumes

While the city celebrates its tercentenary with much fanfare, tucked away in a small apartment in Short Street, about 30 students along with their teachers are preparing for the 25th birthday of their school on August 31 Silently

For the students of the Oral School for the Deaf, the only means of communication is silence And yet, "I feel the same as any normal person because I can talk," says Gopal Bhattacharya, a computer professional and an ex-student, communicating in sign language "I don't understand why people keep staring at us when we talk in sign language. Or at our hearing aids " "So many people wear spectacles Then why aren't they being stared at?" asks Bum Ray 'We are as normal as anyone else," she emphasises

Walking into the classrooms at 4B, Short Street, one is amazed at the friendliness of the students From the tiniest tot to the bubbly teenager, everyone greets you with a lovely smile and a "Hello, I am Bubla" or "I am Navneet " "What's your name?" they ask, trying to reach across and break the thin line that separates the hearing impaired from their more fortunate friends

Founded in 1964 by Dhun Adenwalla with a few students and staff of three, the school now has over 30 students with a supporting staff of 10 It all began when Adenwalla's nine year old deaf daughter, Dinaz, had problems stydying in a normal school After completing a course in education for the deaf in Bombay, she opened the Oral School for the Deaf in Calcutta The initial financial support came from the Lions Club and Dunlop, who provided space for the school in their Free School premises They shifted to the present site in 1971

According to Rita Joshi, the principal, who joined the school in 1967 after having received specialised training in the field at Manchester University, "Deafness is usually inherited and chances are that, the first two issues are most likely to be affected Other causes are early attacks of polio or meningitis or overdose of drugs such as streptomycin "

What she laments most is the lack of awareness of the problem in India. "It is unfortunate that most parents are misguided and develop complexes. When their children fail to respond to sound or talk, they are falsely reassured by relations that their babies are late starters A lot of money is wasted on ENT specialists and speech therapists but there is no medical cure for sensory neural deafness All a therapist can do is teach a few words This way a lot of valuable time is lost



Suman Datta

Learning to mime



A class in progress

Therefore the child should be referred to a school for the deaf immediately. Then the chances of speech recovery and improvement of voice quality are greater. The universal ratio of deafness is one in a 1000 and hence there should be regular screenings to check deafness in children."

The children, being deprived of the sense of sound, usually develop a livelier sense of colour. "All writing is illustrated. Everything is drawn in order to help give them a visual image to recall," says Chitra Dhavle, who has been teaching here for the past six years. Visual aids include real objects and pictures. Everything is concretised and hence nouns are blue, verbs are red, adjectives green and prepositions yellow. This helps in establishing a pattern. The child is taught to use every facility he has, including, sign language, lip



All writing is illustrated

reading and the American finger spelling (using only one hand) instead of the conventional British system (using both hands). The medium of instruction is however, English, because of the cosmopolitan background of the students. The school is affiliated to ICSE and follows the prescribed syllabus. The only concession is the exemption of second language and half an hour extra time during the examinations. Some of the students have had outstanding results.

After having spent cloistered years in school, don't the children have problems adjusting to the outside world? "Not really", says Kumkum Jalan, a teacher. "In fact deaf children are very responsive and like to interact with people. Some of our ex-students have done very well for themselves. Ali Hossein, holds a full-time job as a commercial artist in Lintas and also teaches commercial art in Jadavpur University. Sumita Kar, is working as an art restorer in Victoria Memorial. Dinaz, one

Mural done by the students of the Oral School



The Oral School for the Deaf is 25 years old this week. Nandita Chaudhuri found among its students, both past and present, an indomitable will to overcome the sound barrier

of the first students, has embarked on a career of teaching the deaf in Rhode Island (in the US). So the common notion of 'deaf and dumb' is wholly incorrect and grossly prejudiced."

According to Sheila Mandody, who is in charge of the secretarial course at the Buntain Education Centre, deaf students make good copy typists. She took in a few students from the Oral School and "they seem fully equipped, almost like normal students, if not better. They are more conscientious and never waste time. Also, they are very friendly by nature and get along famously with the other students." Sandeep Kedia is an outstanding example. With a speed of 40 words per minute, he has just appeared for the Pitman's Examination and Mrs Mandody is eagerly awaiting his results from London.

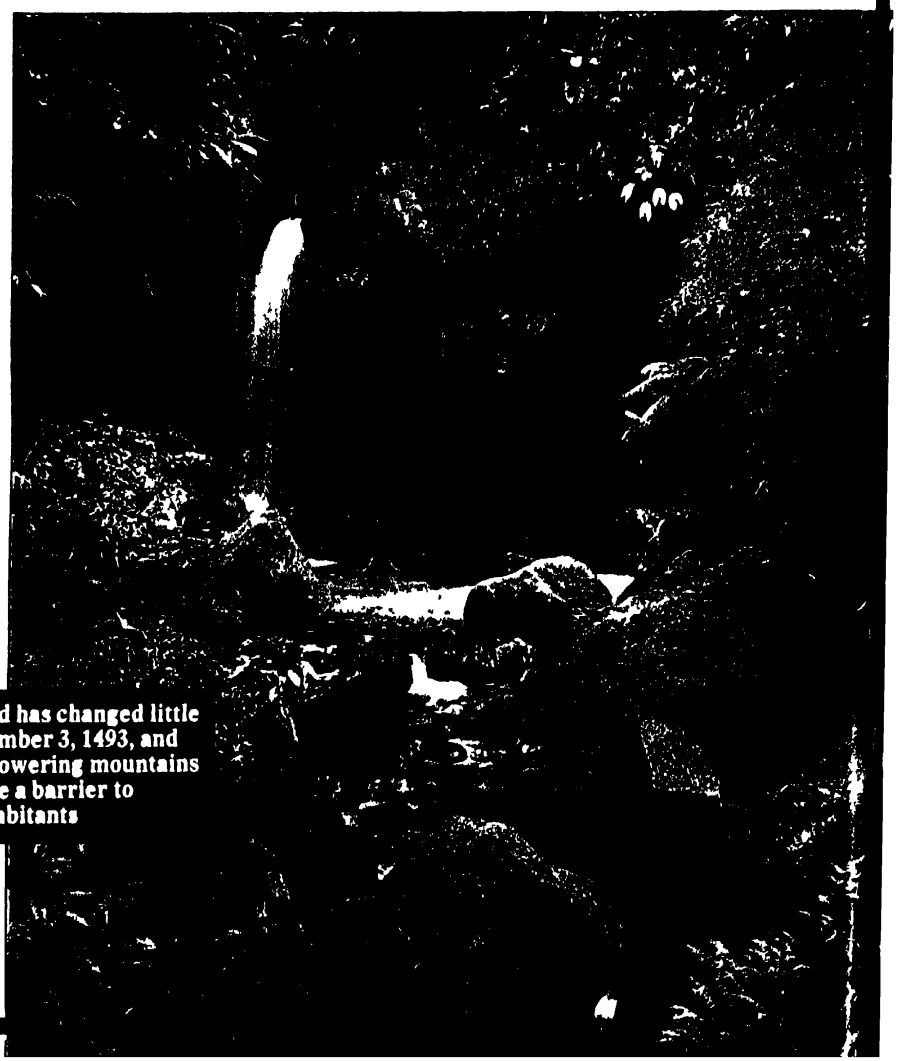
The Oral School, in addition to having very well-trained teachers, is also well-equipped with auditory hearing machines which amplify sound in a group, audiometer to test hearing and hearing aid analyser to check how well the hearing aids are working. Apart from the regular subjects, children are also taught mime and art. Right now, they are busy helping out with the mural they plan to contribute to the city's tercentenary as part of their silver jubilee celebrations. "Our main problem is the lack of space," says Kumkum Jalan. "Though we have a very healthy teacher-student ratio of 1:4, we cannot admit more students for want of space." Sadly lacking are much-needed sports facilities. The children are allowed to use the nearby St Xavier's School grounds once in a week, which is hardly enough.

Under the auspices of the Oral School, Zarin Chaudhuri, founded The Action Players in 1973, the only company of deaf performers in India. Over the years they have staged some very good productions, including *Sense & Nonsense, Prime Time Mime, You Light Up My Life* and very recently, Satyajit Ray's *Patol Babu, Film Star*. As part of their silver jubilee, the children will be putting up *Funny Folk* for the television audience. "We want people to know that deaf people can do something too," says Burn Ray of The Action Players, who has trained for a month at the National Theatre of the Deaf at Chester, US.

Ritu Joshi, after watching *Mandy*, a movie about a deaf girl, was so moved that she decided to devote her time to teaching deaf children. She feels that the understanding and support of the parents, "especially the mother, is essential for the progress of a deaf child." The Oral School has also opened a weekly clinic on Saturdays, where counsel is given to parents of deaf children. But the most important thing is that deaf people be given an understanding ear, for beneath their silent exterior, lies a mind bubbling with enthusiasm and friendliness, just waiting to be 'heard.' ■

PANORAMA





Massive and rainswept, this Caribbean island has changed little since Columbus sailed past on Sunday, November 3, 1493, and christened it Dominica for the Lord's Day. Towering mountains that define this paradise of nature also create a barrier to agriculture and a difficult life for island inhabitants

They descended into the Valley of Desolation in Roseau Dominica where almost nothing lives Noxious fumes seeping from the earth had stained the bare rocks brown yellow and red Minerals leaching to the surface made what water there was run milky white or ink black Vents in the ground roared like jet engines

Then up one last hill around a bend and we stood exhausted looking down into Boiling Lake says Robert Booth in his portrait of Dominica the Caribbean's mountainous island state in the *National Geographic*

Although many of Dominica's 290 square miles are clad in opulent shades of woodland green Boiling Lake is a favoured destination for many of the island's more adventurous visitors The site is actually a flooded fumerole a volcanic hole More than 200 ft across it is the largest of its kind in the world The 10 mile round trip climb to reach it passes near the centre of the 17 000 acre Morne Trois Pitons National Park where the island's violent prehistory still percolates

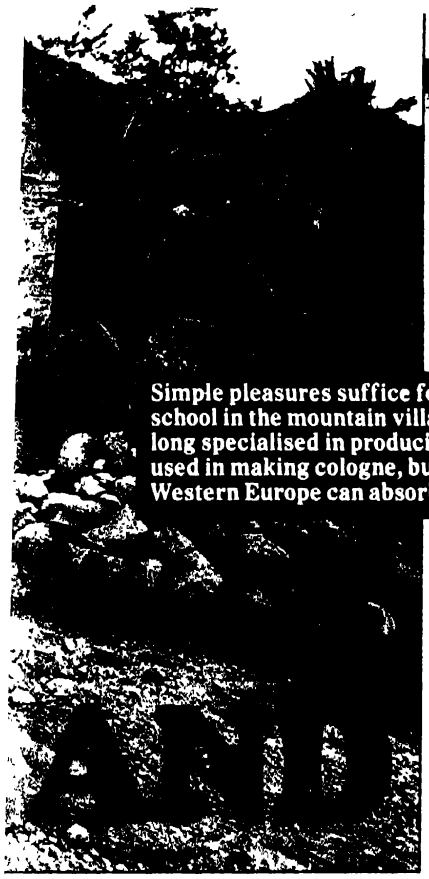
We set out early from the village of Laudat detouring around Titous Gorge an ancient volcanic fissure with a waterfall at one end that strong swimming can reach Booth says

Booth's party included photographer Bruce Dale and his wife Joyce As they moved deeper into the forest they heard the hauntingly pure two note call of the siffleur montagne or mountain whistler The shy bird seemed to be keeping pace with them though they never caught sight of it

We had to watch where we put our feet but it was impossible not to stop and look up at the giants of the rain forest huge gommier trees their smooth thick trunks rising like stone pillars 120 ft above the forest floor and equally spectacular chataigner trees anchored by massive buttress roots

The party paused for a bite and a breather at Breakfast River and checked their canteens This was the last potable water they would encounter From there they would scale 3 000 ft Morne Nicholls and then descend into the Valley of Desolation Already there was a hint of sulphur in the air The trees grew smaller as they climbed, giving way finally to the stunted foliage known as elfin woodland

"I understood British author Alec Waugh's reaction to Dominica and its dominant colour," says Booth "He had



Simple pleasures suffice for Dominican children home from school in the mountain village of Petite Savanne. The village has long specialised in producing oil from bay leaves, an extract used in making cologne, but the market in the United States and Western Europe can absorb only limited quantities



Both challenging and beautiful, that's Dominica in the Caribbeans

Jewel of 17,000-acre Morne Trois Pitons National Park, Emerald Pool and its cascade delight both Dominicans and tourists. Trails ascend into tropical rain forest, part of the greatest expanse remaining in the Caribbean islands. Dominica's rocky coast, however, offers few beaches to sunseekers

never thought of green as being a colour that could dazzle you... that a single colour could combine so many varieties of tone and texture. It did so now, everywhere I looked—except for a steaming slice of landscape below us."

After a difficult downhill scramble, they entered the aptly named valley, which was devoid of life. "The noise and fumes suddenly brought to mind an incongruous image—the New Jersey Turnpike as it passes Newark Airport." Finally, after climbing one last hill and going around a bend, they stood at the edge of Boiling Lake.

"At first all we could see was a cloud of steam. Then a puff of wind revealed the bubbling, belching, gray cauldron. The world's largest Jacuzzi, I thought, but a bit too warm for comfort. There is a tale of an unfortunate visitor who fell in and was quickly poached."

The party broke out peanut-butter sandwiches to go with their celebratory rum punch, complete with freshly grated nutmeg. "Getting to the lake had been half the fun, and now seeing it was the other half. Which means the trek was no fun at all."

Not all of Dominica is such a strenuous challenge. Snorkelers have only to jump into the water, just about anywhere, for a glimpse of the undersea life that surrounds the island. Scuba gear allows a deeper look at the coral gardens, sheer undersea walls and windowpane visibility that led a US diving magazine to extol Dominica as one of the top dive spots in the world.

Booth's underwater guide, Derek Perryman, tapped him and pointed to something above them. "Silhouetted against the shining surface was a lone translucent squid. It remained motionless as we approached and let us stroke it for a few moments before it jetted into the blue distance. Back on board, Derek said that in all his years of diving, a squid had never allowed him to get so close."

Back on land, Booth met Lennox Honychurch, a 37-year-old historian, author, artist, television talk-show host and former member of parliament. Honychurch is restoring the 18th-century ruin of Fort Shirley atop the Cabrits headland that stands guard over Prince Ruperts Bay, Dominica's finest harbour.

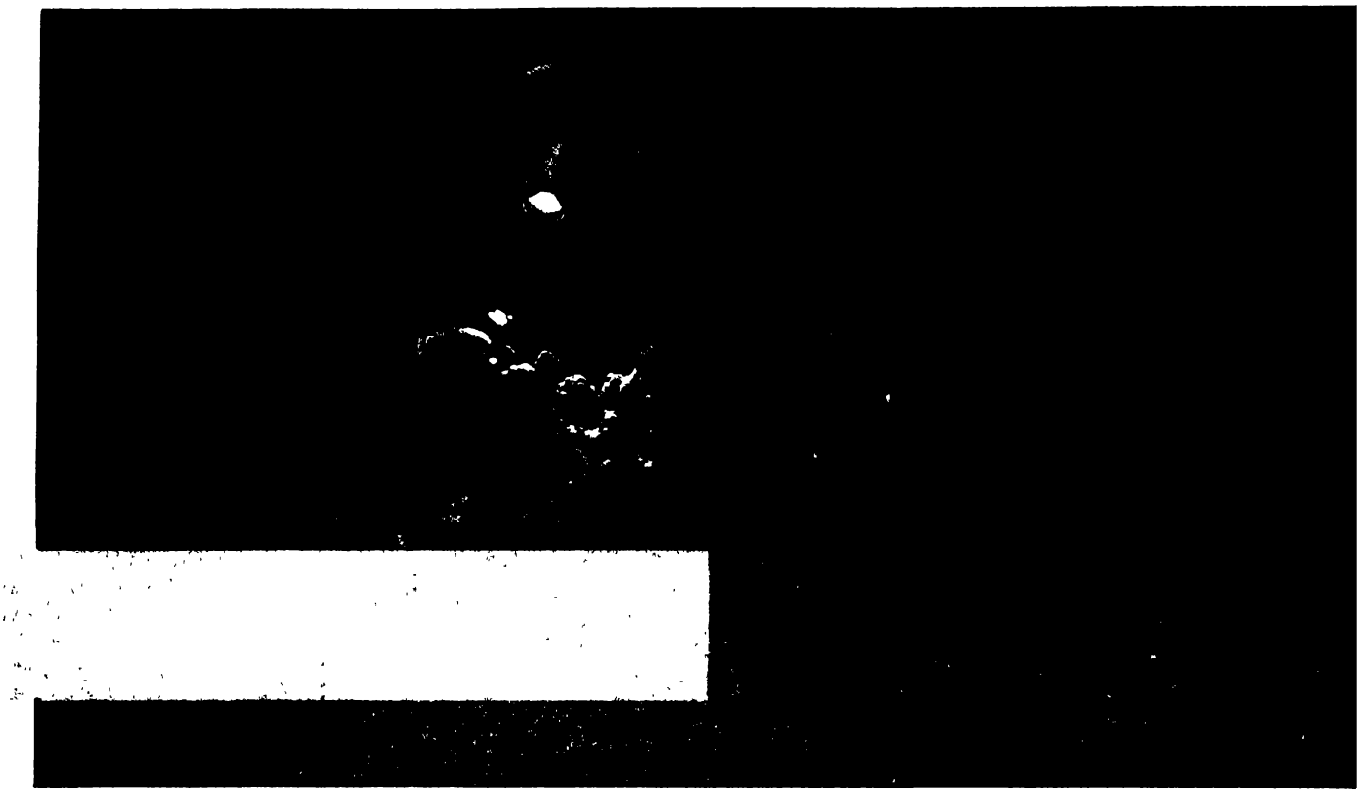
On a ride toward the ruin in a four-wheel-drive pickup, they wound along the coast, passing through a string of small villages. "Always there were more people on the road than vehicles," says Booth. "Everyone seemed to know Lennox, who stopped whenever he was flagged for a lift—one of the reasons he is immensely popular."

The fort itself is an impressive complex, with seven gun batteries and quarters for 600 men. Restoration is complete on several of the stone buildings, though many more await. Honychurch says the installation, built with slave labour, was such a deterrent that it was never involved in a battle.

"Long before the fort, ships regularly stopped here to take on fresh water," he told Booth. "Drake, Hawkins, Nelson—they all came here. The Jamestown settlers stayed two days before sailing for Virginia."

History will soon repeat itself, but this time ships will be unloading, when construction of a new cruise-ship dock is completed. Tourism is a subject that Honychurch views with caution, saying that Dominica should never become like Antigua, with its casinos and free ports, "prostituting our island to anybody who can flash a little money."

Dominica, in his view, is a rural farming community. "People cannot expect it to provide them with the US lifestyle they see on TV. When Dominicans talk about their standard of living, they don't tend to take into account natural things, like being able to dive into a river and drink the



water they're swimming in."

Honychurch sees Dominica as standing at a crossroads. "We must be wise in the decisions we take," he says. "There is a certain fragileness to everything you see here in terms of political, economic, and social stability. It is rather like the crust of a pie: If something goes wrong, it could quite easily collapse."

As rich as Dominica is in natural beauty, it is economically impoverished—a condition due in large part to its mountainous geography. Dominica, 29 miles long and 13 wide, is a vertical land, the Caribbean's most mountainous island, with volcanic peaks rising nearly 5,000 ft.

It is high enough to create its own weather, so Dominica is also the wettest island, receiving 300 inches of rain a year in some areas. With freshwater lakes and 365 rivers (one for every day of the year, it is said), Dominica actually exports water to its drier neighbours.

The climate, along with the island's mostly rocky and therefore mostly beachless coastline, has prevented the establishment of big-time tourism. The 300 hotel rooms are never full, and at present no island airport can accommodate standard commercial jets.

Instead, agriculture forms the backbone of the economy. Just about anything (including fence posts) will take root in the rich volcanic soil. But farming the mountain slopes is backbreaking, often a break-even proposition at best. And so Dominica is also one of the poorest islands in the Caribbean.

Yet, the mountains that make life so hard shield one of the world's last oceanic rain forests. They also shield Dominica's culture from the shock of rapid development. Indeed, for good or ill, the mountains in large measure define the island, protecting it and inhibiting it. And it was ever thus.

Christopher Columbus discovered the island during his second New World voyage. He named it Dominica in honour of the Lord's Day. The fleet found no suitable anchorage along the rugged windward coast and sailed north without landing, but the island made a lasting impression. One expedition member reported: "Dominica is remarkable for the beauty of its mountains and the amenity of its verdure and must be seen to be believed." Columbus on his return to Spain described the island to Ferdinand and Isabella by placing before them a crumpled sheet of paper.

For the next two centuries, European powers mainly avoided Dominica in favour of easier prizes. During the 1700s it bounced between French and British control, with Britain securing permanent possession in 1805.

The French left their mark, however: Today most of the 83,000 residents, nearly all descended from African slaves of European planters, are Roman Catholic. And though English is the official language, most citizens also speak a French patois. Britain finally granted full independence on November 3, 1978, the 485th anniversary of Columbus' visit.

Today the fickle winds of global economics threaten the island's principal source of income. With its steep terrain and small plots, Dominica cannot compete with agribusiness operations like those in Colombia and Ecuador. So for many years Great Britain has bought Dominica's bananas at a premium, out of consideration for its long colonial relationship. But in 1992 Western Europe is set to become a single economic entity—essentially without borders. For Dominica, that is a potential catastrophe.

Although not all believe Britain would abandon Dominica in the new economic order, the island government is using the spectre of 1992 to prod farmers to diversify and bring their production costs down.

In the forest one day, Booth and his companions heard a distinctive, hoarse call and then caught sight of a bird winging by them in a flash of green. It was *Amazona imperialis*, the imperial, or Sisserou, parrot—among the largest and loveliest parrots in the world.

The Sisserou is found only in Dominica, where there may be as few as 60 left in the wild. The island has adopted the great bird as its national symbol.

"It's an appropriate choice, because both bird and nation share the gift of rare beauty," says Booth. "They also share something else—a daunting struggle for survival."

(National Geographic News Service)



A peep into Nabaneeta Dev Sen's research on the eternal woman

The Feminist Sita

It's showtime here with *Ramayan* again in the air No, it's not the same old story. This time it is written by an insider Sita. Versing her intriguing tale is a poet from 16th century Bengal, Chandrabati Devi.

Here Sita isn't the docile, coy nymphet of Doordarshan who weeps prettily and profusely at her husband's feet and begs him to send her into exile Instead, she is a loner, in search of her identity, who muses: "I am just a bunch of moss swept across by the river's current "

Small wonder then that this alternate version of the epic has been silenced down the years for seeming "incomplete" and "insignificant" to historians, says poet and scholar, Nabaneeta Dev Sen, who unearthed the text and is all set to bring it to limelight

Literary sources say that Chandrabati Devi was born in Mymensingh district of erstwhile East Bengal Her father, Dwijbanshi Das, was a scholar and author of one of the versions of the *Manasamangal* On the day she was to marry Jayananda, her lover since childhood, she came to know that he had forsaken her for another woman Overcoming her grief and with her father's inspiration, she chose to devote her life to learning and writing Apart from the hardly known *Ramayan* she also wrote two very popular ballads, *Molua* and *Dasyu Kenaram*

Her *Ramayan* has many startling variations, according to Dev Sen Chandrabati retells the story with the first episode devoted to Sita's birth and the next describing the birth of Ram, thus inverting the conventional chronology at the very beginning Sita's remembrances of her childhood, marriage, love life and abduction, her days in exile and her final entry into the fire are also covered

This *Ramayan* does not help Janaka to find Sita while ploughing the field Instead, the poet rejects this sexual metaphor and brings her heroine into the fictive world through Mandodari's miraculous conception where even Ravan has no part to play Thus immaculate conception takes place after Mandadari drinks a magic potion made up of the blood of sages

The narrative moves over from one woman to another, who play key roles in each of the episodes It begins with Mandodari and passes on to Sata (wife of the fisherman who finds Sita and takes her home) Sata in turn takes Sita to the wife of King Janaka The action is then taken over from the good women to the evil ones Kaikeyee, Manthara and Kukuya (Kaikeyee's daughter) who initiate Ram's banishment and later Sita's exile In the end again, with injustice meted out to her from her husband, his clan and kingdom it is the Earth Mother Basumati who finally gives her shelter and peace In fact, there is such a change in perspective that Dev Sen feels the concept of the anti-hero, Ravan, is displaced by that of the anti-heroine Kukuya

The war between Ram and Ravan is dismissed in a few lines and Sita's experiences are dealt with in detail Her complete biological life-cycle and such female experiences as pregnancy and child birth are closely described Chandrabati even calls Ram 'a jealous impulsive and unfair husband', a "poor king" and a "poor father"

Ramanand Sagar's idea of a traditional Sita



Unlike most versions of the epic this one has hardly borrowed from either Valmiki or Krittibas But there are sections where the poet suddenly switches over to the male point of view To account for this, one has to look into the history of the transmission of the text, explains Dev Sen Like other epics, this one too has acquired its present form through the mediation of performer singers in the villages who were almost exclusively males and their interpolations may have resulted in the changes It shows that Chandrabati's poem with the dissenting female voices was considered a threat important enough to require such alterations and this itself is a triumph of the subversive Sitayana

Sarmistha Dutta Gupta



Rekha in *Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aaj Ka Arjun:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 244266), Krishna (T C. Dutta Street; 250437), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311522), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road, 484808), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Madhuban (Regent Park).

A film by K C Bokadia, starring megastar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Prada and Radhika. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917)—4 shows.

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy The music is by Nadeem Shravan

• **Amba:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757)

Shabana Azmi, Anil Kapoor and Meenakshi Seshadri play the lead in the Mohan Kumar film The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133)—4 shows.

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Jawani Zindabad:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 4 8141), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street, 554033), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046)—4 shows; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—noon; Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road, 355059)—3 shows.

Aamir Khan, Farha and Kader Khan are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Arun Bhatt. The music is by Anand Milind.

• **Jeevan Ek Sanghursh:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)—4 shows; Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—3 shows.

Anil Kapoor and Meenakshi Seshadri are the lead pair in this film, directed by Rahul Rawail. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Jungle Love:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 272473)—4 shows.

Directed by V. Menon, the film stars newcomers Kirti Singh and Rocky. The music is by Anand Milind.

• **Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai:** Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138)—4 shows.

A social entertainer, starring Jeetendra, Rekha, Radhika, Anupam Kher and Utpal Dutt. The film is directed by Manobala and the music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

• **Badnaam:** Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 271282)—2, 5, 7.45.

Shibu Mitra's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Prasenjit, Neelam and Shakti Kapoor The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Bhangagara:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)—2.15, 5.15, 8, Purna (S.P. Mukerjee Road; 474567)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15

Directed by Guru Bagchi, the main attractions of this film are Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Deepankar De, Subhendu Chatterjee, Debika Mukherjee and Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury. The music is by Ravindra Jain.

• **Debata (A):** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Victor Banerjee, Debashree Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, Kali Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Jeeban Sangee:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

Tapas Paul and Archana Joglekar are the lead pair. Also starring are Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Kali Banerjee, Gita Dey and Soumitra Chatterjee. The film is directed by Ravi Kinagi and the music is by Mrinal Banerjee.

• **Papi:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—2.45, 5.45, 8.30; Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680)—2.30, 5.30, 8.30.

A film by Prabhat Roy, starring Chiranjeet, Debashree, Deepankar, Indrani, Kaushik, Pallabi and Abhishek. The music is by Babul Bose.

• **Gharer Bou:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045), Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680), Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3 shows.

Foreign Films

• **Eyewitness (A):** Chaplin (Corporation Place)—12, 3, 6, 8.30.

A re-release of this hit murder mystery.

• **Inheritance (A):** Globe (Lindsay Street; 296665)—4 shows.

A tale of intrigue and deceit, starring Anthony Quinn and Dominique Sanda.

• **Mona Lisa (A):** Jamuna (Marquis Street; 243715)—4 shows.

A tale about London's swinging life, starring Bob Hoskins and Cathy Tyson.

• **Police Academy 4:** New Empire (Humayun Place; 291299)—12, 3, 6, 8.30.

The fourth of a series which is beginning to look stale.

• **Sirocco (A):** Lighthouse (Humayun Place; 291051)—12, 3, 6, 8.30.

Special Events

26-30 August: 3 pm—8 pm

The 29th annual exhibition by the members of the Academy of Fine Arts' Children Studio, in the Central and South galleries.

26—31 August: 3 pm—8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by the students of Silence Training Institute in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

26 August onwards: 3 pm—8 pm

An exhibition of Ganesh Pyne's *Impressions* till September 2.

At Galerie 88 (28B Shakespeare Sarani).

26 August: 6 pm

Swar Vandana presents a Mushaira, featuring Dr Bashir Badra, Dr Wasim Barelvi, Muquarrab Hussain, Kunwar Zaved, Viquar Nagri, Arfa Shabnam and Saklain Haider.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086/432197)..

26 August: 6.30 pm

Abhinay will stage two one-act plays, *Bhookhe Bhajan Na Hoye Gopala* (by Sagar Sarhadi) and *Raja Ka Baja* (by Safdar Hashmi), directed by Pratap Jaiswal.

At Kala Mandir (B) (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086/432197).

1 September: 6 pm

The Calcutta Ensemble's 13th annual programme includes a tribute to Hemanta Mukhopadhyay and songs of the world and Indian folk dances.

At Sisir Mancha (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4). SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4)· RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6) TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6)· IC-844 at 1215.

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily). BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840, Arr. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6). IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2) KB-106 at 0900; Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1) AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6) AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5). AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily). IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily). IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily)· IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1,2,4,6). IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily)· IC-229 at 1250; Arr. (daily) IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4)· IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030, Arr. (3,5,7): IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6). IC-219 at 1120; Arr.(1,3,5,6). IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily)· IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4) IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3,5,6,7) IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1)· IC-243 at 1400; Arr (daily)· IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2,4) IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7)· IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1)· IC-244 at 1600

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4). IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-727 at 0530; Arr. (1,3,5): PF-728 at 1120.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr (7) PF-730A at 1050.

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (1,3,5,7)· PF: 701 at 1140; Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-702 at 1615.

Calcutta - Agartala - Kamalpur - Kailashar - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6). PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2,4,6). PF-730 at 1040

Calcutta - Silchar - Shillong - Guwahati - Silchar - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-701 at 1100; Arr. (2,4,6): PF-702 at 1715.

Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (2,6)· PF-709 at 0815; Arr. (2,6): PF-710 at 1840.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh: Dep. (4) PF-709 at 0815; Arr. (4): PF-710 at 1750.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (7)· PF-709 at 0600; Arr. (7): PF-710 at 1705.

Calcutta - Agartala: Dep (1,3,5): PF-729A at 1130 Arr.

(1,3 5) PF-730A at 1410
Calcutta - Aizawl - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep (2,4,6) PF 705 at 0910 and PF 729B at 1310, Arr (2,4,6)) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655
Calcutta - Jamshedpur -Ranchi - Patna: Dep (1,3,5) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (1,3,5) PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta - Jamshedpur: Dep. (2,4,6) PF-717 at 0550, Arr (2,4,6) PF-718 at 0745
Calcutta - Cooch Behar: Dep (2,4,6,7). PF-707 at 0600; Arr (2,4,6, 7) PF-708 at 0855.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Silchar Guwahati: Dep. (1,3,5,7): PF 705 at 0915; Arr. (1,3,5,7) PF 706 at 1620.

Trains

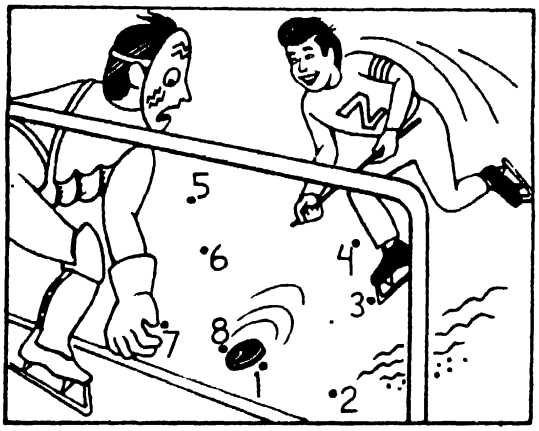
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-15	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Saral Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



SHOVEL PASS! "Sc-o-re!" cries the announcer "F-o-u-l!" cries the goalie Draw lines dot to dot to complete picture

• ZERO OUTPUT! To your present age, add your age one year from now Add nine Divide by two Subtract your present age plus five Answer is zero

4	6	1	8	3	2
1	9	10	6	4	5
3	7	8	9	2	6
6	4	5	7	10	1
2	7	6	9	4	3
10	3	2	1	9	5

CROSS-NUMBER CHALLENGE
It may be said of a certain number in the diagram above that if it and all numbers in a line radiating from it (in its several locations) are crossed out, all 36 numbers can be eliminated

Lines may radiate across, vertically or diagonally Example If no 1 in the top row is crossed out, then 4,6,8,3 and 2 would be removed, also 9 and 3, etc , and numbers fanning out from other 1's would be out similarly

Which of the 10 numbers eliminate all of the others?

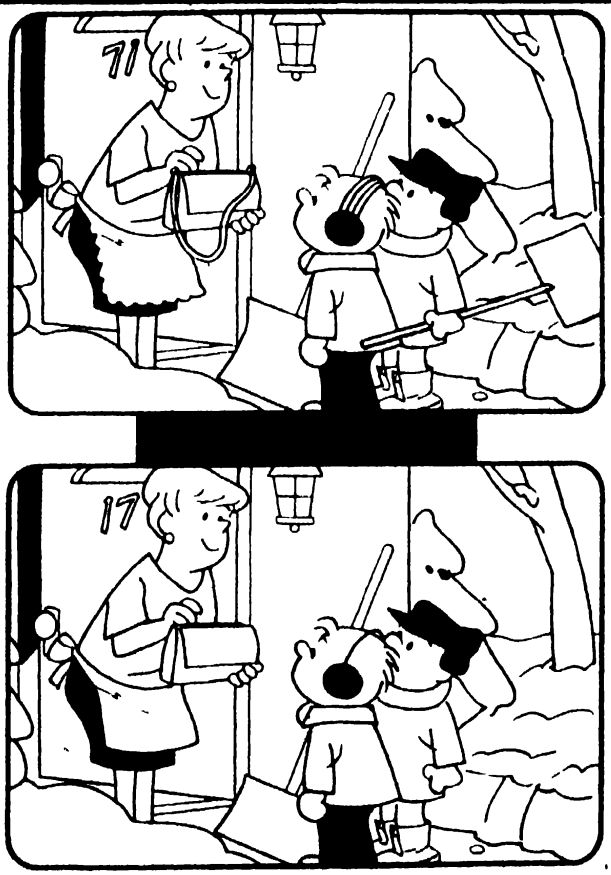
Number 10 will do it

• GEM JOSTLE: Names of four different gemstones found in m'lady's jewel box are anagrammed in the diagram below. That is to say, letters of each gem's name are scrambled. You are asked to puzzle them out.
Hint: Stones from top down are generally green, blue, clear and red, respectively.—Their names?

Emeralds sapphires diamonds and garnets in order



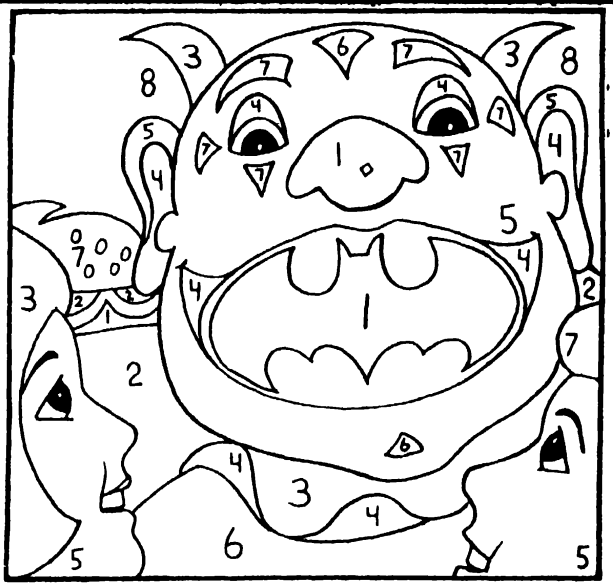
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 House number is different 2 Strap is missing 3 Apron is different 4 Shovel is smaller 5 Headband is different 6 Shovel is missing

FUNSPOT



CLOSE-UP! Hey there, Bozo, back off! Color this close-up of Bozo the clown. Color code: 1—Red 2—Lt blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Orange.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

MONETARY

- - - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible twosome Omen tray

Susanta Das, Calcutta-13, asks, "What is Semaphore?

Before electric telegraphy was invented various devices for visual signalling, known as telegraphs or 'semaphores , were in use They were large mechanical structures placed on hills or open sites where they could easily be seen and often had movable arms whose position could be changed according to a code One of the earliest was invented by a Frenchman named Claude Chappe in 1792 and consisted of an upright post with movable wooden arms and hands which could be arranged in different ways and were capable of sending as many as 192 signals

A similar system was used in England to send messages between coastal stations During the Napoleonic wars however when invasion from France was feared a different device was used by which messages could be sent quickly between the Admiralty and the naval ports of Deal Portsmouth Plymouth and Yarmouth It consisted of two large rectangular vertical wooden frames each divided horizontally into three, in each of which an octagonal plate could be set either upright to fill the frame, or flat to leave it empty The six frames could thus be arranged in 64 different ways This device gave its name to several Telegraph Hills in the south of England, such as those at New Cross and Swanscombe

From 1832 a third type of telegraph a Prussian device was in use on the Continent It resembled three double railway signals mounted on a vertical post, which arranged at different angles could send as many as 4 096 different signals

The Semaphore code in use today was originally invented by a colonel of the Royal Engineers in 1822 but was not used until much later The Royal Navy was using it for signalling with mechanical signal arms in the 1870s, but it was not transmitted by hand-flags for another 20 years Flags are held in the hands to make the movements more conspicuous, the signaller always facing the person who is to receive the message The arms move round in a circle divided into eight parts For the first seven letters of the alphabet only one arm is used but all the rest need both A semaphore flag is white with a blue horizontal bar and is a 2 ft square, fixed on a stick 3 ft 6 inches long On a clear day it can be seen with binoculars about four miles away Ships mechanical arms can be seen 10 to 12 miles off

Signallers usually work in pairs, one man reading out or writing down the messages, and the other making the signals or watching the distant station to spell out the answer For all kinds of visual signalling, in which words have to be spelt out aloud, special 'phonetic alphabets' are used, each letter having a name by which it can be distinguished The alphabet used by the British Army in the First World War has given us several familiar expressions, from the name 'Toc for T we get 'Toc H' (the initials of Talbot House), and amongst other familiar terms are Pip Emma (pm), Ack Emma (am), and Ack-Ack (anti-aircraft) During the Second World War a phonetic alphabet was jointly used by the British and American Forces, beginning Able, Baker, Charlie Dog

CBS

11th Question: **In World War II what was common to: Dibbler, Magpie, Choctaw, Console and Mallard? (K. Ananthanarayan, C/o K. Jana Krishnamurthi, 45 Fourth Avenue, Ashok Nagar, Madras 83)**

Ans: **They were the code names given by Allied Forces to the Indian cities: Dibbler—Calcutta; Magpie—Bombay; Choctaw—Madras; Console—Bangalore; and Mallard—Hyderabad.**

QUESTIONS

1 Who is the only footballer under whose captainship his country won both the Juniors (under 21) and Seniors World Cup Soccer Championship? (Subrata Haldar, Hooghly)
2 What is common to Nil Upadhyay Nillohit and Sanatan Pathak? (Nirmalya Kr Sarkar, Asansol)
3 What do the following have in common black, white Sumatran, Javan and Indian? (Ismat Afrin, Burdwan)
4 What is the geological name of salt (NaCl)? (Randhir Kr Sinha Ranchi 1)
5 Who are the only sisters to have won Olympic titles and set world records in athletics? (Sundeep Khurana, Sambalpur)
6 Which royal gave up playing polo and took up carriage driving at the age of 50? (Anjanava Datta Calcutta 31)
7 What special implication does a PTO have for a railway employee? (Othello Mazoomdaar Boral)
8 Who said, "Superstition is the religion of feeble minds '? (Ehtesham Anjum, Calcutta 16)
9 This is a chemical compound relating to environmental pollution which is mainly responsible for causing cancer and generated due to automobile emissions Name the compound (Rakesh Roshan Mishra, Sambalpur 4)
10 Which is the only film directed by Marlon Brando? (Bibhudatta Choudhury, Cuttack)

ANSWERS

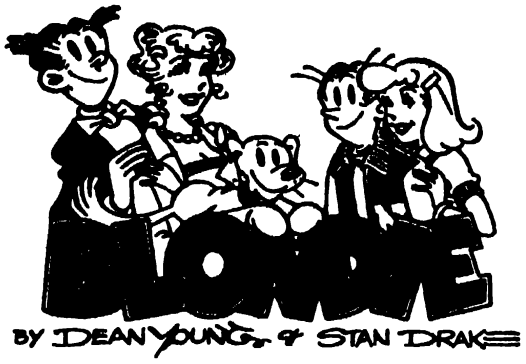
1 Diego Maradona
2 They are all pen-names used by Sunil Gangopadhyay
3 They are all different kinds of rhinoceros
4 Halite.
5 Tamara and Irina Press (USSR)
6 The Duke of Edinburgh
7 Privilege Ticket Order that entitles an employee to pay one-third of the actual fare for the journey
8 Edmund Burke
9 Chlorofluorocarbon
10 *One Eyed Jacks*

S Ghosh reports on the second AQUO Quiz of 1990

'The Summer Invitation Quiz, the second oldest open quiz of Calcutta, was held over two days at the Dalhousie Institute The number of entries were few compared to most quizzes, but there was no disputing the uniformly good standard maintained by the contestants

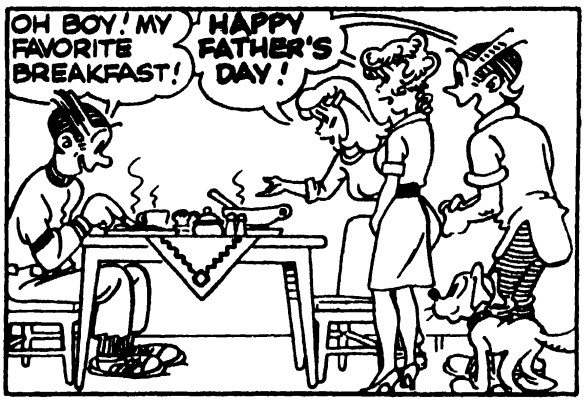
"In the opening qualifying round, D I 'B and Vae Victis had it out for the two top spots well ahead of the other qualifiers, Magnum and Learners The second preliminary saw a nailbiting finish Going into the last round, five out of the 10 teams were locked together on 15 points D I 'A knocked up six points, Scherzo got their direct and 2 points to qualify The three others who drew a blank, went into a tie-breaker which saw Octette come through In the sudden death that followed Cream did not know that Gordon Summer was better known as Sting, Tekniks did know this and filled the last berth for the final

The final saw D I 'B , as usual, jump off the fastest, but soon it was D I 'A who shot to the front and stayed there till the interval, six points ahead of their nearest rivals D I 'B D I 'A continued to stay ahead and cruised home comfortably from their 'B team

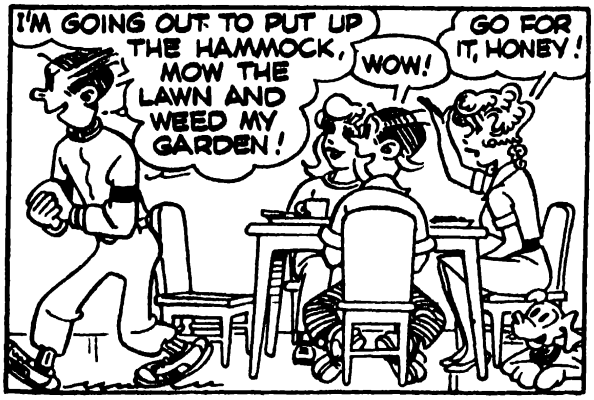


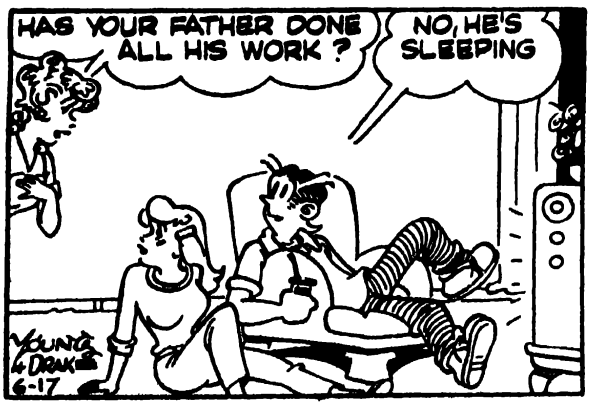




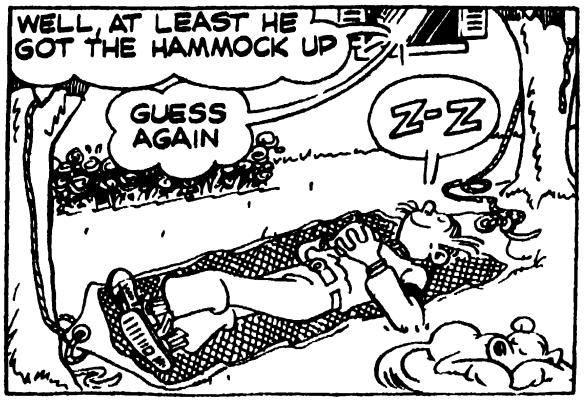




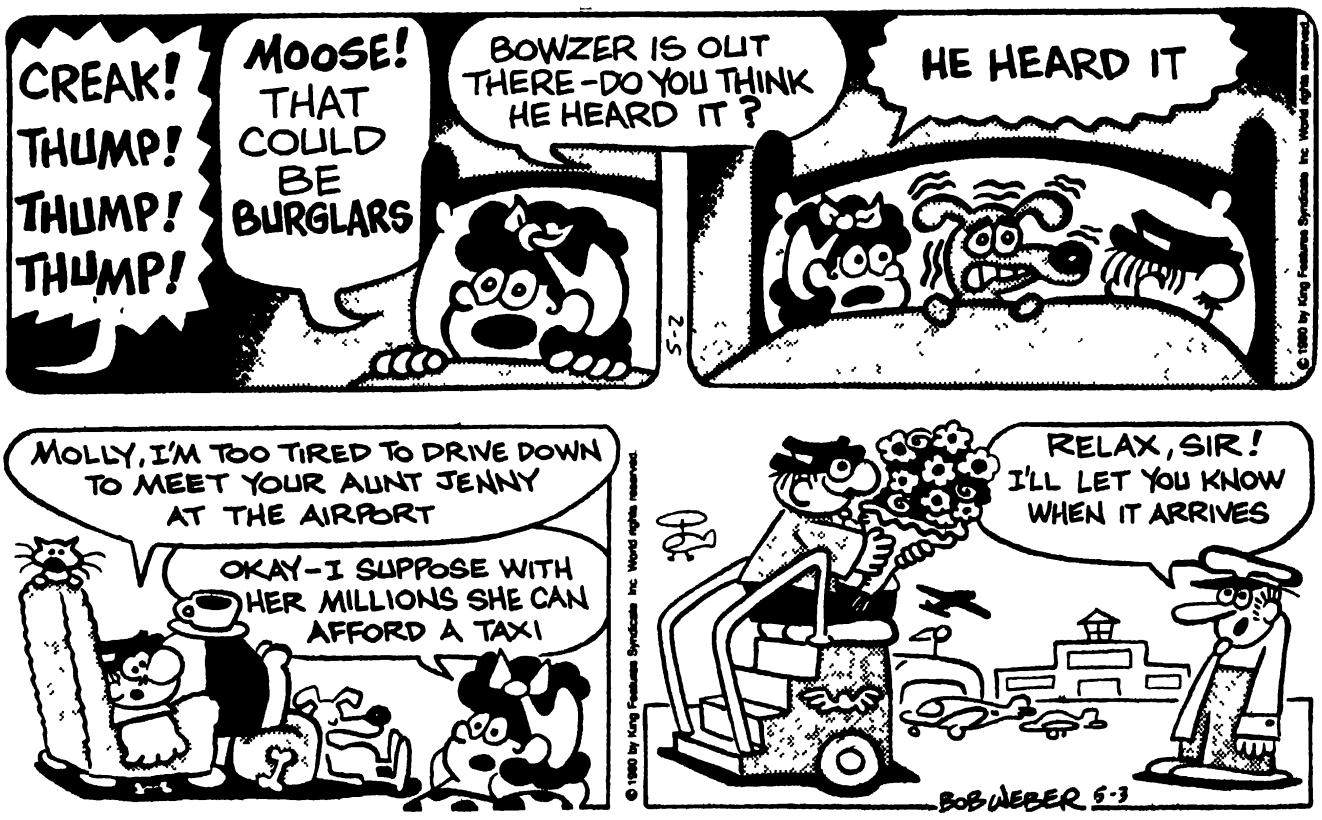


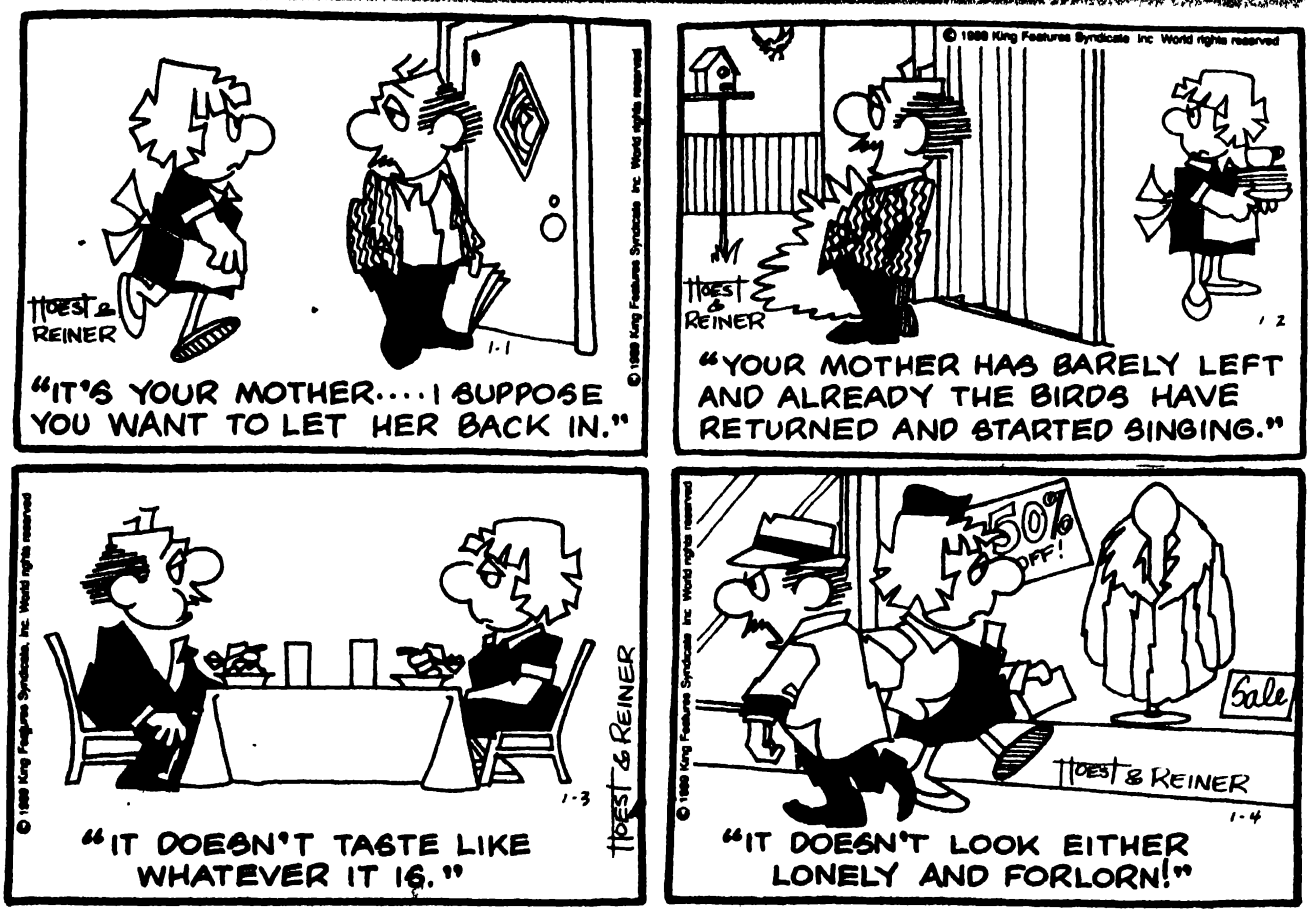


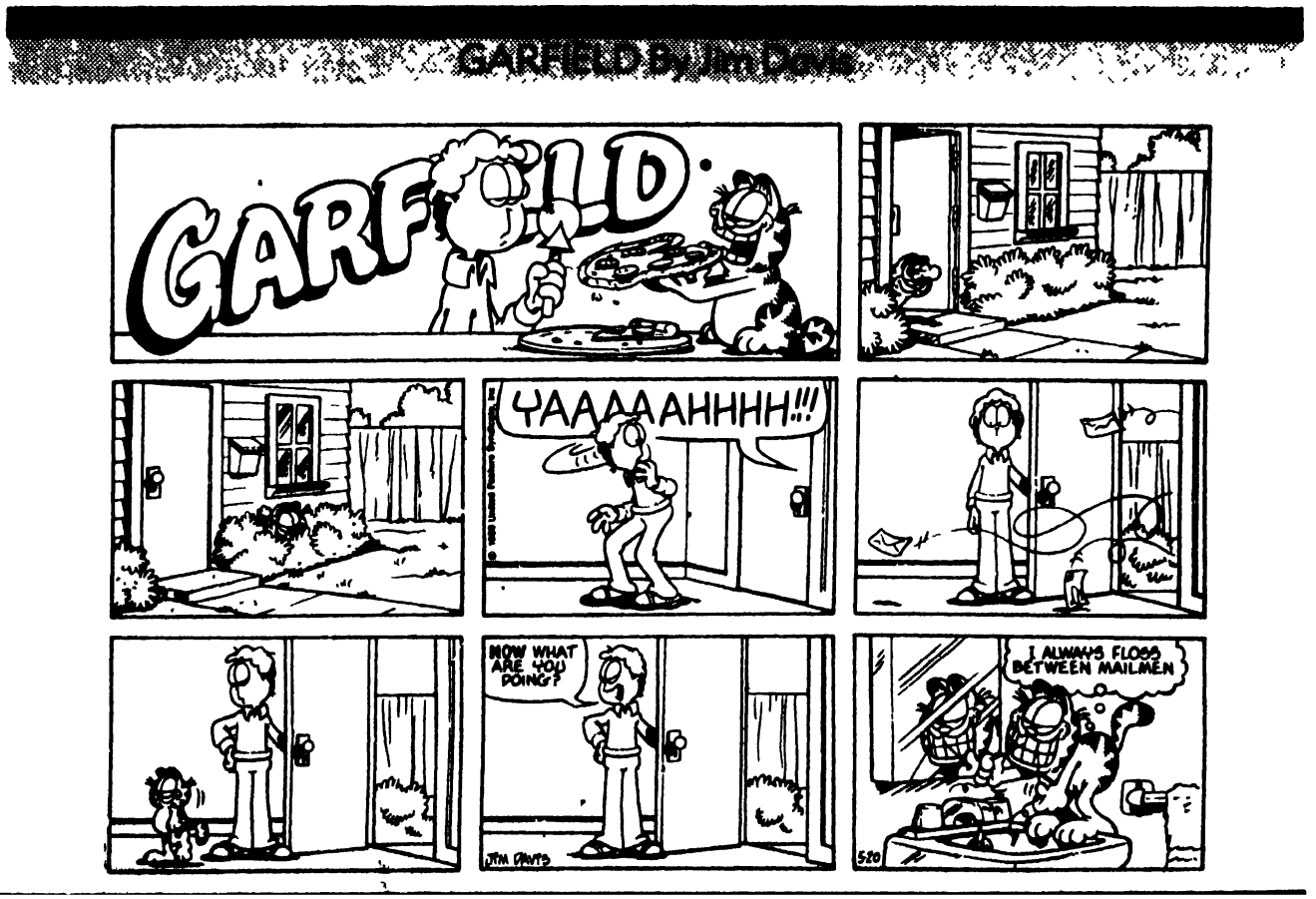
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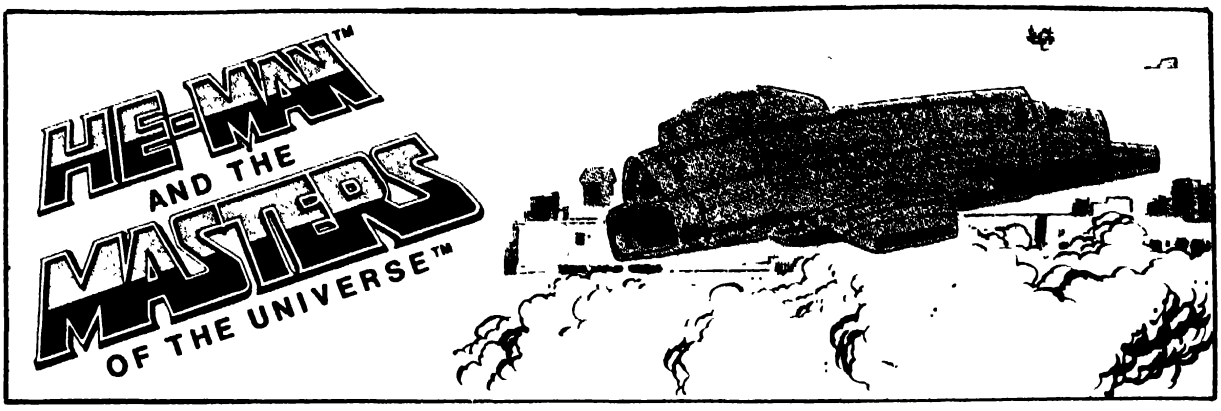

Archie
HEY, ARCH, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO WEAR TO THE PROM?
I'M WEARING IT!
NO, SERIOUSLY, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO WEAR TO THE PROM?
PROM NITE
ARCHIE, YOU DIDN'T NOTICE MY NEW DRESS!
SURE I DID!
DOES MY HAIR LOOK ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, FINE!
DO YOU LIKE THESE SHOES I'M WEARING?
BETTY, YOU LOOK GORGEOUS!
WHY, THANK YOU, ARCHIE! YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO SAY THAT!


CREAK!
THUMP!
THUMP!
THUMP!
MOOSE! THAT COULD BE BURGLARS
BOWZER IS OUT THERE-DO YOU THINK HE HEARD IT?
HE HEARD IT
2-5
© 1980 by King Features Syndicate Inc. World rights reserved.
MOLLY, I'M TOO TIRED TO DRIVE DOWN TO MEET YOUR AUNT JENNY AT THE AIRPORT
OKAY-I SUPPOSE WITH HER MILLIONS SHE CAN AFFORD A TAXI
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RELAX, SIR! I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN IT ARRIVES
BOB WEBER 5-3


Hoest & Reiner
1-1
"IT'S YOUR MOTHER....I SUPPOSE YOU WANT TO LET HER BACK IN."
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"YOUR MOTHER HAS BARELY LEFT AND ALREADY THE BIRDS HAVE RETURNED AND STARTED SINGING."
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Hoest & Reiner
1-3
"IT DOESN'T TASTE LIKE WHATEVER IT IS."
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50% OFF!
Sale
Hoest & Reiner
1-4
"IT DOESN'T LOOK EITHER LONELY AND FORLORN!"


GARFIELD By Jim Davis
GARFIELD
YAAAAAHHHH!!!
NOW WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I ALWAYS FLOSS BETWEEN MAILMEN
JIM DAVIS

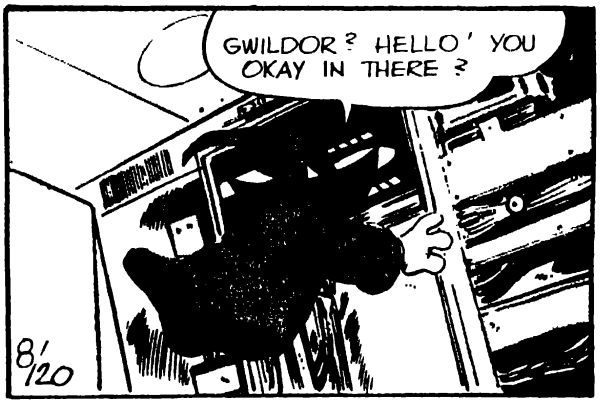

I WONDER IF I SHOULD LOOK AT THE PHOTOGRAPH DORIS SENT ME
I MEAN, IT'S AMAZING WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH A TASTEFUL BACKGROUND AND SUBTLE LIGHTING.
STILL, IT'S BETTER NOT TO TAKE CHANCES.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'VE JUST BURIED DORIS' PHOTOGRAPH GOD, IT WAS REVOLTING.
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST TEAR IT UP... OR BURN IT?
I DID THAT AS WELL.
I WISH I WAS CLEVER LIKE BEAU.
HE CAN TALK FOR AGES ABOUT ALL SORTS OF CLEVER THINGS.
EVEN RIGHT NOW, I BET HE'S THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING REALLY AMAZING.
I WONDER WHERE I LEFT MY JELLY BABIES?
BEAU, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD TEACH ME TO BE CLEVER?
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DISCUSS POLITICS AND THINGS. MAYBE BECOME A LAWYER OR A DOCTOR!
OKAY, I'LL TEACH YOU BUT DON'T SET YOUR TARGETS TOO HIGH. WE'VE GOT TO EASE YOU INTO IT!
NOW WHEN I THROW THIS STICK...
NOW IF YOU WANT TO BECOME CLEVER, DENNIS, YOU'LL HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THINGS LIKE MUSIC.
FOR EXAMPLE, WHO'S YOUR FAVOURITE COMPOSER?
PHEW, THAT'S A HARD ONE. I DON'T KNOW REALLY...
WHO WROTE 'HICKORY DICKORY DOCK'?











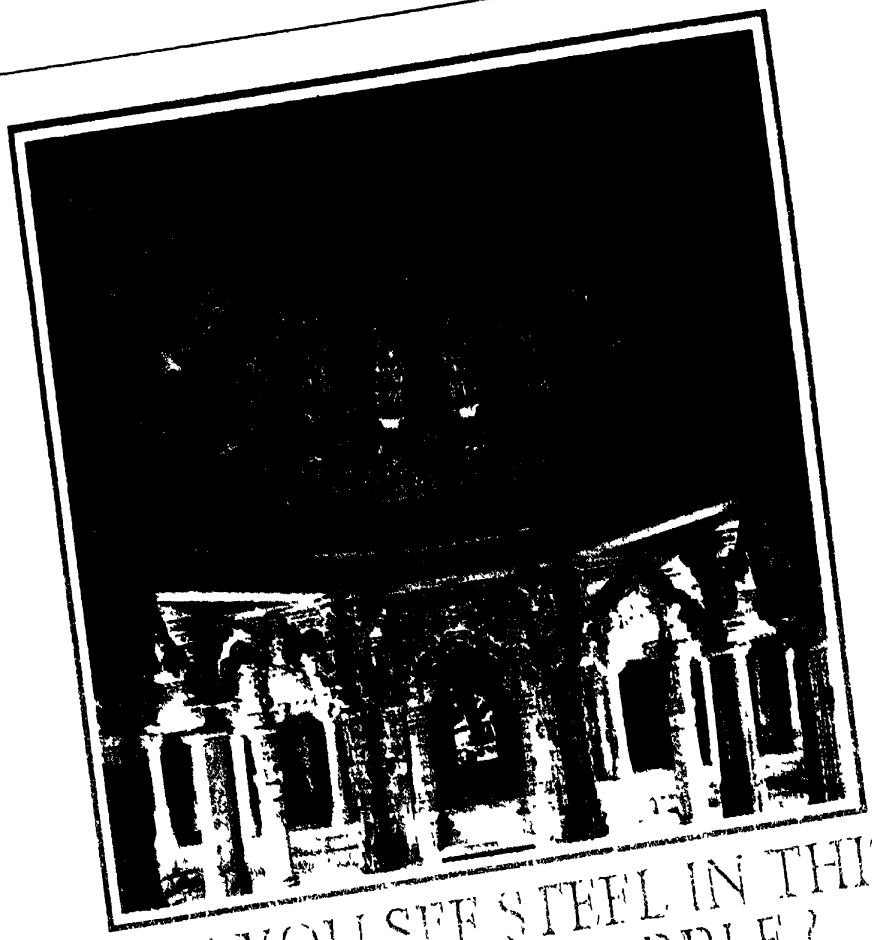


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Photograph: **Sudipta Mitra**



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE?

The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive plateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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from Kelvinator



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Stunningly beautiful State-of the art technology combined together to evolve a new standard in refrigerators Created by a team of engineers whose mission is not to follow the market but to lead the refrigerator world.

Artistic Sterling

- 100% Polyurethane Foam insulation Avoids sweating of the refrigerator even in high humidity conditions
- Superior SAN material–Crisper, Baffle Tray, Butter/ Cheese Chest and adjustable Bottle Shelves.
- Superior design for maximum storage space Removable egg tray for extra storage – a special feature for vegetarians
- A large Chill Tray with a unique Drip Tray for easy removal of defrosted water

from Kelvinator "It's the coolest one."

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Refrigerators
Styled in Europe
Engineered in America

- All steel construction and tough ABS liner
- Available in a wide range of attractive colours

Sterling Technology

- Internationally renowned 'Power Saver' compressor
- Cools superfast, makes ice even faster
- Withstands wide voltage fluctuations

No voltage stabilizer is required if the operating voltage is within 160-260V.

- Consumes minimal electricity
- Automatic defrost (push button)

The new **Sterling.**

It is beyond doubt the most advanced refrigerator ever introduced in the market. With a proven, dependable after-sales service It's no mere refrigerator It's the Sterling.

Sterling
The 165 litre premium quality refrigerator

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Mutual 5120d

Change of Stance

With regard to the criteria for admission to St Joseph's College, Calcutta, it was stated, "We want the ones whom no one else will have", namely, the slow learners, the failures. ('To Serve, With Love', July 29).

This year, the management of the school has refused admission to their own students, who have studied 10 long years under them, to class XI on the ground that they have scored less than 55 per cent marks in the ICSE.

Parents and students feel a part of the larger St Joseph's family and they have contributed a lot, as rightly stated by the outgoing principal, Br C.J. Harrison, to the development of the school.

In all other Anglo-Indian schools, admissions are not normally denied to their own students. The new management should elucidate on why they have made a departure from the normal practice.

Prof. K.D. Ghosh,
Calcutta

■ As an ISc student of St Joseph's College I was delighted to read the article. This holy seat of learning has taught us not to do any harm if one cannot do good, and not to hate anyone even though one cannot love. This institution has inspired me to talk sweetly and to serve the living just as one would serve God.

Bhaskar Dasgupta,
Calcutta

I have been a student of St Joseph's College, and am thankful for the valuable education I received from this institution. I shall forever remember the affection and guidance that was showered on us by the teachers.

However, there was a slight error in the story about Mary, wife of Edmund Rice, who was thrown from the horse she was riding. This incident took place in 1789 and not 1890, as printed. Rice himself died in 1844.

Ramesh Pal Tewari,
Calcutta

Of God and Stones

You have revealed the increasing faith in, as you aptly put it, "the new stone age" (July 15).

It is amusing to see that our 20th century pseudo-intellectuals deny God, but place their faith in vague astrologers, stones and computerised horoscopes. They also bow their heads in reverence before monuments, graves and flags while denying vehemently any possibility of life after death or rebirth.

A hundred years ago, people would have worshipped maybe, a TV set or a guided missile, with equal reverence had they happened to see one then.

Purnima L. Kumar,
Calcutta

■ The headline did not make sense. The stones are a possible remedy or precaution for different kinds of problems, but they do not "foretell" anything. Perhaps, you meant, 'What the stones *forestall.*"

Renuka Chakraborty,
Calcutta

Immortal Melodies

With reference to 'Velvet Voice' (July 29), the tender lips of the beloved considered to be the holy drink as expressed in the line, *Chhoo lene do nazuk honthon ko,* have been gifted to man by nature as a lovely reward. This is a masterpiece of literary work that describes the beloved beautifully.

Jumma, chumma de de ...Would any beloved respond to such crude longing?

N. Ahamed,
Calcutta

■ I was deeply impressed by the illustration and the translated songs of Mohammad Rafi. This great playback singer left us a decade ago on July 31, 1980. His untimely death was a great loss to the film industry and to music lovers.

A.M. Noor Khan,
Lilong (Manipur)

St Joseph's: A matter of perspective



Ashoke Chakraborty

The Telegraph

2 SEPTEMBER 1990



Dimali

16 Film City, on the outskirts of Bombay, is a whole new world by itself, even if a make-believe world of highways and lakes, of helipads and temples.

6 The second part of the extract from V.S. Naipaul's book, *India: A Million Mutinies Now.*

13 Artist Rina Paul is trying to Japanise themes from the Krishna legend and the *Mahabharata.*

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Cover: Dimali



Photographs: Novosti



I, MARIA!

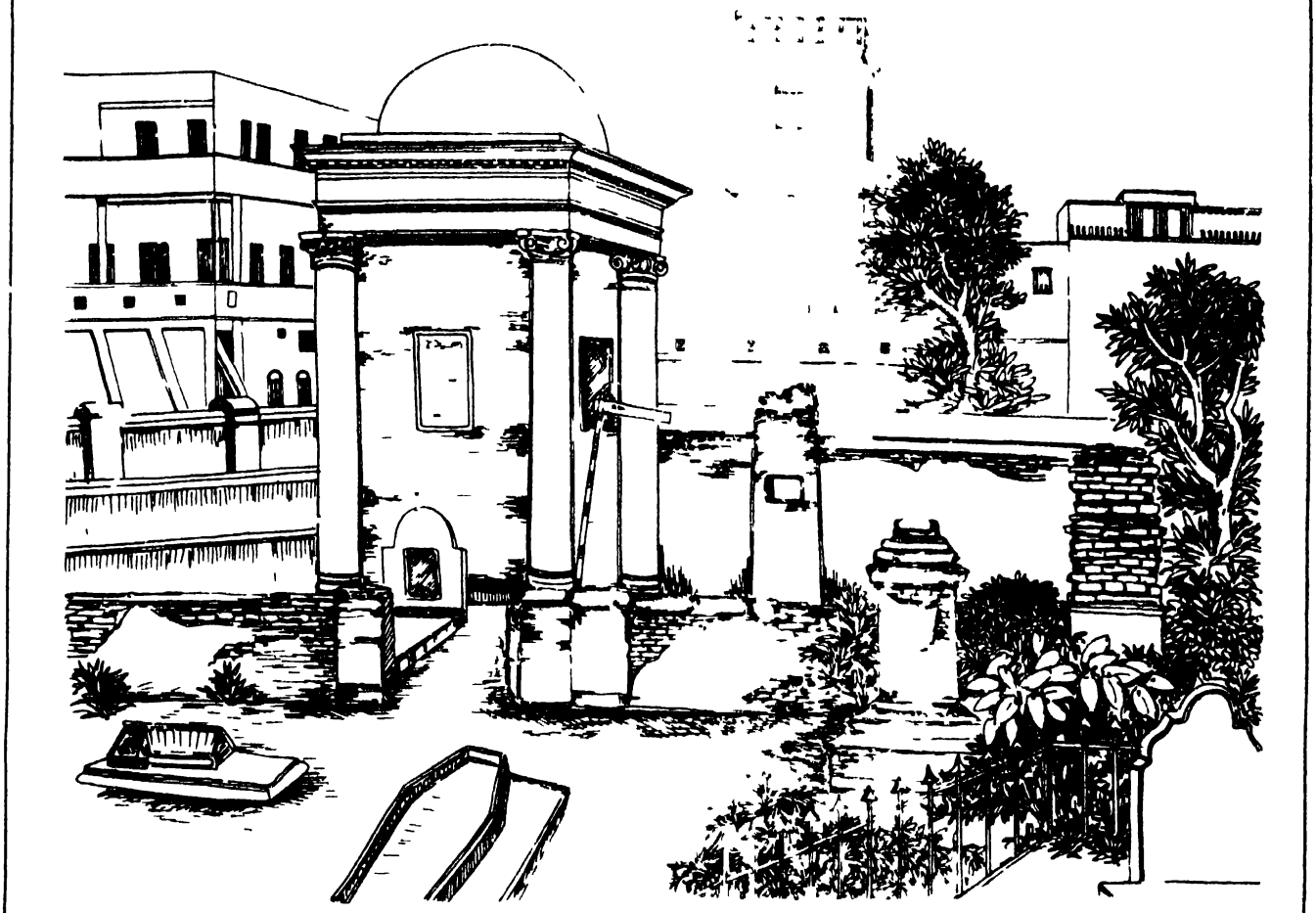
Another beauty contest in the USSR? Obviously, they liked what they saw the first time around



This year's Miss USSR, Maria Kezha from Byelorussia, must have won hands down. The 17-year-old design faculty student's ambition is not only to cut fine clothes, but show 'em how to wear 'em. Also a model at a fashion theatre, Maria is a six-footer and, as the official handout says, "the length of her legs is 92 cms". That is, more than half of Maria is leg ! Weighing a delectable 56 kgs, her vital statistics read 87-59-91. Maybe they read better in cms.

◀ **The blonde Maria with another finalist**

WILLIAM CAREY (1761-1834)



Born on August 17, 1761 at Northamptonshire in England William Carey, founder of the English Baptist Missionary Society (1792), was better known as the "father of Bengali prose" for his grammars, dictionaries and translations. A Baptist from 1783, Carey served as pastor in Moulton where he also taught school and pursued his trade as a shoemaker. In 1789 he moved to the Baptist Church at Leicester and three years later published a pamphlet, *An Enquiry into the Obligation of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens*, that led to his formation, with a dozen other ministers, of the English Baptist Missionary Society.

The society's first missionaries, Carey and a doctor, John Thomas, came to Calcutta in 1793. The next year he removed himself from the society's financial support when he became the superintendent at an indigo plant in Mudnabati, north Bengal. There he also preached, taught and began his first Bible translation. Being prevented by the East India Company from establishing a mission in British-Indian territory, Carey and his family moved to the Danish colony of Frederiksnagar (now Serampore) near Calcutta in 1800. There he along with Joshua Marshman and William Ward (known as the Serampore trio) founded the mission described by William Wilberforce as "one of the chief glories" of British India

In 1801 Carey was appointed to teach Bengali, Sanskrit and Marathi at Fort William College. He translated the Bible into Bengali, Oriya, Marathi, Hindi, Assamese and Sanskrit. He also translated parts of it into 29 other languages and dialects. With Marshman he edited a grammar in Bhotia and prepared six others in different languages. Besides dictionaries in Bengali, Sanskrit and Marathi, the two also prepared a translation of *Ramayana*. Carey published horticulturist William Roxburgh's two works, *Hortus Bengalensis* (1814) and *Flora Indica* (1832), and distributed prose texts to schools. He urged the government to outlaw infanticide and suttee practices. He encouraged the use of Indians as missionaries and took an active part in forming the Agricultural Society of India in 1820 He died on June 9, 1834 at Serampore. The sketch above shows his grave in the erstwhile Danish colony.



AFTER THE

V.S. Naipaul continues with his impressions on Calcutta in the second part of the extract from *India: A Million Mutinies Now*

Dipanjan's wife came in Her name was Arati She was of Dipanjan s age She wore a dark coloured sari with a small pattern and a black bodice She, too, was a teacher her classes started very early in the morning and finished at 10

She wanted to know about lunch She said that Dipanjan couldn't eat wheat 'Rice, rice, rice—that s what he wants, three times a day, as often as I give him He can't digest wheat ' That was an aspect of Dipanjan's 'post political life It had been brought about by Dipanjan's illness during his life underground in the villages, and by the badness of water in the delta

'Amoebiasis,' Arati said 'It's a chronic condition Does it occur in your place? It's in most of the third world '

It was the first time, since I had been talking to Dipanjan, that reference had been made to his life as a guerrilla And it was unexpected that it should have come in this direct, unheroic way, with this emphasis on his personal frailty—the tormenting things he had known before the dust and mosquitoes of the lane

'When I went to Presidency College I was not politically active I sided with the left because of my upbringing, but the political activity in the college at that time was at a low level Towards the end of my second year, when I was driving myself very hard academically, and it was becoming quite a strain, I began to wonder why I was doing it I was also dabbling in poetry My father never read my poems—I didn t show them to him My mother wasn't interested They thought it was perhaps a harmful diversion They never encouraged me I began to question why I was writing Quite a few of us at college were assailed with similar problems and doubts, both boys and girls

'From this time I suddenly became aware of the poverty and misery around me Until then I hadn't been aware I saw things and I accepted it as part of the scenery I will tell you a little story One day—I still remember—we were going, a friend and I, to see a showing of a picture made from a play of Bernard Shaw I was about to go there I had just left my house And I saw this person—I wouldn't say he was a beggar he was in no position to beg

'He was lying on the curb. He was about to die, and fully conscious and silent He was lying in front of a pathological laboratory. I asked the lab people to phone for an ambulance. The ambulance came, and I found that nobody was willing to accompany the person to hospital So I had to accompany him I wasn't very eager to do it, but I accompanied him He was indiffe rent Absolutely He didn't talk

'We drove to a hospital Doctors examined him and on his ticket they wrote that he should be admitted, and they stamped the ticket with a prepared seal "There is no accommodation in this hospital Try somewhere else " The driver had to take him back in the ambulance The driver asked me whether I knew this per son When I said I didn't, the driver said, "We can take him to another hospital, but the same thing will happen there "'

I asked Dipanjan, 'What did the man look like? You haven't mentioned that '

'He was in rags, caked with dirt The most striking thing about him was that he had hydrocel, an inflammation of the scro tum, caused usually by filariasis, a tropical parasitical disease And when he had to carry his scrotum in his hands, it was so heavy

I asked the ambulance-driver how often this kind of thing happened, and the driver said often He said that when they were asked to pick up people like that, they did, without making a fuss But no one accompanied the person, so their practice was to deposit him on some other street, because they knew that no hospital would accept them

'Seeing that I felt in some way responsible for the man, the driver said, "There is one place I know where he might be accepted I'm not sure, but let's go " He drove to this place near the temple of Kali, and there was this little space—just a long dark corridor, with perhaps just a tiled roof, and on both sides destitute people lying on beds waiting for death. So we left him there, and we placed the medical ticket near his head, and we came out.

'This place was the beginning of the place Mother Teresa was building up for such people, and she was quite unknown at the time I should make it quite clear that I am not making any comment on the utility or validity of Mother Teresa's outlook or work But I must say that even today there is no other place in Calcutta where a dying destitute will be accepted "

At this point the electricity failed, as it often failed in Calcutta Dipanjan's first thought was for the Japanese mosquito-repellent, which depended on heat Without that repellent, he said, we simply wouldn't be able to sit and talk He got up and got an oil lamp, lit it, and placed the blue gadget on top of the glass chimney

He said, 'It was a Sunday morning A fine day, but it rained in the afternoon, after we had placed the man at Kalighat I missed the cinema show I spent about three to four hours ferrying that man around

'This is just an example Don't think this is my road to Damascus It stands out in my mind, but it didn't mark my conversion It was one of a host of things which were happening around me to which my eye was being opened for the first time And I began to wander about the streets of Calcutta, sometimes alone sometimes with friends '

Sitting on the cane-bottomed settee, thinking of the past his eyes unfocussed, he raised his slender bare arms against the bluewashed wall

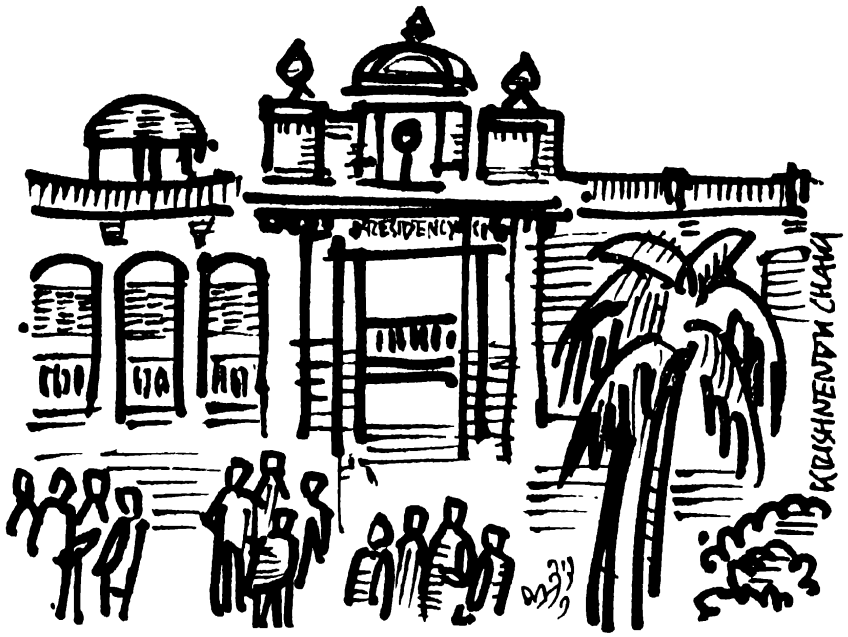
'From 1964, 1965, onwards, the way I was leading my life started appearing futile and meaningless I retained a strong attachment to physics and poetry, but began to devote less time to it '

In 1964 Dipanjan took his first degree from Presidency College, and began to do post-graduate work at Calcutta University Science College At the same time there was a development in his personal life He had met and proposed to Arati, and there was opposition from her family Arati came from a distinguished brahmin family Dipanjan was of the *kayastha* caste

Parallel with this turbulence, there was the economic crisis he had spoken about at the start of the morning

'Since 1965 prices of rice and other foodstuffs had soared to unheard-of heights Kerosene disappeared Factories closed. Retrenched workers committed suicide Even qualified engineers and doctors couldn't find jobs In West Bengal there was a great uprising. This movement of the people between 1965 and 1966

BATTLE



completely changed the outlook of our generation.

'The people started off by confronting retailers in markets and insisting that they take their prices down. In places they looted godowns where grain was being hoarded illegally. When the government used the police against them, there was resistance by the demonstrators. From stone-throwing to setting public places and transport on fire—this has been a hallowed tradition of protest since British times. When someone sets a bus on fire, you know that now he means business.'

'Was your family affected by the rise in prices?'

'We personally—my family—could afford it. People were always talking about it—the prices, the crisis, the food riots, the failure of the government, the police firing. The movement was always called the Food Movement.'

It was organised by the ordinary political workers of communist faction, and not by any of the big men of the party. Then in 1966 the students of Presidency College, Dipanjan's old college, formed a pro-communist movement for the first time. The leaders of this movement were expelled, and there was a six-month student agitation against their expulsion.

One night Dipanjan was coming back from South Calcutta by bus. He saw a crowd in the grounds of Presidency College. He got off the bus to see what it was about. He didn't find anyone he knew, but the next day, when he went back, he discovered that the leaders of the student movement and others, were his friends. He began to spend more and more time with those friends, in Presidency College, in the coffee house opposite, and in the college hostel.

He began to do political work among those students who were not committed. 'There was a vocal minority who felt they had come to the college to study and build their careers. And we had to persuade them.' There was a feeling that the activists organising the students and the Food Movement were Chinese agents. Dipanjan had to do a lot of reading to deal with these accusations. He started reading Marxist literature.

'This was the time of the Cultural Revolution in China, and it had tremendous influence in Calcutta—what the Chinese students were doing and why they were doing it, and why there had to be a cultural revolution after a revolution proper.

'I was very excited. I thought that now I could start making my life meaningful. I had no consciousness of my father's political past in the party, or his uncle's past as a nationalist and a Gandhian. My father had by that time become an ordinary householder; he kept no contact with the party. My mother had also stopped being a communist. My father's nationalist uncle had become a bitter critic of the whole Indian polity. He never voted in his life, declaring that under no circumstances would he enter a process of choosing the least harmful among scoundrels.

'But I still lacked an ideology or philosophy, though all my time was being taken up by politics. I didn't return home some nights. Arati was getting extremely worried. My parents had almost written me off.'

'What were you doing at nights?'

'We would be talking with boys at the hostel until 11. We would then talk among ourselves until 12 or one. Then we would sleep on the lawn of Presidency College.'

This was how he was living in 1967, when he took his M.Sc. and got a job; and when—after all the turmoil with Arati's family—he and Arati were married, four years after he had proposed to her.

'It was a packed and exciting time, emotionally, intellectually. It was the start of my education in the world. I had been leading a sheltered life. I was academically minded. My mother was overprotective—I had this asthmatic condition. My mother cried a lot. It was her ambition for me that suffered greatly. My father, having been once bitten himself, was worried about the direction our movement would take.

'In Presidency College we slowly developed one central idea. We felt that the Indian communist movement had failed because the leadership, which was composed of middle-class intellectuals, had made itself into a bureaucracy. The initiative of the masses had never been developed. And then in April 1967 the Naxalbari incident occurred.'

This was the incident, in north Bihar, after which the Naxalite movement was named.

'I was reading the paper in the morning. I read this item on the front page. Peasants had surrounded a police party with bows and arrows and had shot down a police inspector, in the course of a struggle to occupy the lands monopolised by landlords, illegally for the most part.

'This was a dramatic incident. I just couldn't believe it—that this thing, which we had been reading about in our books, in Marxist literature, in history books, could really happen: that the toiling people could take up arms, and they could fight for their rights. And my mind was made up, and that of most of our friends at Presidency College: that this was the struggle with which we were going to link our lives. In Calcutta the first posters in support of the Naxalbari uprising were put up by us, on the wall opposite Presidency College.'

'Who were your friends?'

'Some had backgrounds like mine. Many of them were sons of impoverished gentry on this side of the border. We were all middleclass people.

'We immediately decided to go among the toiling people. Some of us went back to their villages. And some of us went to the industrial slums. There was a major involvement with the workers of the Guest Keen Williams factory in southern Howrah. A trade union leader there had

sought us out. Soon in the villages and in the factories the news began to spread that students were coming from Calcutta to talk to people about how to change their conditions.'

'How did you fit this in with your work?'

'I was working in a morning college. So the afternoon and evening were free.

'Weren't you nervous about knocking on people's doors?'

'I wasn't nervous about the industrial workers. I could tune to their wavelength. But later, when I left my job—I changed many jobs—and went to the villages, my experiences were traumatic. But that was much later, in 1969.

'In 1967 we were still building up the student movement. I had to run to many places, taking political classes and having group discussions with students, equipping them with propaganda to fight the official party propaganda against the Naxalite movement. The party saw it as a threat to their organisation.

'For the year or two after that I spent much time in Guest Keen Williams. Arati went with me at times. My life at that time would be something like this. At two a.m. I would return home walking, because the last bus or tram had passed. Or I would spend the time on Presidency College lawn, or in the building or the hostel if it rained. I would have to go back to work by 6.15, 6.30. Classes began then. At 10 I would be back at Presidency College. We would start discussions with the students of the college and with students who had come from colleges all over Calcutta and West Bengal to learn of the movement.

'The police were keeping an eye on us. They sent spies to the college. We caught one and gave him a beating up. There were frequent street fights with the police.'

'What was that like?'

'Whenever you go into fight, whether it's a private fight or a fight with the police, you are nervous to start with. Then the tension slowly drains out, and excitement takes its place, and finally you are quite ready even to risk your own life. Traditionally in Calcutta you fight the police with brickbats. That is the ordinary kind of fight. A serious fight would involve home-made bombs and country-made guns. But such fights are rare, and only occur at the height of important political movements.'

I found this strange: his ability to talk of disturbances and fights in this academic, Aristotelian manner. I said, 'You talk of these fights with the police as though you were protected in some way.'

Dipanjan said, 'The communists were then sharing power. We understood their dilemma. We knew that the police wouldn't be able to cross certain limits. This was the first time the communists were sharing power in West Bengal, and they couldn't throw themselves against the students and the workers. The very fact that the police had fired on the peasants at Naxalbari caused a division within the party, and brought over some senior communists on to the side of the Naxalite movement.

Perhaps, the man said, Dipanjan was too ashamed to meet the people he had once known...Someone else at the dinner said that this kind of disappearing, this hiding away, was a very Bengali thing to do

'In the evenings, after being with the students, we would go to the factories and the slums, or take political classes and conduct group discussions. We were slowly learning the classical Marxist political ideas—Marx, Mao, all of them.

'And then, in 1969, we went to the villages. The communist party in West Bengal is pretty old, even in many of the rural areas, and grassroots leaders who wanted the struggle started helping the students who had come to their areas.

'We had a rule. You must have with you only a *lungi*, a cloth, a vest or singlet, and a towel. You went to the villages, identified the huts of the agricultural labourers or poor peasants, and you told them directly why you were there. You started talking immediately about the political aims—seizure of power by the toiling people. We called this Red Guard Action.

'The pioneers faced a lot of trouble getting their message across. But by the time I went to the villages, this fact was well known among the peasants. We kept just the fare back to the urban centre from which we had come, and no other money. And we kept a dhoti, a shirt, and pair of slippers for use in transit between the villages and towns.

'The peasants fed us when they could. In some new places sometimes they wouldn't at the beginning. But on the whole everywhere they gave us a patient hearing. We slept in their huts. Usually, if they had only one room, and the hamlet was safe, composed only of poor people, we would sleep on the verandah. But this was a rare luxury. Usually we had to sleep concealed in a loft. As the state increased its repression, we would have to remain concealed the whole day. One or two of us had the experience of having to relieve themselves in pots.'

'Repression'—this, too, was strange: that after all he had gone through he should use this abstract word, and make it sound like something from a political textbook.

'The major problem at the beginning was that I felt that there was an invisible partition between us and the villagers, that we were talking two different languages. It took a long time to get accustomed to the silences and obliquities of rural India.'

'Make that a little more concrete.'

'Suppose I've come to a village where they're afraid to keep me. They won't tell me that outright. When I went to one such village in the evening, the people suggested to me that I should go with the boys to a nearby jatra, a whole-night theatrical performance, a high spot in the annual life of a village. They were hinting to me that I couldn't stay in any of their houses that night.'

'You haven't told me what it was like in the villages.'

'The quality of life was better than in the urban slums. Apart from a lepers' village, where—before harvest time—they had a little wheat, but so little they couldn't make chapatis. They made paste of the flour and served that in very small quantities. Children couldn't digest that paste. Hunger—getting one full meal a day—that was the major determining factor of the quality of village life for five months of the year at that time.'

And I was struck again—as I had been when he was telling of the dying man he had picked up from the Calcutta street—by the way he spoke of the distress of India: as though it was a personal idea, a personal observation, as though his group observed it better than others and with more understanding, as though this distress was something they were entitled to refer to, to explain their actions. It was now well past midday, well past the normal lunch hour. He was tired. He said he wanted to have a shower. Arati had prepared the lunch, and when Dipanjan went to the back space to have his shower, she brought out the food and set it on a little stool for me: simple food, two pieces of fried fish, peas, puris. The fish was bony, not easy to pick at, but Arati said that if I used my fingers I could feel the bones better and get rid of them.

Standing in the little room while I ate, she talked again of the heat of the summer in Calcutta; and again she asked whether I was staying for that. She talked again of the trees that had been cut down. I asked her whether Indians hated trees, whether there was some idea that trees sheltered or encouraged bad spirits. She said no, Indians loved trees; but now there were simply too many people, and the trees had to be cut down.

Dipanjan had left her during her first pregnancy, she said—when he went to

live in the villages. She had gone to stay with his parents. That was the Indian way, the custom here: the wife stayed with her in-laws. In order to write about India, she said, you had to spend a lot of time in India. There were so many things of India that were different.

She said she had been sympathetic to the cause in the beginning. But she didn't like that idea of going to the villages, taking revolution to the people. She thought it was foolish. The poor here in India believed in their fate. That going out to the villages had set the revolution back by 40 years. And she didn't like it when the murders began. She didn't like that at all.

Dipanjan and I hadn't got to that yet: Dipanjan had promised that for another day, perhaps tomorrow

Perhaps, I said to Arati, the flaw had lain in that very idea of revolution, that idea of a particular moment when everything changes and the world is made good, and men are made anew

She didn't take the point up

Turgenev had written a novel about that, I said. He had written a novel about middle-class people in Russia in the late 1860s taking revolution to the workers Perhaps if people had read that book without prejudice they mightn't have made the misjudgement that the people in the novel had made But she hadn't read Turgenev; she didn't know *Virgin Soil*. Her Russian reading didn't go back so far; her Russian reading appeared to have gone back only as far as the classical political texts

'It was during this uprising that the party line about individual killing arrived.' 'Were you shocked by the directive?' 'No, no. Indians are basically a very violent people'

At dinner that evening, in a large apartment in central Calcutta, I met someone who had known Dipanjan as a fellow student at Presidency College. Dipanjan had been a talented and even brilliant student, I heard Then this Naxalite business had occurred, and there had been the dreadful time when it seemed that Dipanjan, married to someone from a very distinguished Calcutta family, might have been hanged Since that Naxalite business they hadn't met, Dipanjan and the man who was talking to me

The man said,'He was a better student than I was. Now he teaches physics. I do physics—that's the difference between us. The college he teaches at is awful. He must know that. He is wasting his talent there. he should return to the mainstream.'

But that wasn't a subject he felt he would be able to raise with Dipanjan, if they were to meet. The matter was too embarrassing. All that Naxalite communist involvement—in which, from his own account, Dipanjan for the first time in his sheltered life appeared to have found community, drama, and purpose—now lay like an embarrassment between Dipanjan and the other world he had known.

Perhaps, the man said, Dipanjan was too ashamed to meet the people he had once known. So he lived where he did, and taught in that poor college. It was the same when he had gone to England: he had lived in the simplest kind of bedsitter.

Someone else at the dinner said that this kind of disappearing, this hiding away, was a very Bengali thing to do.

And I thought of Dipanjan coming out of the lane early that morning to meet me—in his cloth and shirt—coming after all those other people from the poor settlement with their respectable fronts, their briefcases and dispatch-boxes From what he had said at our first meeting, I had got the impression that he taught at his college out of a fellow feeling with the students, 'defeated soldiers'. And my first idea was that some similar feeling of social responsibility had made him live where he lived. But no; it wasn't like that. He lived where he did because he couldn't do better. In the villages he had suffered; in the town now he suffered almost as much from the dust and the mosquitos, and his wife suffered from the heat. He had chosen a hard way; and neither he nor his wife was used to harsh conditions.



An event then occurred, on 1 May 1969, which called Dipanjan back from the villages to Calcutta. On that day, at a public meeting on the Calcutta maidan, the great central park of Calcutta, the communist faction that had been organising the Naxalite peasant movement announced its separate identity as the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist).

Dipanjan said, 'My parents rejected the new party. Arati was not pleased at all. At this stage she would have liked me to leave politics. Our daughter was to be born in October. I stayed on in Calcutta, working politically in the docks, until the end of 1969. And then I returned to the villages.

'The earlier comrades had been asking the peasants to form their own organisations, to seize political power and, in the process, to confiscate landlords' lands and, later, guns—to harvest forcibly the pro-

duce of their lands, to take the produce of the landlords' lands And build centres of peasants' power, as opposed to landlords' power in the villages

'And in fact, there had been a big peasant uprising in the region in the harvest season I was too late for that It was during this uprising that the party line about individual killing arrived The killings were to be carried out by conspiratorially constituted squads And this time, when I began my Red Guard Action, I had to ask the peasants to form annihilation squads as they were called

'This time, for me the first trauma about the villages and non communication was over I had learned a little I began this Red Guard Action with more conviction and less nervousness This was an extensive journey lasting many months, six months to a year I moved from village to village community to community, tribals and non tribals untouchables and farmer castes I really learned about India'

'What did you feel about the new directive?

'Many of the comrades before had succeeded in forming squads and carrying out annihilations mainly in the area covered by the old uprising of the harvest season, based on land and harvest—occupation of land, and forcible harvesting'

'Were you shocked by the directive?

'No, no Indians are basically a very violent people I was doing Red Guard Action in new areas, and in spite of my best efforts I could not persuade the peasants to carry out a single annihilation—which was a cause of great remorse to me, and led to a feeling of inadequacy'

'Do you remember how you did the asking?'

'Oh, yes I asked a peasant in whose hut I was staying I remember that hut very well They had a new born baby, and she was being fed rice water instead of milk—in a bottle—something which appeared quite shocking to me These people were like others we talked to They had very little land, enough for perhaps three months' sustenance The party had asked us all to concentrate on these people

'I asked this man, "Who is the most hated landlord of the area?" He named the landlord I told him, "Why don't you kill him off?" He brings another peasant that evening, and asks me to broach the subject with him The two of them agree that that landlord should be killed off, but they refused to do it themselves'

'Did the idea shock them?'

'The idea didn't shock them As I keep on telling you, we are a very violent people I tried to convince them, coming and going, for about two months

'My life was a concealed life in that hut If the landlord knew of my presence he would have killed me or handed me over to the police I knew it was dangerous I knew I had exceeded the law But killing a man is nowhere considered contrary to any ethical code You must understand that the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata* rule the everyday religious code of the Hindus, just as the Koran does for the Muslims and these are books which extol killing for a greater purpose I should think that, like any other Indian I had no sense of ethical outrage in advocating killing for a cause

'Gandhi?'

Of the many ideals of Gandhi which the Indians didn't accept *ahimsa* non violence stands out most

'The Jains?

'They're a strange sect But it's the wrong perspective of India you have when you mention these religions—Buddhism, Jainism, and Gandhi I point to what happened in Kampuchea, Ceylon Burma, China—all countries ostensibly under the umbrella of Buddha and Confucius All these peoples are very violent

'Let's go back to the villages

'As I said I began to feel inadequate In late 1970 and early 1971 the movement as a whole faced a setback, and many of my friends started re-thinking

'In the last few months, before my arrest, I had become involved with tribal people I got to like them very much I felt at home with them I understood their political aspirations For the first time I had come across a section of peasants who thought and acted politically I used to talk a lot to a schoolmaster among them These months were very satisfying, the most satisfying of my life in the villages, more so because the doubts that my friends in the movement had developed about the line of individual killing—these doubts gave me the latitude to talk freely without the party trammels, which I was beginning to find impractical'

'How many people were annihilated in your area?'

'More than 100 people were killed in the area because of this line Most of them were landlords'

But now the police were closing in

'Our friends had to break off from the party, and many of us had to keep on the move, in Bihar and Bengal One night, at about eight or nine, we were at a food shop by a railway station in north Bihar There were some policemen in plain clothes there, shirts and trousers They were from the Bengal Police, and they were in search of some other Naxalites They had come to the railway food shop to buy some cooked meat for themselves One of my friends was recognised, and we were arrested

'At that time the police had started killing off Naxalites, and my first reaction was that they would kill us off This reign of terror was by this time six months old, and I had accustomed myself to such a fate—just to keep myself going

'The policemen at the food stall were older than us They were not abusive They took us to the police station There we immediately tried to influence the Bihari police officer in charge of us to prevent these policemen from Bengal from killing us

The Bihari officer, an educated man, said, 'I do respect you You work for the country But my duty as a police officer places me against you" We laughed at him "Why are you mocking us? These Bengali police officers will kill us in a few minutes time'

'They tied us with some ropes, and on the way the policemen gave us some blows, harping on the fact that we were Bengalis The Bihari police officer was shocked and immediately informed the whole police circuit of Bihar by radio of our arrest, so the Bengali policemen couldn't kill us, if that had been their intention

'Most of us were never tried Only a few were tried and convicted the rest of us were kept under detention without trial until the amnesty of 1977 in West Bengal

'I was in prison until October 1972, in Calcutta In prison I found two things which disheartened me The first was the quality of the Naxalite prisoners from Calcutta. We had been hearing that they had been killing individual policemen, even traffic constables, and suspected spies The prison was full with Naxalites, especially young boys, and they were not politically oriented at all What had happened was that there had been an upheaval against the school system—boys and girls forced into the school system, who had then dropped out, and had been recruited by the party for urban violence

'The party had fragmented. My own ideas were not clear. I felt there had been maladies within the movement. I felt that my political search had reached a dead end, and I would have to begin anew. And

'In prison I found two things which disheartened me. The first was the quality of the Naxalite prisoners from Calcutta...They were not politically oriented at all'

Extracted from *India: A Million Mutinies Now* by V.S. Naipaul; Rupa & Co.. 1990; Rs 250

for some time I could not think of myself as a political worker any longer.

'After I came to the Calcutta prison I could meet my parents and Arati regularly. No case could be proved against me. I remained in preventive detention. Finally, I wrote the government that if they released me, I would go abroad for further studies in physics.'

The petition was granted. He was accepted by London University, and his father paid his fare to England. The police went with him right up to the plane. He completed his PhD in London, and then came back to Calcutta. This was in September 1974.

I asked him, 'What do you think now?'

He fingered his glasses, squinted, and looked out through the window. I was sitting across the narrow table from him, in a chair with arms, between the two tall metal cupboards. Behind him was an empty room, with patches of new, level plaster on the walls.

He said, 'The major mistake, the basic misunderstanding of the Marxist position—I feel the people must liberate themselves. The intellectuals can only hand them the equipment for doing so.'

He now did civil rights work, and taught in the slums. 'I see no discontinuity with my earlier political search. Between going to the urban slums, and this teaching in the slums.' He leaned back against an olive-green metal cupboard, and considered the sky. 'Society is so structured that the toiling people can never find their own voice, their own view of the world, their own identity.'

I asked about Arati, and her time in England.

'It altered her world. Because she found for the first time that a woman was not merely or at all the appendage of some man. I was very happy to come back here. Arati cried for days, and her friends who were brought up never to show their emotions in public were unhappy for her. Given the choice, she would have continued to live in England—this feeling of freedom, and recognition of her as an individual.

'I had this running fight with her from 67 to 72—I could not convince her that if we stayed with my parents we would always be dominated by them. She did not recognise the domination as such. And only when we went to England she realised what I was saying. Until then she regarded that as part of my eccentricity, which, for example, had led me into the Naxalite movement. I used to say, "Let's take an apartment." Or: "Why don't you stand up to my mother? Why do you carry out everything my father says, even when it is hurting you?" She never knew there could be a different way of life. Nowadays things have changed, and are changing, but in the 1960s she was in no way an exception in her view of life.'

This gave an added point to what Arati had said at her house the previous day, when Dipanjan was having his shower. When Dipanjan had gone to live in the villages, Arati said, she had gone to live with Dipanjan's parents. In India a wife stayed with her in-laws; you moved from your parents' house to your husband's parents' house. India was different from other places; you had to know many things in order to write about India.

But now they lived by themselves.

I asked Dipanjan, 'Are you happy in the little house?'

'Yes. As far as Arati and I are concerned, the material side of life has never been important. Both of us are capable of hard physical toil.'

'What about the disorder of your bookcase there—things just thrown together? And the dust—can I mention the dust? You were saying that the college is a corporate place, and that is why it will never be cleaned.'

He said, 'I am ashamed of that, in my house. Both of us are overworked and can't find the time. Arati works as a teacher of physics in a morning college. She works there from 6.30 to 10, and you have to add an hour to go there, and two hours to come back. But I am ashamed of that disorder in my house. And say "dust", if you like. My grandfather would have taken me to task. But no one is ashamed of this place. That's the difference.'

'Do you feel that the most active part of your life is over?'

'Not at all. My life so far has been the first part of the search.'

'May I ask this? You have spent so much time thinking of others. Isn't that arrogant? Shouldn't you have also thought of developing your own talent? You don't have to answer. If you don't want to answer, I'll withdraw the question and not refer to it.'

'I'll answer. The most brilliant boy of the year before me at Presidency College is now a renowned professor in the U.S.A. He asked me the same question. Not the arrogance part. In physics the questions which interested me I found were beyond my ability to answer. I worked on them; I thought about them. I still work on them—or, I should say, I still read about them. But less difficult questions cannot hold my interest. In poetry I am never satisfied with what I write, and especially because the type of poetry I write can only appeal to a few people like myself. But I find helping others is something I can tackle, although I make mistakes. I keep on learning from them.'

• *To be concluded*





ARIES

March 21—April 20

Give equal importance to work and play, but better finish your pending chores Perks and promotion are on the cards Romance will be available in bits and parts Your financial graph shows an upward trend Unless absolutely essential, do not travel Minor health ailments caused by overexertion and indulgence are possible

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Journey ceremony publicity communications and success are the main trends of the week It is time to negotiate and settle It is also the right time for romance as your charm will be devastating Those in business commerce commission and profession do tremendously well You might suffer from some throat problems

GEMINI

May 21 June 20

The trend this week is in two directions home, house and family and buying, selling and a creative cycle Mars helps you to make the right financial moves try to be firm and positive Expect good news in romance Either you visit folks or they descend upon you Minor health problems like fever, boils, congestion and constipation are likely but nothing to really bog you down

CANCER

June 21 July 20

All depends upon your ability to handle people and situations Expenses will be heavy You are most certainly on your way to a contract or an assignment Tuesday and Wednesday are ideal for romance Your psychological complaints may have a material basis Cultivate a hobby or pastime The home and family offer fun, expenses and personal satisfaction

LEO

July 21 –August 21

This week too, the highlight is on your work and financial dealings as well as transactions A reunion of some sort is predicted Mars assures you of a strong craving for romance despite a few problems and entanglements Work could compel you to travel You will not be totally free from health vexations and irritations

VIRGO

Aug 21 Sept 20

Romance overtakes creative pursuits education research and joy through children in the week's highlights Whatever you do now you reap in October Romance will be satisfying The week is favourable for travel as the sun conjuncts your planet Mercury

LIBRA

Sept 21 Oct 22

Expenses will be for a worthy cause, friends will pitch in and a facelift or a major refurbishment home property and factory is likely Collaborations secret deals, transactions, buying, selling and trading are also well signified Romance will be pleasing Thanks to Mars - Jupiter your ability to communicate and commute will be considerable

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Contacts, documents, contracts, friendship, fraternity, fun and profit make it an exciting, go - ahead week Negotiations will turn out well, money will be made and new opportunities knock at your door Romance promises good fun and plenty of amusement Your journey will be fruitful Expect visitors to drop in

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Buying, selling investing and a tremendous urge to achieve will keep you busy Expect some opposition and ill-health Always give your work the first priority, romance can wait See that you do not run out of energy and ideas Work might compel you to travel Changes in the home and office are predicted

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

It is time to meet, love, discuss, negotiate, settle, invest, expand and make merry Personal affairs are also highlighted In romance, you will coo and woo and make plans Expect money to pour in Do not give in to depression and imaginary worries By September 4, everything should be fine

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Mars helps you in hobbies, romance and travel, but expenses and ill-health will have to be contended against and overcome Loans, funds and investments make an important trio In romance, your heart will pound and beat a bit too much Travel is on the cards Health safeguards are essential

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Friends will support you, but enemies will be out to get you Collaborations, marriage and disputes make for a topsy-turvy time Romance will pulsate and throb An old, nagging health problem could reappear September is ideal for travel and correspondence.

BIRTHDAYS

September 2

Moon opposition Jupiter Expect visitors to drop in You will be successful in interviews and exams Marriage is on the cards for the eligible There is a strong possibility of a change in the nature and type of your work

September 3

Moon opposition Venus Do not overindulge It would be much better to be strict with yourself Plans for beautification of the home will take shape Romance blossoms and children give joy

September 4

Sun trine Neptune You will take risks and probably come out on top Visits journeys, marriage and collaborations are definitely emphasised This is a birthyear of progress and happiness You will be imaginative and sympathetic

September 5

Full moon, Pisces Marriage, new relationships, friendships, travel, import-export and gains are indicated You will communicate happily and subtly All depends upon your ability and willingness to reach out to people and places

September 6

Moon trine Jupiter A year to make and change your job You need to work hard and intelligently In property and family matters expect changes and improvements A good birthyear

September 7

Mercury sextile Pluto Doctors, lawyers, teachers, politicians and religious heads will be able to sway others and thus be victorious Guard against jealous people and take adequate health precautions A major house move or facelift is indicated. October and June will be eventful

September 8

Moon trine Mercury· News, messages and contacts hold the key to a better and brighter future. Journalists, teachers, writers, scientists, computer professionals, lawyers and doctors do a fine job. Family and the home front are pleasantly highlighted.

A YEN FOR KRISHNA



Rina Paul is trying to Japanise themes from the *Mahabharata* and the Krishna legend in her new series of paintings. RANJAN BANERJEE talks to her

Rina Paul's handsome studio, redolent with old Japanese music and strong South Indian coffee, lies littered with silk-screen canvases in different stages of completion. One of these brilliantly imaginative pieces is called *Krishna and the Subconscious* where the Lord is shown entangled in a desperate fight with the underwater serpant *Kalia*. "I haven't painted the waves yet. Each wave cresting in the storm of the fight would just about suggest a deadly snake spreading its hood," says Ms Paul. As she paints sitting beside a window that opens onto a small garden styled on a Japanese model she listens to soft-flowing Japanese *Tang* music played on *oteki* (bamboo flute) and *sho* (mouth organ) or to the magical *Samisen*, a long-necked instrument that is often heard in the Kabuki theatre.

Ms Paul is working on a run of 14 strikingly original, yet delicate paintings in water colour on silk-screen canvases washed carefully with undiluted cow-milk and dried in the tempered sunlight streaming through the parabolas that she has had specially made as a light-controlling and drying device. To put it in a nutshell, she is Japanising themes from the Krishna-legend and the *Mahabharata*.

"The subjects, the ideations, the moods and the metaphors all come from ancient Indian lores, traditions and heritage. But the graphics have been suggested by the styles of different classical schools of Japanese painting. What I'm trying to do in these paintings is to fuse two great cultures of the East. Not that it hasn't been attempted before. The legends of the Buddha have inspired Japanese painters down the years. In fact, a new school of Japanese painting evolved immediately after Buddhism came to Japan from Korea about 1500 years ago. The Japanese art of the Asuka period, say between 600-700 AD, was significantly influenced by Buddhist scriptures, icons, *sutras* and banners' she says. Then pauses, before adding "I've of course tried to do something ver different from what has been done before something totally new."

"So far, it has taken me about a month t



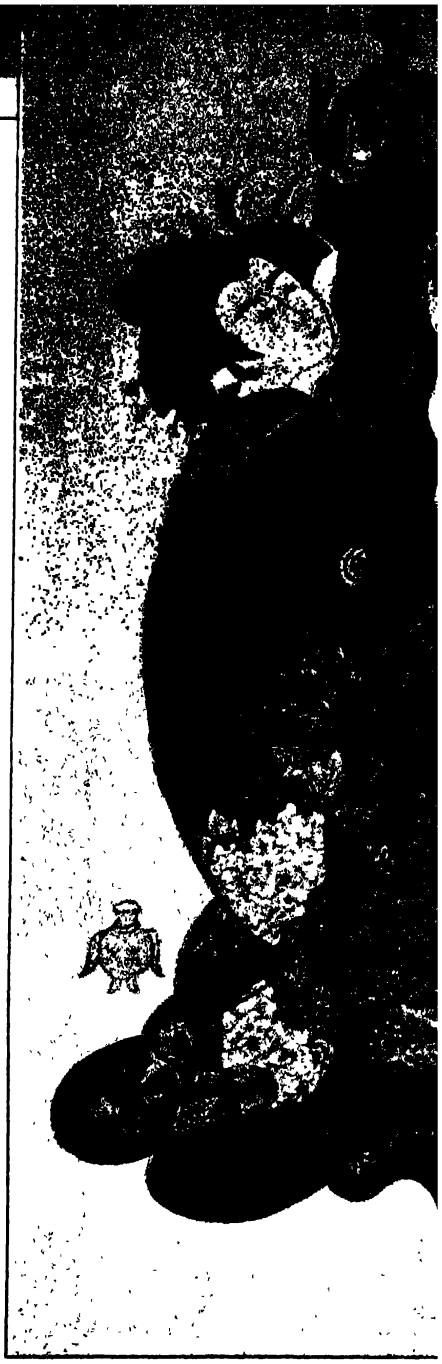
Krishna and the Subconscious

mplete each painting. I'm almost through th nine. With my exhibition not too far ay, I'll have to work much faster on the maining five," says Ms Paul as she sits in r cosy, imaginatively laid-out studio-m-living room in Salt Lake. The univer-lly familiar themes and icons from the shna-legend and the *Mahabharata* are going through interesting metamorphoses in these paintings to cut across into a new social and cultural nexus. And stylistically this series is important and ingenious because it not only exhibits a wide range of graphics but also tries to achieve a kind of fusion of different classical schools of Japanese art. For example , there are

Salim Paul



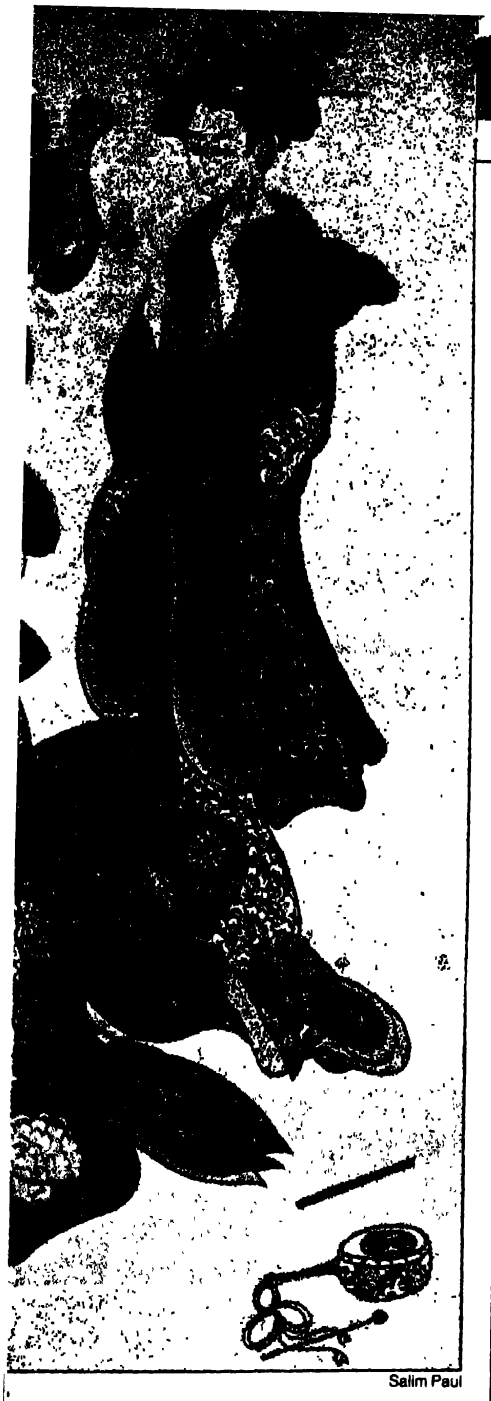
A Tryst Through the Black



Handful of Eternity

echoes from the Heian paintings of the 10th century in some of the realistic lines just as there are recalls from the *Momoyama* period of the 17th century in the dazzling, imposing colours. "Despite my very own stylisation of colours one could probably find in some of my paintings a callback to Hasegawa Tohaku's (1539-1610) decorative style and his elegant brushwork."

Ms Paul has let her imagination play with the captions. Take, for instance, *Handful of Eternity*. It shows Lord Krishna as a playful child being fondled by his mother Jashoda while another woman keenly watches with a seeming desire to touch the



Salim Paul

enigmatic child. "The most difficult obstacle I had to overcome in this picture was Krishna's legendary hair, almost always tied up into a knot with a peacock plume. I had to make do without it because a Japanese baby would seldom have so much hair on his head. I knew I was being shockingly iconoclastic, but ethnic authenticity called for it."

Although Ms Paul had done away with the Lord's locks, she has introduced the mythical flute very ingeniously. It lies unobtrusively in the foreground, bringing in a whole gamut of emblematic associations. This gorgeous picture, meticulous in its controlled linear choreography and strikingly lavish in its multichromatic projection could have been a *Momoyama* masterpiece. However, Ms Paul would feel more comfortable with an understatement like, "One may see a little of Hakusai in it perhaps." Then realising that the name Katsushika Hakusai might not mean very much to me she adds very politely, "This 19th century master of the *Ukiye-e* school of painting, even though he laid particular emphasis on landscape views and historical scenes, has been a great influence on me. I admire his amazing skill of execution. At 89, Hakusai was still seeking an ultimate aesthetic norm for art and he wrote that at 90 he would be capable of penetrating deeper into the essence of realities, at 100 he would become even more fascinating and at 110 each dot, each line of his painting would come to possess a life of its own."

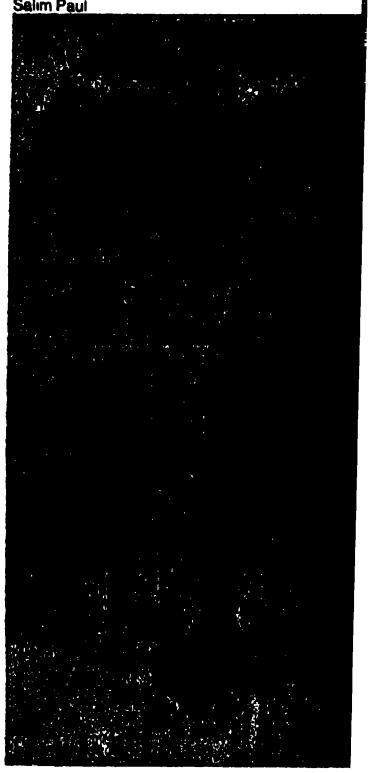
Ms Paul stops for a sip of coffee and then says with a smile, "In all these silk-screen paintings I've tried to recapture a little of Hakusai's intense detailing. But if I were 60 years older than I am today I'd have done these canvases much better."

Another extremely lyrical piece, executed with great skill on a black silk-screen, is called *A Tryst Through the Black*. The canvas depicts Radhika, "the eternal woman" being adorned by a friend before she goes to meet her lover Lord Krishna, "the quintessential male," somewhere out in the mysterious dark. "I've floated the slender streak of a crescent moon, as it were, precariously on the dark flow of the night. Radhika is just waiting for the moon to get overpowered by the surrounding darkness so that the moonless night becomes even more amiable for the secret tryst," explains Ms Paul. The dramatic spread of the women's dresses on the black screen, with their cascading fall spun out through lines and colours so realistically, seem to suggest the ecstasy and agony of Radhika's mind before she starts on her journey through the dark night to meet her Lord lover.

"As I was doing this canvas one day I was playing on the stereo some *Tosangaku* music. It's a very old Japanese dance music with mysteriously subdued lyrical movements. Something of that music seems to have got into the elongated, romantic linearities of this particular painting."

Another painting, done in an inkish monochrome on a golden backdrop, has been named *Krishna and Radha in Eternal Coyness*. The lovers sit barely touching one another under the thatched roof of a cottage outlined in the background. Ms Paul's eloquent but controlled lines transforming contours into metaphors of desires and dreams assume the compulsive rhythms of Japanese calligraphy. "In this particular picture I've deliberately eschewed colours to ensure a very linear almost calligraphic style which is characteristic of Japanese painting through the ages. In some of the ancient Japanese scrolls you may have realised the amazing power of such free-flowing calligraphic style. One of these scrolls

Salim Paul



Krishna and Radha in Eternal Coyness

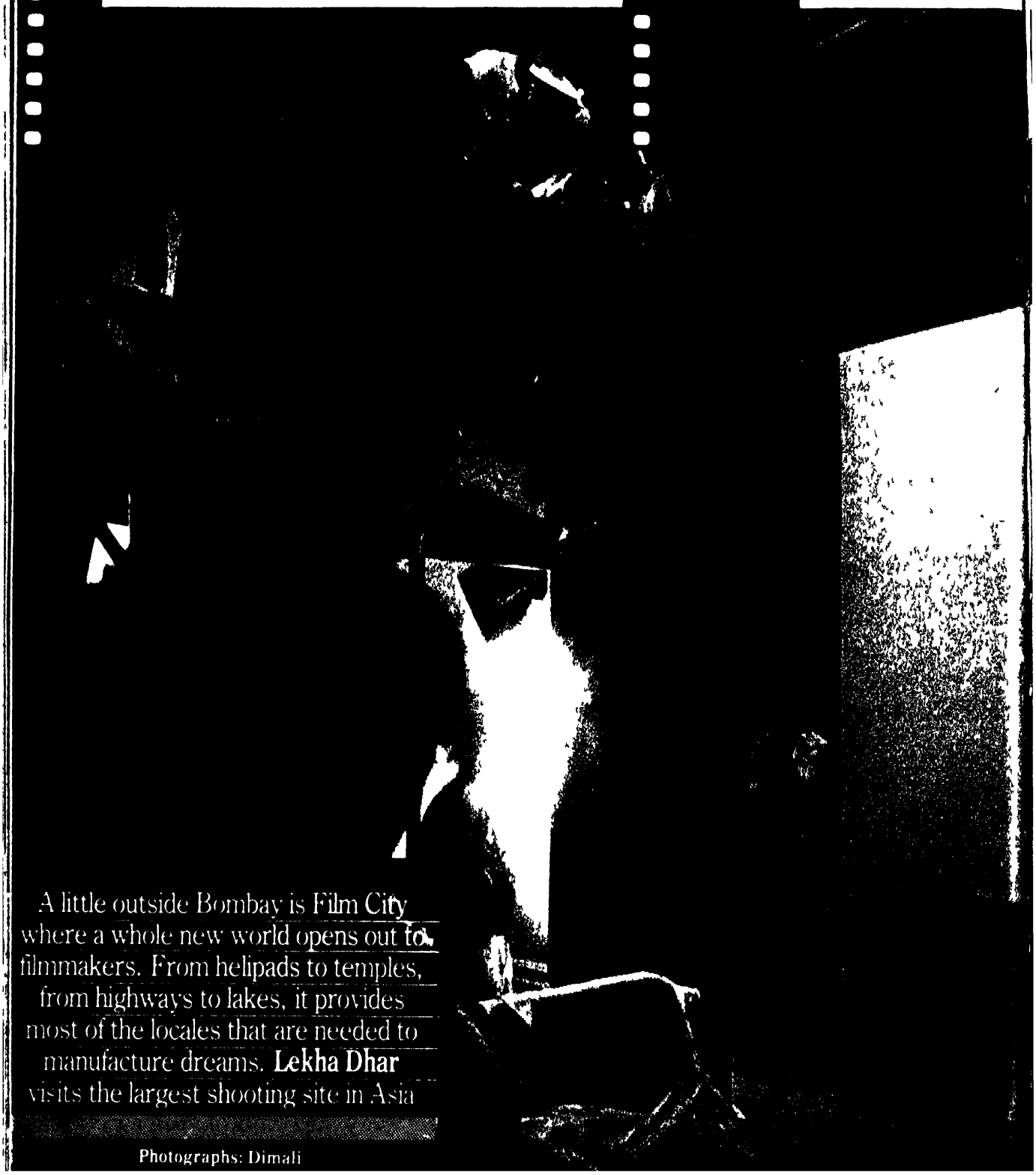
shows *Bodhisatta* on a cloud. Done in [illegible] and in a purely linear style during the Nara period (700-800 AD) it is a brilliant example of the heights to which Japanese calligraphic painting can scale. My *Krishna and Radha in Eternal Coyness*, which is also in monochromatic lines, may recall to some of my close viewers echoes from the [illegible] century Japanese painting."

Looking at Ms Paul's immediate audience and discussing her paintings with [illegible] one may have reasons to feel that [illegible] saturation with the Japanese culture is [illegible] about complete.

"What is very important to me at this moment is of course meeting the deadline for the exhibition. But ultimately, I'd like to paint these Indian classical themes on the Japanese kimono. Wouldn't that be a landmark in the history of the Indo-Japanese relations? Well, my headquarters will have to be in Tokyo then, for all you know," says Ms Paul and laughs a hearty laugh. ■

COVER STORY

INSIDE FILM



A little outside Bombay is Film City where a whole new world opens out to filmmakers. From helipads to temples, from highways to lakes, it provides most of the locales that are needed to manufacture dreams. **Lekha Dhar** visits the largest shooting site in Asia

Photographs: Dimali

CITY

Doordarshan's Monday serial *Gul Gulshan Gulfam*, did not have to travel too far to get to Kashmir. The unit drove only 40 kms from the bustle of south Bombay and the lens eye transformed a stretch of water, with a little bird gliding over it into Dal Lake.

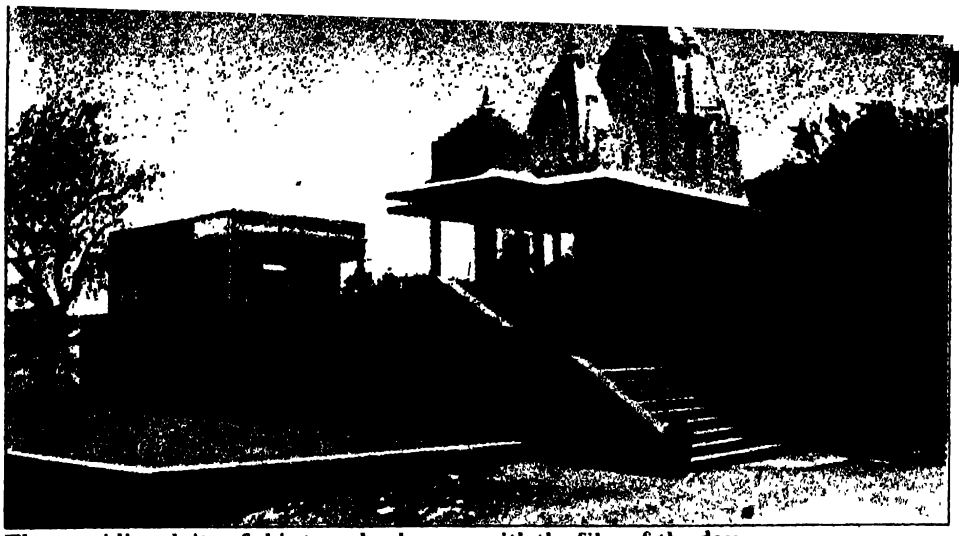
This is Film City where dreams are dressed in song and dance and locations indoor and outdoor fit into a dozen screenplays simultaneously.

Except from the mood shots in Kashmir, 80 per cent of *Gulshan Gulfam* has been shot in this bright spot in Goregaon (East) outside Bombay city limits according to P. Nagendra Rao, manager (studios) of the Maharashtra Film, Stage and Cultural Development Corporation Limited.

The road winds up to a rough and narrow path that opens into a helipad and one can see green carpeted hills indolently receding into a distant lake. The dome of a temple sticking out from hollow and a few scattered picnic remnants are the only interruptions in that silent tryst with nature. Hidden from view is another lake, much smaller, tranquil and surrounded by grass and trees. Somewhere in the distance, a long, lonely road with a small bridge cuts into the green hillsides.

It is another world, a little distance away from the asphalt jungle, familiar yet part of the make-believe atmosphere of Hindi films. Kashmir or Shimla, Darjeeling or Ooty, hill

Lights being focused on the sets of *Dharamshakti*



The presiding deity of this temple changes with the film of the day

station or verdant countryside, they are all right here in Film City.

The temple here has seen a hundred different deities installed, its pillars adorned by carvings representing the various sects of the Hindu religion. The script decides the reigning deity of the day. A legion of cops chases robbers somewhere, villains prowl on their prey elsewhere. Way above the winding roads and green hillsides, the abandoned helipad comes to life when the "Boss" and "John" whirr away with the loot, or a tree in the distance looks more buoyant with the hero and his *jaaneman*, dressed to kill, running around it to the tune of Anand-Milind.

The 'plains' have served for the close shots of *Mahabharat*'s Kurukshetra and Tipu Sultan now crosses swords with the British here. The first few episodes of *Ramayan* were shot at Film City before the unit moved to Umergaon. "All period dramas have to necessarily come here," says Rao. "They don't get this atmosphere anywhere else." Adds V. Rathod, assistant manager (studios). "Film critics and regular filmgoers can now recognise Film City locations. You find so much shot here in so many films."

Rao claims that almost 100 per cent of all films coming out of Bombay have shot at least one or two scenes at Film City. The recent blockbuster, *Tezaab*, was fully shot here, as was *Buniyaad*. About 90 per cent of *Main Azaad Hoon* and 95 per cent of *Mahabharat* (except the long distance war scenes) also used Film City locations.

Considered the biggest in Asia, Film City spreads over 346 acres of land, and is even bigger than the Universal Studios of Hollywood. In terms of technology, Hong Kong studios are better fitted with hi tech equipment, special effects trained personnel and stuntmen, but in area, Film City scores over all the rest.

Says Subhash Sagar, Ramanand Sagar's eldest son, who handles production, "As a studio it is very good. It is a boon especially to small time filmmakers. The space also comes in useful. For instance, there is a thrilling sequence in *Bhagawat* for which we erected a fort. Dharmendra is tied with a rope and an elephant is brought to crush him, but before it does that the elephant remembers a childhood association with him. We couldn't have done this in our studio, Nataraj. Or at Rajkamal, with buildings all around. At Film City with all the hills and greenery around it was ideal. For era episodes like B.R.'s (Chopra) *Mahabharat*, Film City has really been useful. It depends on what you are looking for or on the type of film you want to shoot."

Amit Khanna feels that although Film City is definitely better than Bombay's older studios, a lot still needs to be done. "Since it is government-managed there should be a greater focus on certain developmental activities.

"I was involved with *Buniyaad* which was shot there. I shot the climax of my film *Shesh* at Film City. *Sheeshay Ka Ghar* was shot there. A major part of *Man Pasand* was shot on a huge outdoor set on what is euphemistically called the helipad—originally it was planned at as a regular helipad for people to commute—now only filmi helicopters land there."

And now movie moghuls and artistes, junior and eminent, have much to be happy about in terms of establishment plans to have a compact film world with all the requisite facilities in one complex. Without disturbing the scenic locale surrounding 10 acres of land on which the studios and other Film City buildings stand, an additional 120 acres is being acquired for construction.

"The land will be used to set up a colour lab, homes for lower income group junior artistes, and complete facilities so that producers don't have to move from their residences Juhu to the city to get their work done, and the rest el where. There will be resid tial arrangements for the p ducers here also. We are h ing that this will help conc trate film activities here," s Rao.

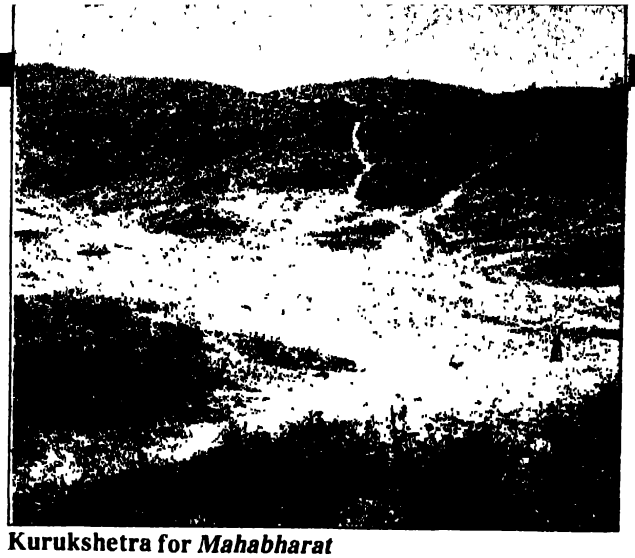
Recommendations to c tralise film industry work w made by the Kasbekar C mittee in 1985. An adviso public sector undertakir P.D Kasbekar said that su move would improve the p pect of the industry. It is months now since the Ma ashtra government cle the project in principle. actual order for the tran of 120 acres of land is awaited

But for now the actio concentrated within the acres of Film City, with mand putting it ahead of e other studios in Bombay the others Filmistan Kamalistan are doing while the famous R.K. Stu is going downhill

Used to anything betv five and a dozen shootin day, the Film City ave goes down during the soons. But the slump is where in evidence the sets of *Dharamsh* Lightmen, soundmen, v ers, assistants, the man they are all over the place

Highway scene where car chases take place





Kurukshetra for *Mahabharat*

0 30 am at Film City, and the entre of all this hyperactivity s a storeroom that has been nverted into a drawing room mplete with sofas, nchairs, potted plants and fee tables

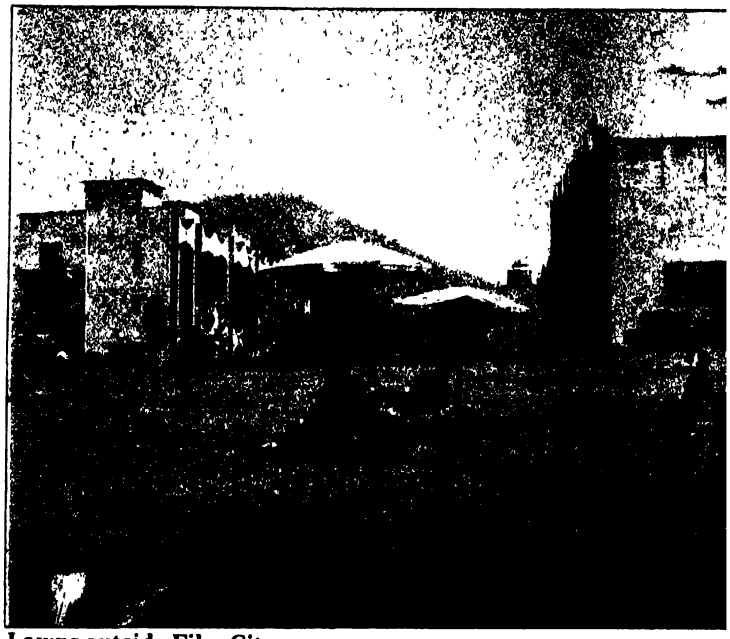
The green carpet meets the cks laid out in preparation a trolley shot. In a corner he room, a painter adds the shing touches to an off- ite door. In all that hustle bustle, the unmitiated are danger of being knocked vn by busybee workers ting around props. The parations go on, anticipat the arrival of the star of the ow, Mithun Chakraborty s director Ravi Chopra, e are nearing the end of the This is just patchwork thun will be here after 11 In film this is the place where has to come and drop a kage. Not more than an ur's shooting " That will be seconds on celluloid

Just nearby, at Studio No 1, eparations are on for a tele- son serial. A dressing table th a vase of roses and ther full of flowers stand The director moves in and t of an open doorway, dis- sfied with arrangements, ile others shout instructions a lightman balanced pre- ously on the door frame If curious onlookers manage get past these busy sections of filmy bustle, without stumbling on the wires and lighting equipment strewn around, the winding passages will lead them to the airconditioned studio These passages immediately bring to mind many a Hindi movie where Shashi Kapoor or Jeetendra are pushed on stretchers by hospital attendants to the operating theatre beyond The walls here are marked with "Emergency Ward", "Sailence please" (note filmdom's scorn for the English language) and similar hospital grafitti.

The entrance to the airconditioned studio is barred by an attendant, who stubbornly says that shooting is in progress and nobody, but nobody is allowed in It is only the director's okay which permits one onto the sets for an ad film on paints, Shalimar Paints, to be precise. An executive of Far Video is hesitant about pictures being taken of the sets "You know, there is secrecy in this. We wouldn't like our competitors to know."

The airconditioned studio is about the most expensive that Film City has to offer. Shootings here cost Rs 5,000 per shift (eight hours each). The non-AC and outdoor locales are Rs 2,000 per shift.

Imaginative producers make use of all parts of Film City. The entrance to an airport in one film becomes a railway station in another. It also serves for school and college entrances, and whatever else the producer/director seeks to devise.



Lawns outside Film City





Film City lake: Today in Kashmir, tomorrow in Nainital

"Imagination is limitless," say the officials "We can create permanent sets, but the art directors do not like it. They prefer to create and dismantle sets -that brings them more money. Our creating permanent outdoor sets would interfere with this. This is not the case in some other places. In Hollywood, most of the sets are permanent "

But for now in India's own Hollywood, Film City and its panoramic settings will have to do. And for all those familiar tree-covered hillsides, lake scenes, car chases on lonely and tortuous hill roads, Film City will have to be the port of call. ■

7 DAYS

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aaj Ka Arjun:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 242266), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311522), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 351382), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Madhuban (Regent Park).

A film by K.C. Bokadia, starring megastar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Prada and Radhika. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917)—4 shows, Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)—noon.

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy. The music is by Nadeem Shravan.

• **Amba:** Opera (Lenin Sarani; 281849), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Moonlight (T.C. Dutta Street; 254956), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757).



Meenakshi Seshadri and Anil Kapoor in *Amba*

Shabana Azmi, Anil Kapoor and Meenakshi Seshadri play the lead in this Mohan Kumar film. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road; 280141)—4 shows.

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher.

• **Jawani Zindabad:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046)—4 shows; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—noon; Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road; 355059)—3 shows.

Aamir Khan, Farha and Kader Khan are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Arun Bhatt. The music is by Anand Milind.

• **Jeevan Ek Sanghursh:** El (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383)- shows; Talkie Show House (Sh das Bhaduri Street; 55227(Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenu 410417)—3 shows.

Anil Kapoor and Meenaks Seshadri are the lead pair in th film directed by Rahul Rawail. Th music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Mera Pati Sirf Mera Ha** Roxy (Chowringhee Plac 284138)—4 shows.

A social entertainer, starrin Jeetendra, Rekha, Radhika, An pam Kher and Utpal Dutt. The fil is directed by Manobala and th music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

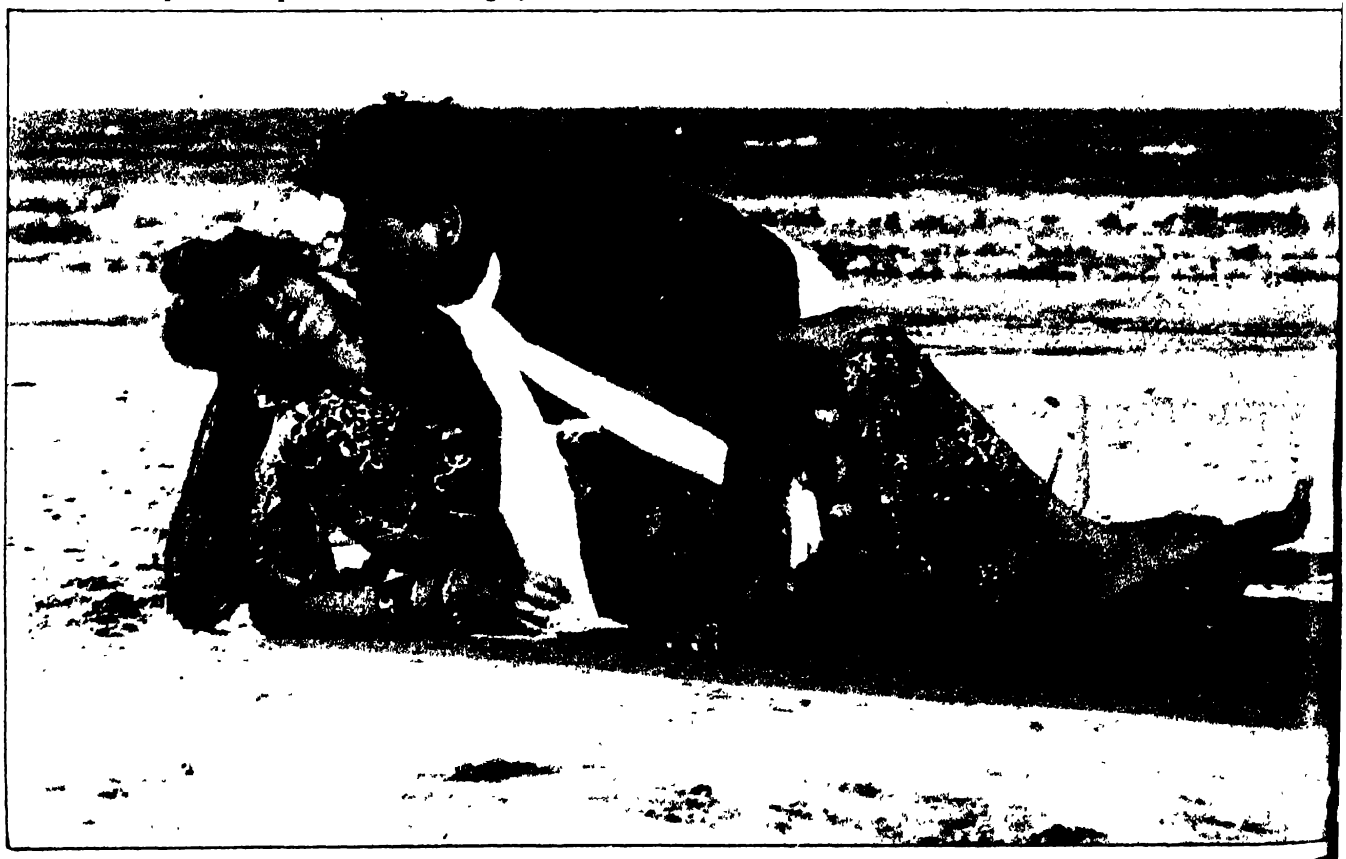
• **Bhangagara:** Darpana (Bidha Sarani; 558080)—2.30, 5.15,

Directed by Guru Bagchi, th main attractions of this film ar Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Deepank De, Subhendu Chatterjee, Debi Mukherjee and Rajeshwari Ro Choudhury. The music is b Ravindra Jain.

• **Debata (A):** Minar (Bidha Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P Mukherjee Road· 473462), Chha bighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Victor Banerjee, Debashre Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, Ka Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arju

Debutante Rupali and Tapas Paul in Anil Ganguly's *Balidaan*



Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast.

Special Events



Anup Jalota

2 September: 6 pm

A Bharata Natyam duet by Kalamandalam Venkitt and Uma Venkitt, conducted by Thankamani Kutty.

At Calcutta University Institute Hall.

3 September: 6.30 pm

Durbar and VST Industries Ltd present *Sham-e-Ghazal*, featuring Anup Jalota.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (29 Ashutosh Chowdhury Avenue; 751797).

4 September: 2.30 pm-4.30 pm

Puja craft, organised by Progressive Educational Techniques Society.

At Loreto House (Middleton Row).

7 September: 5.30 pm

Chhaya Hindol's 25th anniversary programme features Ranjan Majumdar's *Hira-Manik-Sona*, children's dance drama, and dance drama *Urvashi* (based on Kalidas' *Vikramorvashi*), dramatised and composed by Ranjan Majumdar and assisted by Tejendra Narayan Majumdar.

At Rabindra Sadan

7 September: 6.30 pm

Padatik and USIS present the Hindi play *Baarish Wala* (a translation of Richard Nash's *The Rain Maker*), directed by Rodney Marriott and designed by Christopher Barreca.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

8 September: 6 pm

Natanam Kalakshetra presents a solo Bharata Natyam recital by Kumar Ashis, disciple of Khagendra Nath Barman.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

Kalamandalam and Uma Venkitt



TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7). AI 1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI 112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1). AI 162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4) SU-537 at 1525

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4): SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4) RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr (5) SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep (2, 4, 7). IC-231 at 1050. Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG 314 at 1355

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6). IC 843 at 0755 Dep (6): IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6): IC 844 at 1115 Dep (6): IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG. 094 at 1620. Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr, (daily): BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840. Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7). BG-093 at 1540, Arr. (5) BG-097 at 1740, Arr. (1,7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6). IC-224 at 1840.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (2,5): BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2): KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2): KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7). AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300, Arr (7): AI-1122 at 0340

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2). AI-101 at 0240; Dep (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC 265 at 1700, Arr. (daily) IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7) IC-271 at 1500, Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7) IC-272 at 2025,

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6). IC-542 at 0730; Arr (1), IC-541 at 0945, Arr (2,4,6): IC 541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep. (daily) IC-229 at 1250;Arr. (daily) IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4) IC-202 at 1500.

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat - Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030; Arr. (3,5,7): IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6). IC 219 at 1120. Arr (1,3,5,6): IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC 222 at 1320.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep (2,4). IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3,5,6,7). IC 243 at 0600, Dep. (1) IC-243 at 1400, Arr. (daily) IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2,4) IC-244 at 1600, Arr (3,5, 6,7). IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1660

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily). IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar - Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6) IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7) IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 , Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep (1) IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1) IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep. (1,3,5). PF-727 at 0530; Arr. (1,3,5). PF-728 at 1120.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (7) PF-730A at 1050.

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (1,3,5,7). PF-701 at 1140, Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-702 at 1615

Calcutta - Agartala - Kamalpur - Kailashar - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-729 at 0550, Arr (2,4,6) PF-730 at 1010.

Calcutta - Silchar - Shillong - Guwahati - Silchar - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-701 at 1100; Arr. (2,4,6) PF-702 at 1715.

Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (2,6) PF-709 at 0815, Arr. (2,6): PF-710 at 1840.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh: Dep (4) PF-709 at 0815, Arr. (4): PF-710 at 1750.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (7). PF-709 at 0600; Arr. (7). PF-710 at 1705.

Calcutta - Agartala: Dep (1,3,5) PF-729A at 1130 Arr.

(1,3,5)· PF-730A at 1410
Calcutta - Aizawl - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6) PF 705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310 Arr (2,4,6)). PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655
Calcutta - Jamshedpur -Ranchi - Patna: Dep (1,3,5) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (1 3,5) PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta - Jamshedpur: Dep (2,4,6) PF-717 at 0550, Arr. (2,4,6)· PF-718 at 0745.
Calcutta - Cooch Behar: Dep. (2,4,6,7)· PF-707 at 0600; Arr (2,4,6, 7) PF-708 at 0855.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Silchar - Guwahati: Dep (1,3,5,7): PF-705 at 0915, Arr (1,3,5,7): PF-706 at 1620.

Trains

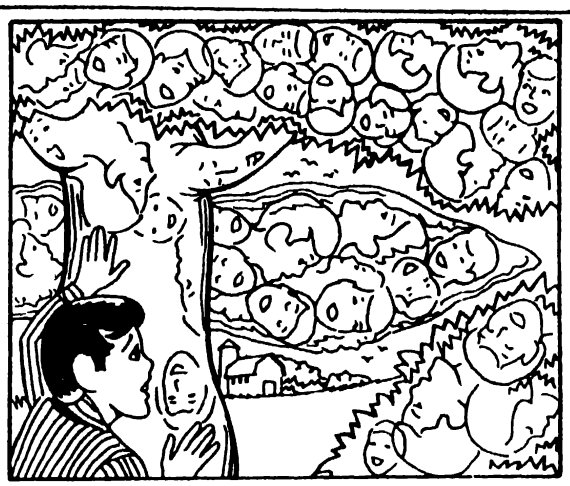
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-30	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-00	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-15	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

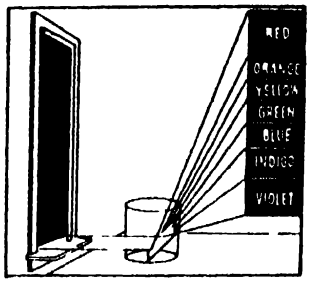
Departure Up	Departure Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Arrival Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express**	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express**	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Munday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



STILL LIFE! Faces of 44 schoolmates are on the mind of our young friend, above. How many of them can you find?

• SUM PICK! Pick a number, subtract 1, multiply by 2, add the original number. Now, add two, divide by 3 and you'll have the original number.



CAPTIVE RAINBOW

A real rainbow is a reflection of the sun's rays bent by raindrops into a variety of colours. This same effect may be produced in a "captive" rainbow set up at home.

A pocket mirror, jar (or glass), and some water are needed.

Place mirror inside the jar, pour in water to cover mirror, and place jar on a firm surface, where it will intercept light from the sun (or any bright light).

Adjust mirror angle properly to reflect toward a wall. As water calms, a spectrum of colours will appear on wall.

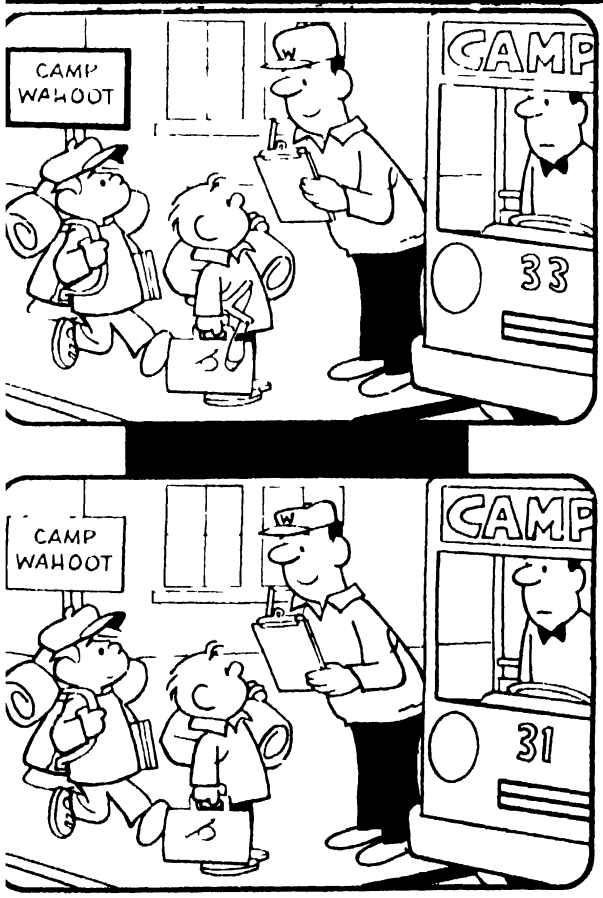
• NAME GAME! Names of both persons shown in the drawing below begin with the letter P (at top). Both names may be spelled out by proceeding clockwise around the circle, noting each third letter for one of the names and each fifth letter for the other.

How quickly can you determine the two names?

Penny and Phil are the names



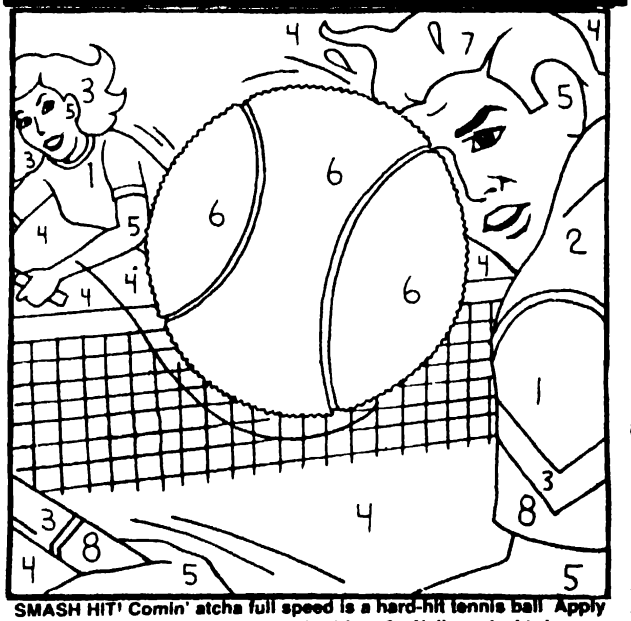
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1 Sign is different. 2 Strap is shorter. 3 Slingshot is missing. 4 Cap is different. 5 Arm is moved. 6 Number is different.

FUNSPOT



SMASH HIT! Comin' atcha full speed is a hard-hit tennis ball. Apply these colors neatly: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. blue.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words.

INTERCOM

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible twosome: Corn Iern



QUIZ ◻ Neil O'Brien

"I am eager to know why March 25 is considered as 'Lady-Day," writes Shrabanti, Calcutta 91.

Lady-Day, March 25, commemorates the Annunciation of Our Lady, the Virgin Mary. The Annunciation is the day on which the angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she would be the mother of the Saviour. In earlier times it was called "St Mary's Day in Lent" to distinguish it from other feast days of Our Lady which were also Lady Days. Until 1752, Lady Day was the legal beginning of the year. It was also one of the year's four traditional quarter days in Britain on which labourers could be hired and rents had to be paid.

An interesting offshoot of this term is the expression "When Our Lord falls in Our Lady's lap" which refers to when Easter Sunday falls on the same date as Lady Day (March 25) which is supposed to be unlucky for England

Arnab Mukherjee reports from Patna:

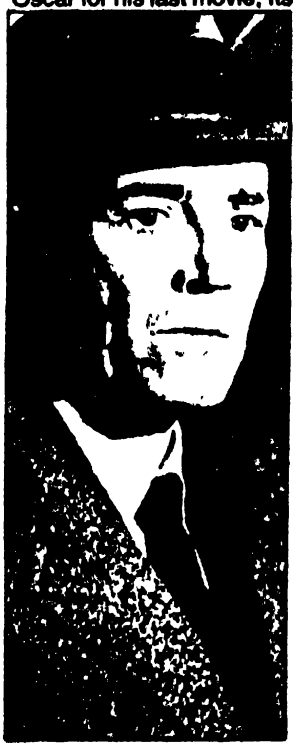
"The Patna Round Table No. 58 recently held a quiz with a difference—this one meant for professionals in different fields. There were nine teams with amusing—yet apt—names like Shylocks (bankers), Outlaws (senior policemen), Red Tape (bureaucrats), Mirch Masala (housewives), Black Bores (teachers), Quacks (docs), Raiders (tax officials), Freedom Fighters (journalists) and Berojgars (a group of bright young graduates, actually). The quiz was conducted with customary wit and flair by Barry O'Brien, who is undoubtedly the most popular and most-loved quizmaster in Patna quiz circles. Though Barry repeatedly asked everyone to have-fun-and-forget-about-the-scores, we did in fact get to see a real nail-biting finish which needed a tie-breaker to resolve the deadlock.

CBS

***11th Question*: In economics, what are "runaway plants"? (Manish Kar Ray, C/o Mr M.K. Kar Ray, Compdil, Asansol-713304.)**
***Ans:* Trade unions in developed industrial nations apply this term to the stages of production of certain industries which are carried out in developing countries to reap the benefits of cheap and abundant labour there, thus resulting in loss of employment opportunities at home.**

QUESTIONS

1. Who was shown the first red-card in any World Cup Soccer Final?
2. What is kakistocracy? (Rakesh Verma, Belgharia)
3. What is the Wulkar Lake's old name? (Nirmalya Kumar Sarkar, Asansol 1)
4. Henry Fonda won an Oscar for his last movie, its title? (Arjani Kumar, Ranchi 1)



Henry Fonda

5. What is a 'launch window' in satellite launching programme? (Sougata Dhar Chowdhury, Bolpur 4)
6. Whose coronation had to be postponed because of illness? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)
7. Which Bengali film was based on *The Sound of Music?* (Subrata Haldar, Tribeni 3)
8. Which of Ingemar Bergman's films has dealt explicitly with the conflict between Judaism and Christianity, or more precisely, with the threat of Judaism to Christianity? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral 5)
9. Who won the first gold medal for India at the inaugural Asian Games and in which event? (Mohan Kumar Agrawal, Bargarh 28)
10. Who is given the King George V Cup ? (Sheikh Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)

ANSWERS

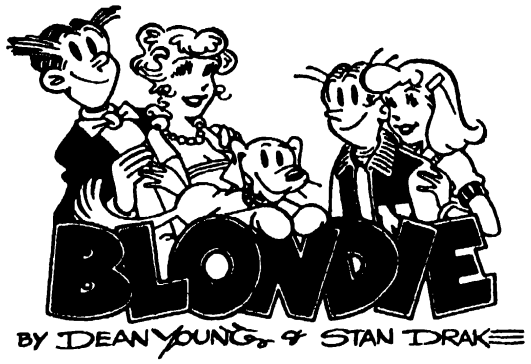
1. Argentina's Manzon in 1990.
2. Government by the worst citizens.
3. Mahapadma.
4. *On Golden Pond.*
5. It is the precise and precalculated time at which a satellite can be successfully launched.
6. Edward VII's. He had to have his appendix removed.
7. *Joy-Jayanti.*
8. *The Touch.*
9. Sachin Nag, 100m Free Style.
10. The winner of the men's singles title at Wimbledon.

Raiders finished first, outgunning Outlaws and mos surprisingly Mirch Masala came a close third—who could ever have thought th housewives knew so muc

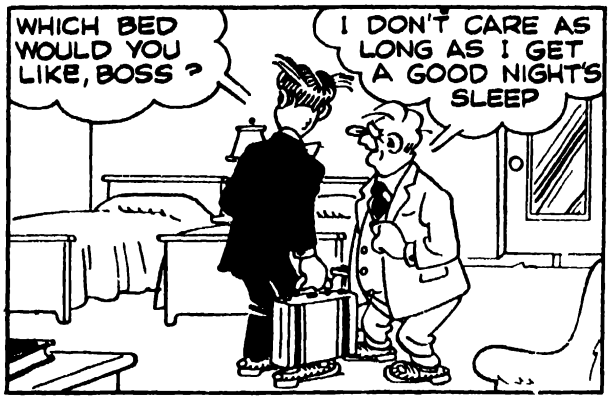
"Who was Juan Fernande after whom Robinson Crusoe's island was named?" asks Vivek Kayan, Calcutt 30.

Juan Fernandez (fl. 156 Spanish navigator, discovered the island in the Pac fic Ocean which bears his name and which is still associated with the story o Robinson Crusoe. He was the first sailor to appreciate that the contrary winds whi made passage up the west ern coast of South America so difficult and tedious mig not blow farther out to sea, and proved the correctnes of his theory by encounteri the trade winds at sea and making a passage from Chile to Callao in 30 days, feat which earned him arres on a charge of sorcery. He discovered the Juan Ferna dez group of islands in 156 during a voyage from Lima Valdivia, and was granted t the Spanish government a concession to develop ther but the colony he set up there failed to flourish. The goats which he took with th colony did, however, estab lish themselves, and it was some of their descendants which were caught by Alexander Selkirk (Robinson Crusoe) and later still by Commodore Anson in his voyage of circumnavigatior (1740-4).
Juan Fernandez is still credited with the first sighting of Easter Island an he claimed also to have sighted a 'continent' which, true, must have been either Australia or New Zealand.

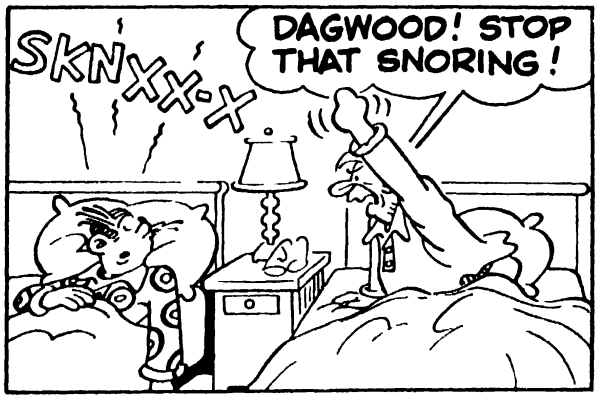
Postscript: Today is the las day for entries of the Argus Plate at the Dalhousie Institute. The draw will be on the Institute's board on September 5 and the quiz will be held on September 7 and 8.

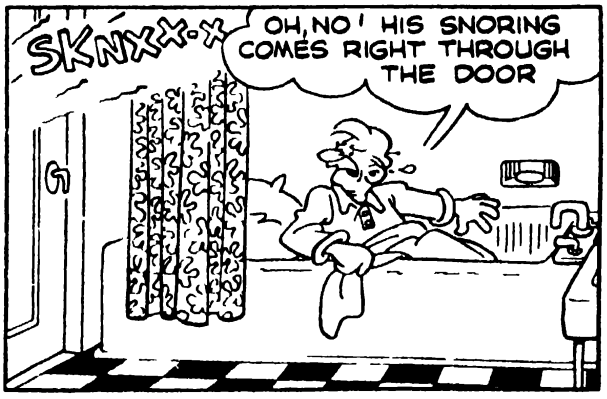






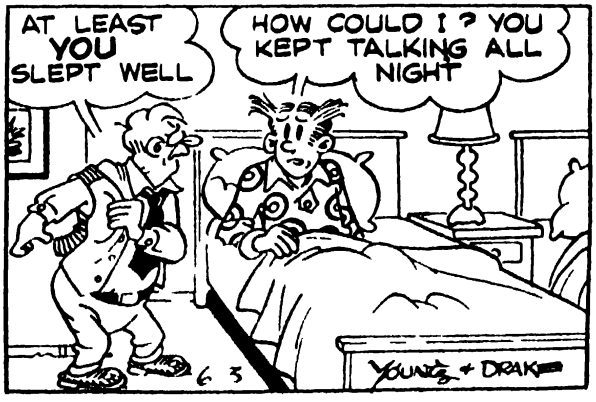




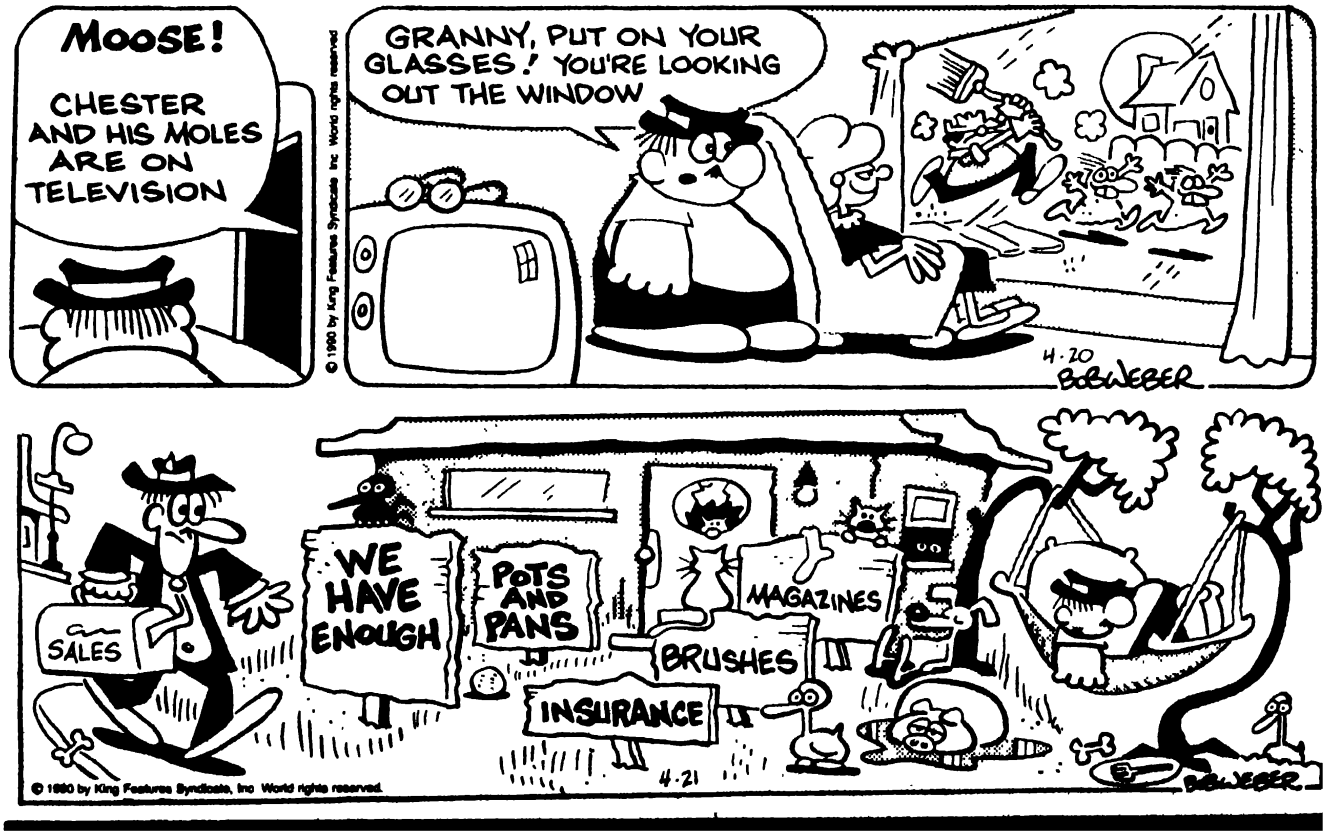




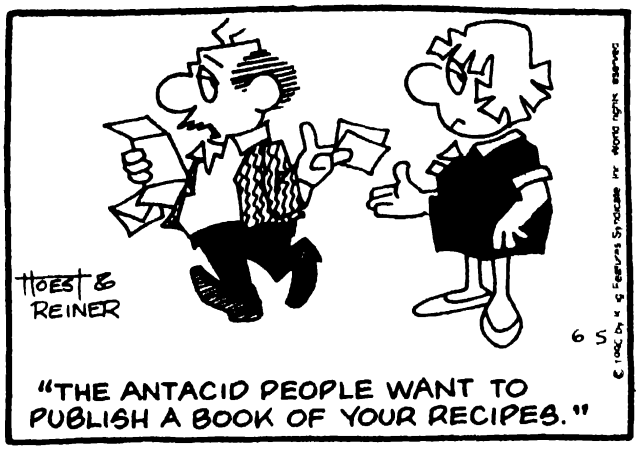
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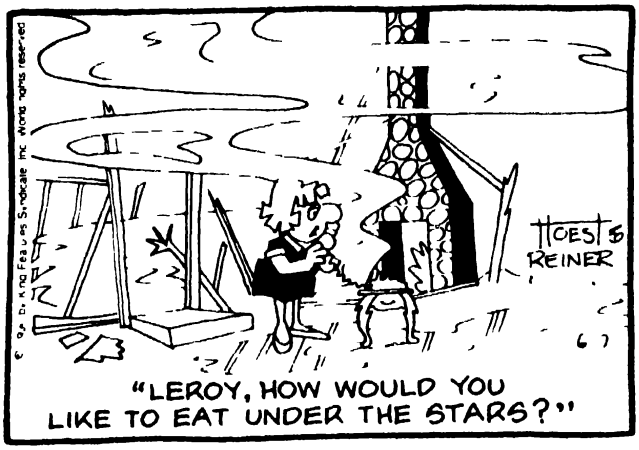

Archie
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PARK?
MUST HAVE BEEN ANOTHER EARTH DAY RALLY!
HEY, ARCH, THERE'S SOME SORT OF INSECT ON YOUR ARM!
DIST. BY ASIA FEATURES
YOU WANT ME TO KILL IT?
NO, JUG, IT'S A LIVING THING!
WE MUST LEARN TO COEXIST WITH NATURE!
WE MUST COOPERATE WITH NATURE TO MAKE THIS PLANET A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE!
92
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S ABOUT TO STING YOU!
SPLAT!
SO MUCH FOR THE ENVIRONMENT!


MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber
MOOSE!
CHESTER AND HIS MOLES ARE ON TELEVISION
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GRANNY, PUT ON YOUR GLASSES! YOU'RE LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW
4-20
BOB WEBER
SALES
WE HAVE ENOUGH
POTS AND PANS
MAGAZINES
BRUSHES
INSURANCE
4-21
BOB WEBER
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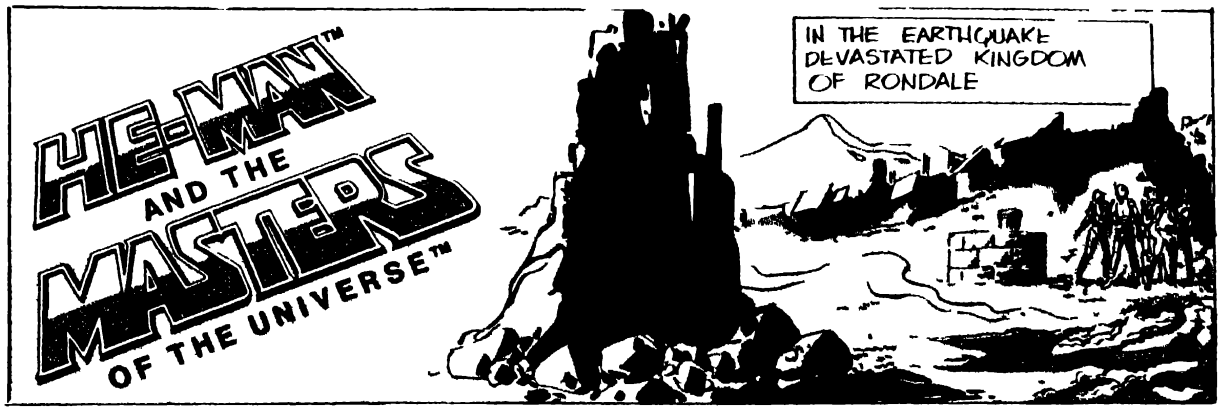


GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU

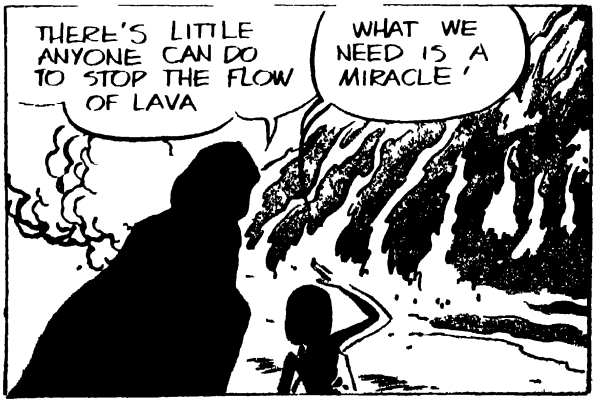






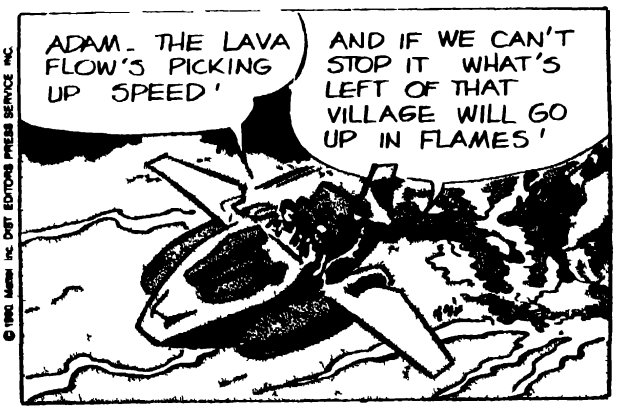


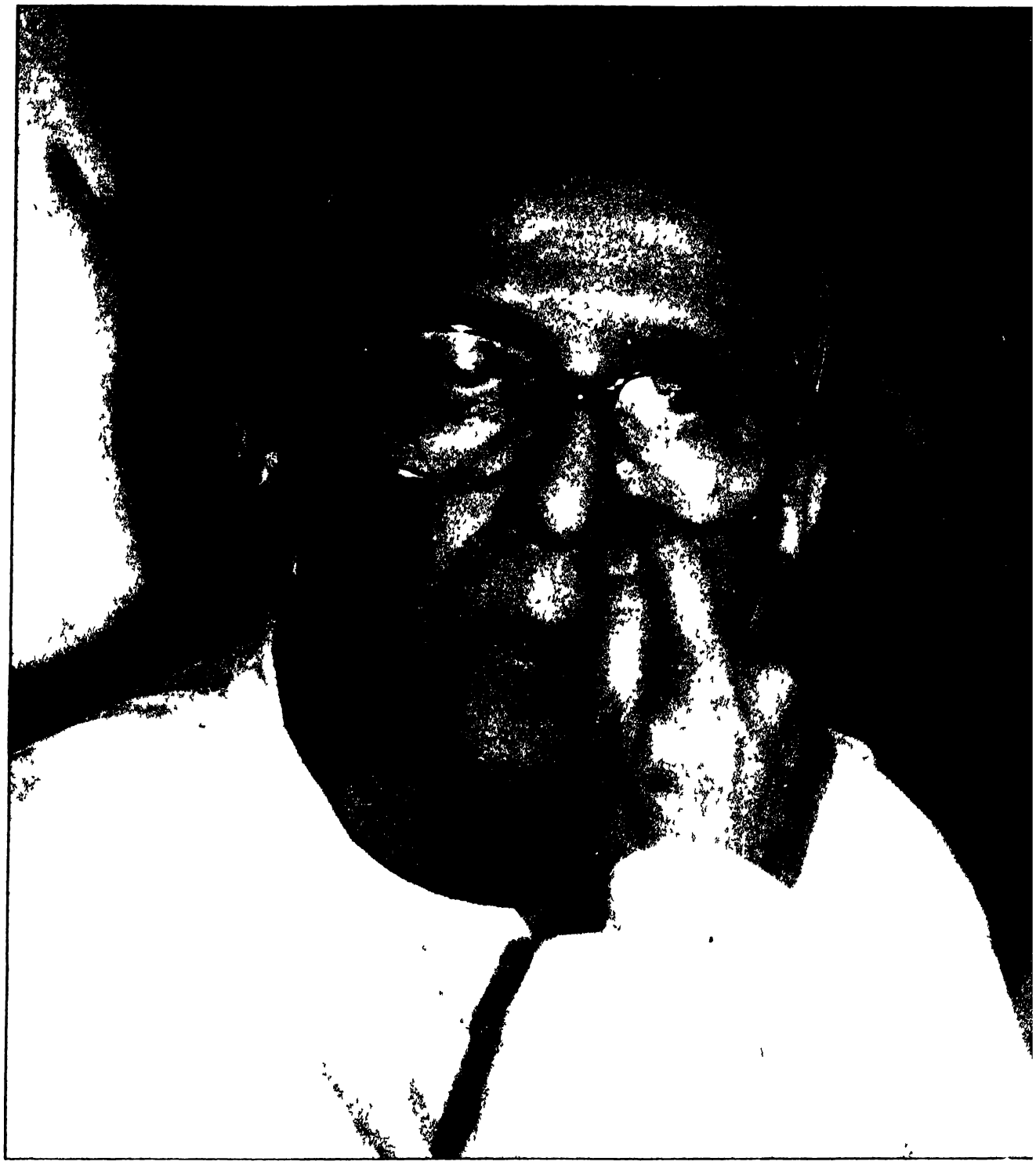




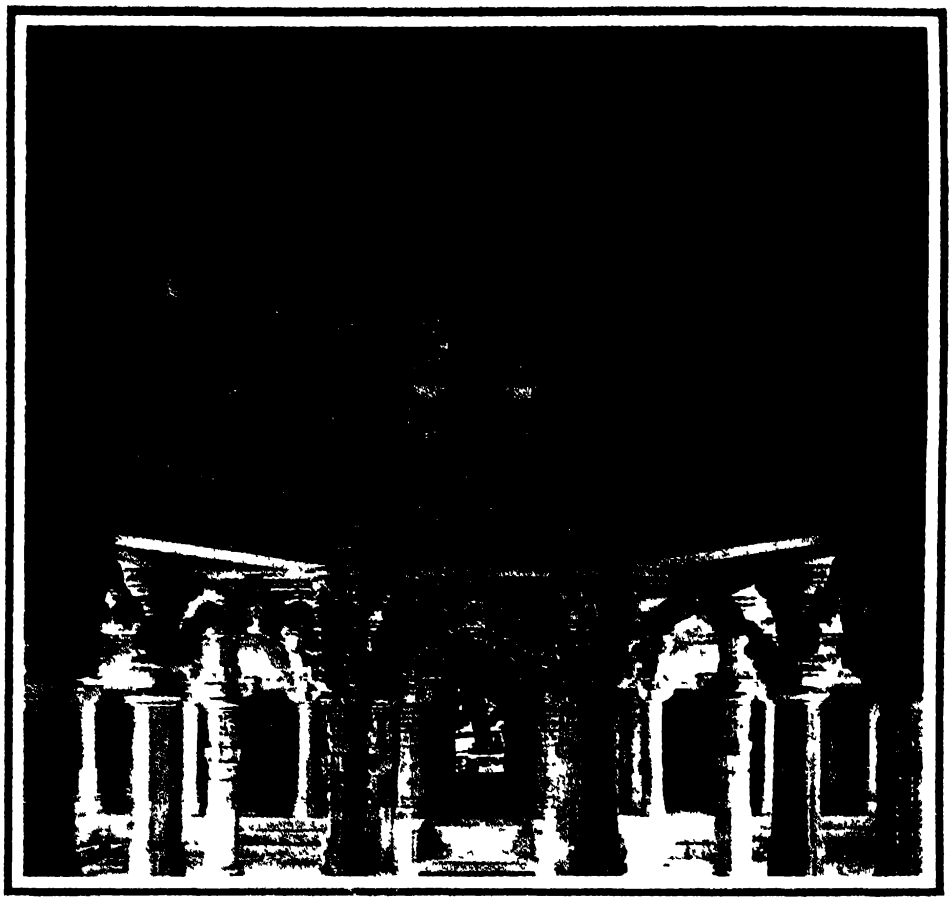


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Elections can be rigged, women can be gangraped and mauled, cadres can take over the administration, the police can be made impotent, protests can be suppressed with batons and bombs. It's no skin off *his* nose, West Bengal chief minister **Jyoti Basu** might think. But, who knows, Mr Basu, who knows. The people are watching. Photograph by KALYAN CHAKRAVORTY



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

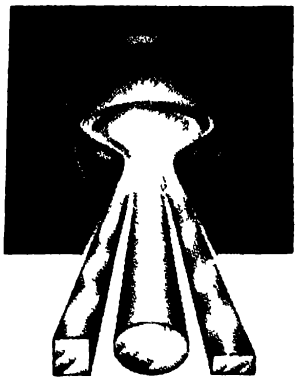
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

POWMEX is emerging as Asia's first plant to produce High Speed Steel and Super High Speed Steels through Powder Capsule Forging Technology.

POWMEX, in collaboration with the world leader BOHLER of AUSTRIA is setting up a Rs. 700 million high tech plant near Titlagarh in Orissa. This will put the Indian High Speed Steel on par with the finest available in the world. POWMEX product mix includes both Tungsten and Molybdenum High Speed Steels of various sections in rounds, flats and squares, and are indispensable for making drills, reamers, dies, forming tools, punches, special bearings etc. The tools made out of Super High Speed Steels will bring about a seachange in their durability and quality turning out better components.

POWMEX reduces imports and saves precious Foreign exchange to uphold the country's ideal of self-reliance and growth.



Schlegel/PSL/8995

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POWMEX - Redefining the future of High Speed Steel

The Ultimate Refrigerator from Kelvinator



The new Sterling

Stunningly beautiful
State of the art technology combined together to evolve a new standard in refrigerators Created by a team of engineers whose mission is not to follow the market but to lead the refrigerator world

Artistic Sterling

- 100% Polyurethane Foam insulation Avoids sweating of the refrigerator even in high humidity conditions
- Superior SAN material–Crisper, Baffle Tray, Butter/ Cheese Chest and adjustable Bottle Shelves
- Superior design for maximum storage space Removable egg tray for extra storage – a special feature for vegetarians
- A large Chill Tray with a unique Drip Tray for easy removal of defrosted water

from Kelvinator "It's the coolest one."

Sterling
Refrigerators
Styled in Europe
Engineered in America

- All steel construction and tough ABS liner
- Available in a wide range of attractive colours

Sterling Technology

- Internationally renowned 'Power Saver compressor
- Cools superfast, makes ice even faster
- Withstands wide voltage fluctuations

No voltage stabilizer is required if the operating voltage is within 160-260V.

- Consumes minimal electricity
- Automatic defrost (push button)

The new Sterling.

It is beyond doubt the most advanced refrigerator ever introduced in the market With a proven, dependable after sales service It s no mere refrigerator It's the Sterling

Sterling

The 165 litre premium quality refrigerator

Sold and serviced by Expo Machinery Limited Pragati Tower, 26 Rajindra Place, New Delhi-110 008

Mutual 5120d

POST MORTEM

Can There Be Another Rafi?

For years Rafi was undoubtedly the best male singer in India, entrancing audiences with the irresistible power, sweetness and melody of his voice ('Velvet Voice', July 29).

Rafi's variety is mind-boggling: he 'yahooed' for Shammi Kapoor, crooned romantic numbers like *Sau saal pehle mujhe tumse pyar tha* for Dev Anand, recorded soft songs like *Chaudhvin ka chand* for Guru Dutt and tragic numbers like *Yeh duniya yeh mehfil* for Raaj Kumar and lent his voice to countless other stars. He also has the record for the highest number of playback songs—28,000 as per the *Guinness Book of World Records.*

Vivek Agarwal,
Calcutta

■ The feature was brief but very touching, a real trip down memory lane.

Md. Sayeed,
Calcutta

■ I think such an artiste will never be born again. You should have also covered details about his life and contribution to the film industry. I hope you will have a cover story on him in the near future.

Ashok Bhowmick,
Calcutta

■ Though a decade has passed since Rafi died, his sweet voice still lingers in the ears of millions of listeners.

Heroes, comedians, character actors and villains have all sung in his velvet voice. He was the first true complete playback singer without any acting aspirations. If a solitary singer can be named who epitomised Indian film music from 1944 to 1980, it has to be Rafi.

Javed Nishat,
Calcutta

■ It will be difficult to repay your kindness in publishing the translated songs of Rafi and his charming, smiling face.

Pramod Kumar Rai,
Howrah



■ All the noted singers of yesteryear such as Rafi, Mukesh, Kishore and Hemant have passed away, leaving a vacuum that can never be filled in the years to come.

M.S. Haider,
Calcutta

Divine Power

'What the Stars Foretell' (July 15) was a well written article which deserved to be applauded rather than condemned as Sandwip Majhi has done (Post Mortem, August 12).

In the last two decades I have personally found the utility of gemstones in healing diseases. Gem therapy has come from colour therapy which in turn comes from the spectrum of the sun (Vibgyor). Our ancient sages and kings saw a divine power in gems.

Cosmic rays constantly emanating from the sun are absorbed by gems and reflected selectively to bring forth good results. Certain gems have wonderful healing powers. But it must be underscored that, to achieve the desired effect, one must wear gems of correct weight and colour, otherwise it would do more harm than good.

Subhas Bose,
Jamshedpur

■ The article was based totally on prejudiced opinions. Till today, nothing at all is known or scientifically established regarding the cause and effect of the various stones on living beings in relation to the stars and planets of the vast universe.

Astronomy is a complete science while there is not even an iota of science in astrology. We should have faith in our own ability and acumen and not be swept away by false ideas perpetrated by stone-steering jugglery.

Monjusree Dutt-Halder,
Calcutta

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The Telegraph

9 SEPTEMBER 1990



Rajesh Kumar

13 Aniruddh Singh of Indore is in a class of his own. He is a master at creating replicas of vintage cars and selling them—the kind of cars you always wanted to drive but not even *you* could afford to



4 Newly discovered fossils provide insight into a pre-dinosaur world

SECTIONS

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12 Inner Eye
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23 Junior Whirl
24 Quiz
25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover Rajesh Kumar



Jaws from 11 mammal-like reptiles called cynodonts, including one from an immature animal (top) and another—less than a centimetre long—possibly from a hatchling (lower right), are among a collection of 225 million-year-old fossils found near Richmond, Va. Until the unprecedented discovery the same types of fossils from the Triassic, a geologic period lasting from 240 million to 205 million years ago, had shown up only in South America, China and South Africa

Newly discovered fossils of 225 million-year-old creatures found at a wooded site near Richmond have yielded a rare view of the world as it existed just before the dinosaurs took over

The cache of fossils, unprecedented in the Northern Hemisphere, includes the jaws of 11 reptiles called cynodonts, the closest ancestors to mammals. It illustrates the prevalence of such animals before a mysterious mass extinction all but wiped them out.

Moist, subtropical, swarming with insects, the Richmond area of the Triassic Period was crisscrossed with ponds and waterways. Shrew-sized, mammal-like reptiles scampered through swamps trying to avoid ancestral crocodiles and strange beasts armoured with pointed spines and spikes.

Five of the 11 jaws found at the dig are

...belonging to cynodonts who roamed the supercontinent 225 million years ago were recently discovered at a site near Richmond, Virginia. A report

so tiny that they might have come fro hatchlings. "There may be dozens mo around," says Hans-Dieter Sues, Smithsonian Institution paleobiologis who is directing the excavation with Pa E. Olsen of Columbia University Lamont-Doherty Geological Observator Their work is supported by the Natior Geographic Society.

A single tooth found by Olsen whi doing a survey for an oil and gas compa a few years ago drew the scientists to t site. "He showed it to me and we bo examined it closely," recalls Sues. "W were dumbfounded when we realised th



A new fossil find near Richmond, Va., delights Smithsonian Institution paleobiologist Hans-Dieter Sues (centre) and assistants. Excavations directed by Sues and Paul E. Olsen of Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory have uncovered the bones of at least 200 animals that lived 225 million years ago. Among them is an assortment of mammal-like reptiles, ancestral crocodiles and an armoured creature previously unknown to science

it seemed identical to the teeth of some Triassic mammal-like reptiles found in South America "

The subsequent discovery of so many cynodonts in Virginia solved a puzzle that has baffled paleontologists for years During the Triassic Period, 240 million to 205 million years ago, all the planet's landmasses formed a single supercontinent known as Pangaea Sizable collections of cynodonts have turned up in South America, China and South Africa Scientists could not figure out why only a jaw and a few fragments of these reptiles had previously been found in the Northern Hemisphere

"We thought it had something to do with geography," says Olsen "Now, by finding so many mammal-like reptiles and other creatures common to assemblages in the South Hemisphere, we can assume that the same creatures probably roamed throughout Pangaea "

The animals found in Virginia were probably the size of shrews and may have had fur Sues thinks the structure of their bones and teeth looks more mammalian than that of their simultaneously evolving reptilian cousins Among the weird cousins found at the site is a strange reptile, four or five feet long, that was armoured with big, bony back plates and large, rigid spines

Also new to science are four lizardlike animals that have never been seen before If proved to be true lizards they would be the oldest found anywhere in the world

The creatures represent a planet in transition that would change dramatically in the next few million years The mammal-like reptiles and the emerging true mammals would become bit players, relegated to the wings as the dinosaurs took centre stage.

Dinosaurs dominated a 200 million-year-old collection of fossils found in Nova Scotia a few years ago by Sues, Olsen and Neil H Shubin, a University of Pennsylvania evolutionary biologist

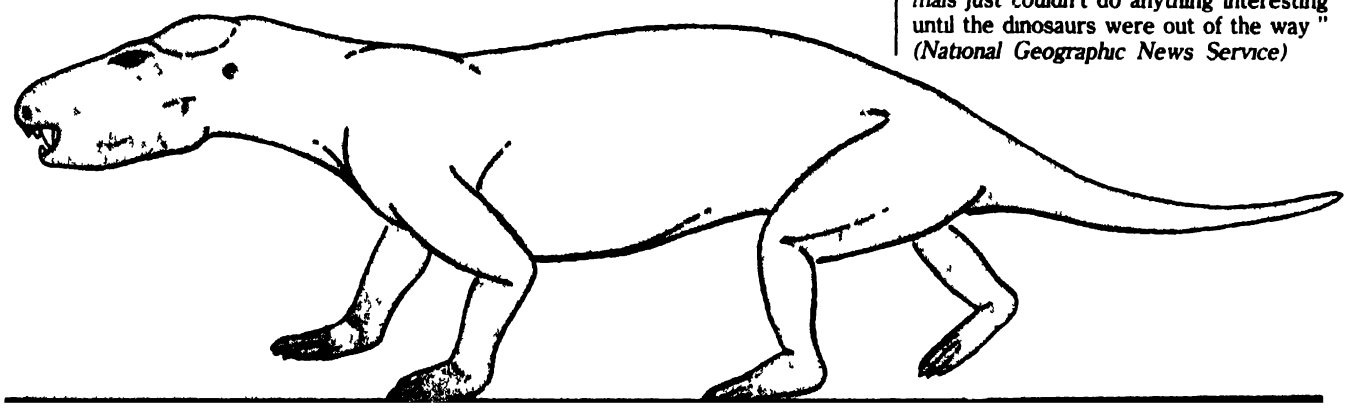
The animals found in Canada had survived mass extinctions that occurred less than 500,000 years earlier As many as 75 per cent of marine invertebrates and some land-dwellers vanished, but two recently evolved groups, the dinosaurs and mammals, pulled through

"Mass extinctions change the rules of evolution," explains David Jablonski of the University of Chicago, a leading extinction theorist "When one strikes, it's not necessarily the most fit that survives, often it's the most fortunate " Drastic changes in the environment can suddenly put healthy species at a disadvantage Others that have barely been hanging on can squeak through and inherit Earth.

So it was with the mammals Dinosaurs and mammals originated within 10 million years of each other about 220 million years ago But while the dinosaurs ruled the planet for 140 million years, mammals stayed small and insignificant

Another great extinction snuffed out the dinosaurs about 65 million years ago, and mammals took over "Within 10 million years," says Jablonski, "there were mammals of all shapes and lifestyles whales and bats, carnivores and grazers. Mammals just couldn't do anything interesting until the dinosaurs were out of the way " *(National Geographic News Service)*

Discovery of 11 cynodont jaws from reptiles most closely related to mammals, found at a site near Richmond, Va., has solved a long-standing mystery. For years scientists wondered why the shrew-size animals so common 225 million years ago on the planet's single land mass, Pangaea, were so scarce in the Northern Hemisphere. The cynodont remains—there may be dozens more at the site—imply that the animals roamed throughout the supercontinent



DEATH OF A CITY

Ashok's first story had been about his attempt to get into marketing. His second story had been about his marriage, his break with the past. His last story was about his life in advertising, and his sighting of the Calcutta boxwallah world, just when that world was about to disappear, giving way to the cruder, richer business world of post-independence India.

Ashok said, 'My first experience of the Calcutta boxwallah was when as a trainee account executive in an advertising firm I was taken to my first client meeting, and was introduced to this very senior executive in the marketing division of the company. The man was portly and appeared to be quite jovial. He was smoking an imported brand of cigarette, and—this was the middle of May, which is something in Calcutta—he was wearing a suit. His office was air-conditioned. The general atmosphere was of a man in a plush office with a leisurely approach to life.

'He appeared to be in no great hurry to discuss the business in hand. We were going into all kinds of trivia about life in general, the cricket series, a little office politics. All kinds of things were being talked about from 11 or so until 12 or 12.15. And then there was this long pause, and it seemed almost a pity that we had to set aside the general discussion.

'My boss broached the subject of business, and this was gone through with great dispatch. I was just observing; I was only a trainee. The business side of things was finished in a quarter of an hour. It was now about 12.30. Lunch was looming. The client asked my boss if he had a luncheon engagement. My boss said no. The client said, "Perhaps we ought to discuss a little more business over lunch."

'My boss instructed me to run to the office and take out an IOU for 500 rupees, and join them at a five-star hotel. The client wasn't inviting us—it wasn't known for clients to invite advertising agency personnel to lunch. The lunch was to be on us. I suppose I was quite excited at that moment. I had heard a great deal about client entertainment, but I hadn't done any, or been part of it, at that time. The lunch that day started at 12.45 and finished at 3.30. Everybody was happy at the end.

'This way of doing things went on till the early 70s. The big companies had more or less a monopoly in their respective fields. They didn't have to sell. They merely allocated. There was never enough to meet the demand.

'That's changed now. There are a lot more companies making the products, and companies are having to battle it out—to meet production volumes, to place them in the market, to persuade the customer. So all of a sudden companies had no room for people who merely dressed well, could talk to the boss's wife, could play a round of golf, and hold their drink. The country itself had started setting up business schools. To a large extent they tended to be textbook American models, and this created problems for companies. But these institutes enabled companies to get a shortlist of candidates. It became a status symbol to recruit an MBA.

V.S. Naipaul ends his journey through Calcutta

'People who in earlier days would have gone up the ladder now began to flounder, because they didn't have the talent to hold down their job. Whereas, before, office life was a pleasant interval between the company apartment and the club house, now, in my firm, if I want to rise, I have some sacrifices to make. For example, I might have to travel 20 days a month. If you're an all-India organisation, you can travel to monitor what's happening in the field. You're also doing it because your colleagues are doing it, and it can be seen as a sign of your commitment to your organisation.

'In the old days, if an executive went to the wedding of, say, the niece of a dealer, that would have been seen by the de as a most enormous favour, and executive would have been suitably warded by the dealer. Today the ex tive goes to that wedding to keep in the dealer. So the whole thing changes. These dealers most of t speak Hindi, and the older social acc plishments—speaking English, dres well, playing golf—no longer matte you're travelling 20 days a month, you're the sales manager, you're spen all those days in the company of dealers and your field staff, and aln every evening is a fairly heavy drinl evening.

'I can't say that when I started I had idea that marketing would be the way now. But in my company I am specifi on the advertising side, and this gives creative satisfaction. Social graces are a bonus for an executive; they can sheen to an executive's profile. But the executive is really expected to h are qualities of a hard-nosed entrepre rial businessman—which is the kind of he is dealing with. In his company he to be a sophisticated communicator; when he is sitting in a poky little deal shop somewhere he has to speak a d rent kind of language. He is prob drinking tea out of a dirty tumbler— yet that dealer probably makes infini more than the executive.

'Traditionally in India the dealer work is a very potent force. They' breed apart. They may even be diffe from dealers in other countries. To a large extent people in the dealer comm ity have not been educated. But they naturally talented at making money. T take pleasure in making money, and m money. It's a family business, han down from generation to generation. T will sit from 10 to 10 at night in their li shops and think nothing of it—that's t life. They keep rolling the money t make into more and more profitable v tures. And they like to show that t have money. The dealers' houses mi have chandeliers and wall-to-wall carp ing, quite unnecessary, imported TV our sets, and curtains and cushions in

Extracted from *India: A Million Mutinies Now* by V.S. Naipaul; Rupa & Co., 1990; Rs 250.

most garish colours

'But these people are important to companies So you have these sophisticated organisations with their trained manpower from management institutes, who then have to learn to deal with people who are semi-literate but extremely savvy when it comes to money matters We need them more than they need us, at this moment in our country's development

'The strength of a dealer s shop or "counter"—that is how it is referred to So-and-so is a good counter or a poor counter or a reliable counter—comes from his having been, or his family having been, in business for generations He knows what his market will take

'The targets are worked out on a counter basis for each town We might say of a dealer He s a good 500 TV set counter and I must get him to sell 200 of mine ' That s the kind of thinking that s taking place in an executive s mind And once he returns to his base city or town with his head muzzy with too much drink and travel, he's on to his computer, feeding it with all this information No sales manager worth his salt can be found without his strips of Alka Seltzer—they all have stomach problems—along w th their calculators They re drinking till 11 or 12 at night, and they re up again at 8 30 or 9 to face the new day

'The boxwallah of the bygone era was really typically a shallow fellow interested in appearances and the good life We ve swung the other way today Professionally the executive today is superior to his counterpart of 15 years ago, but his development as a human being is retarded He is becoming more of an automaton He physically has little time to think about anything except the turnover and collection targets for the month

'Some of the very rich Marwaris keep buying up companies after buying just enough shares to gain control. And so a number of old firms are now in the hands of Marwaris. Most of them do not nurture or invest in these companies. They strip the assets. They are quite happy to let the company become more and more sick'

If I had known that marketing was going to turn out to be like this, I probably wouldn t have wanted to go into it when I was young I've turned down requests from the company to move into direct selling jobs I don t want to pay that kind of price I prefer to stay on the advertising side. And I don't have to do the extra things the sales executives have to do—going to the airport to meet this boss and that boss and take them home and spend an evening with them I don't have to do that at all

'Life is hard now for the executive, and the city of Calcutta adds to this pressure, by offering so little in return to a person who's putting in so much effort After a hard day's work you can find yourself stranded in a car for hours on end, and when you return home there is no power There are generators, but they make a dreadful din, and are limited Apart from visiting one of Calcutta's clubs, if he's fortunate enough to be a member, an executive has little choice of places to go He cannot go out walking because the pavements and the roads don't allow it The parks are overcrowded Most of these parks are infested with rich young men and women who take their cars and turn up their car stereos and eat all evening—junk food from hawkers—and throw the litter around

'The infrastructure of the city is crumbling The drainage system is perhaps the worst in the world In the monsoon, major areas of the city are waterlogged for anything up to 72 hours at a time One year the water never drained away Carcases of animals appeared, and we were afraid of an epidemic

'The only section of people here who seem to be thriving in Calcutta are the



Marwaris. They came from parts of Rajasthan a couple of hundred years ago. They thrive by being middlemen, buying and selling. This is what they were good at, and they continue to be. They were never known for cultural or technical skills. And they just grew as a community. They have been the only ones, in the last 15 or 20 years, who are able to buy properties in the posh areas where previously only the rich Bengalis or expatriate executives lived. They have participated in the property boom. Today in these areas you have multi-storey buildings coming up—one more nail in the coffin of the city: more cars, more sanitation problems, etc.—with the Marwaris themselves occupying most of the apartments.

'The other aspect is that some of the very rich Marwaris keep buying up companies after buying just enough shares to gain control. And so a number of old firms are now in the hands of Marwaris. Most of them do not nurture or invest in these companies. They strip the assets. They are quite happy to let the company become more and more sick. It is also true that in the earlier era the British didn't bother very much about growth. Their main concern was repatriation of a certain amount of profits in foreign exchange to the parent company, and most British managing directors came here for a short-term period of three or five years.

'At the other end of the spectrum you have the red-flag-waving unions constantly playing cat-and-mouse with the management. The union leaders themselves don't do any work at all. The unions represent what ultimately the true Bengali is like: he is indolent, doesn't want to work, but he wants something for nothing and he must protect his dignity at all costs. He will publicly despise the Marwari trader, but he wouldn't be able to do the same job himself.

'We put in a great deal of effort. We draw a monthly pay cheque. And for people like us, who are not businessmen, we feel that the city in which we live must offer us something in return. We must at the end of the working day have more than the prospect of just coming back home. You can't go to any cinema house, because most of them have poor sound systems and virtually non-functioning air-conditioning systems—they don't renovate them. I haven't been to a cinema hall in Calcutta for **five or six years.**

'I have told you how as a young man I longed to break into the world of marketing. I have done that, and I can say that professionally I have done well. But that profession hasn't turned out to be what I thought, and now I feel that those of us in Calcutta who are in the middle between the Marwaris and the trade-union Marxists—the executive class, who used to be an influential part of the city—are slowly being squeezed out of existence.

'The fact is that the problems of Calcutta are of a magnitude that cannot be endured. My wife and I feel now that we won't see improvements in our lifetime. We feel we should be trying our luck somewhere else, and saying goodbye to Calcutta.'

My own days in Calcutta had been hard. When I had first come to Calcutta, in 1962, I had, after the early days of strain, settled into the big-city life of the place; had had the feeling of being in a true metropolis, with the social and cultural stimulation of such a place. Something of that life was still there. But I was overpowered this time by my own wretchedness, the taste of the water corrupting both coffee and tea as it corrupted food, by the brown smoke of cars and buses, by the dug-up roads and broken footpaths, by the dirt, by the crowds; and could not accept the consolation offered by some people that in a country as poor as India the aesthetic side of things didn't matter.

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My feelings went the other way. In richer countries, where people could create reasonably pleasant home surroundings for themselves, perhaps, after all, public squalor was bearable. In India, where most people lived in such poor conditions, the combination of private squalor and an encompassing squalor outside was quite stupefying. It would have given people not only a low idea of their needs—air, water, space for stretching out—but it must also have given people a low idea of their possibilities, as makers or doers. Some such low idea of human needs and possibilities would surely have been responsible for the general shoddiness of Indian industrial goods, the ugliness and unsuitability of so much of post-independence architecture, the smoking factories.

'Everybody is suffering here,' a famous actor said at dinner one evening. And that simple word, corroborating what Ashok had said, was like an illumination.

For years and years and even during the time of my first visit in 1962, it had been said that Calcutta was dying, that its port was silting up, its antiquated industry declining. But Calcutta hadn't died. It hadn't done much, but it had gone on; and it had begun to appear that the prophecy had been excessive. Now it occurred to me that perhaps this was what happened when cities died. They didn't die with a bang; they didn't die only when they were abandoned. Perhaps they died like this: when everybody was suffering, when transport was so hard that working people gave up jobs they needed because they feared the suffering of the travel: when no one had clean water or air: and no one could go walking. Perhaps cities died when they lost the amenities that cities provided, the visual excitement, the heightened sense of human possibility, and became simply places where there were too many people and people suffered.

Calcutta had had a left-wing or Marxist government for years, and I was told that the money nowadays was going to the countryside, that the misery of Calcutta was part of a more humane Marxist plan. But things are often as they appear, and it is possible that this is one of the ways cities die: when governments are dogmatic or foolish, killing where they cannot create, when people and governments conspire to frighten away the money and the life they need, when, in a further inversion, the poetry of revolution becomes its own intoxication, and Marxism becomes the opiate of the idle people.

Perhaps when a city dies the ghost of its old economic life lingers on. So, in Calcutta, old firms with famous names are taken over and their assets are broken up; and people invest in real estate, since people always have to live somewhere; and there is an illusion of an economic life. Every few days, in a further illusion of activity, there is a political demonstration; and idle young

men, morose and virtuous-looking, take their red flags and slogans through the self-perpetuating misery of the streets, and money and ambition and creativity go elsewhere in India Without the rest of India to take the strain, the death of Calcutta might show more clearly, and Bengal might show as another Bangladesh—too many people, too little sanitation, too little power

At the back of the hotel was a market I looked down on its low, spreading roof Buzzards perched on the ledges of the hotel, waiting The ledges were black with an accumulation of blown dust and the grit of brown traffic smoke The style of the British built red brick building opposite the market—the formality, the symmetry, the elegance the thought, the confidence the reference to classical ornament—was now oddly at variance with the life of the street and seemed to come from a dead age

The sticky looking asphalt of the cambered street lay between wide irregular drifts of dust that had hardened to earth in the gutters at the side the streets would be washed now only by the monsoon The once paved footpath outside the market had crumbled and in places merged with the earth in the gutters People went about minute tasks Men pulled rickshaws In 1962 this had been offensive to see but it was said that the poor needed employment Twenty seven years on the rickshaws were still there The same thing was said about employment for the poor but the Calcuttans with their low ideas of human needs and possibilities appeared genuinely to enjoy the man pulled rickshaw as a form of transport and many of the rickshaws looked nice and new not like things on the way out Minute tasks one man walked by carrying a single limber dancing sheet of plywood on his head Other people went about perfectly seriously carrying tiny loads on their heads, no doubt for very small fees

On important days big circular baskets of trussed white chickens appeared outside the market and one or two men seemed idly engaged for some minutes throwing trussed chickens from one basket to another Then one noticed that the basket from which the chickens were being thrown was full of movement, and the basket into which the chickens were being thrown was still And then one saw that the gesture of chicken throwing also contained another, the wringing of the chicken's neck two jobs combined in a single, fluent, circular gesture

One man might then be seen taking away his own little load of dead white chickens the chickens artistically arranged into a big feathery ball hung on the handle of his old bicycle, the feathers of the stiff dead chickens hanging down the other way and showing brown-yellow rather than white, with the stiff brown claws and legs like spokes in the feathery ball, like sticks in candyfloss The man had trouble arranging the load on his bicycle When he first tried to get on the bicycle and ride away, the chickens got in the way of his knees

At the end of the day a little green pick-up truck came, and the wide circular baskets, empty now, were stacked in the truck in two piles When the truck went away, there remained—in this city where rubbish was seldom cleared—only a few scattered white feathers in the dust of the broken and silted-up street

The British were in Calcutta for a long time It might be said that the Anglo-Bengali culture—out of which modern India grew—is as old as the United States Raja Ram Mohun Roy, the first exponent of the culture, was born in 1772, four years before the Declaration of Independence From Raja Ram Mohun Roy there is a direct line to Rabindranath Tagore, whom Chidananda Das Gupta saw in 1940 when he first went to Tagore's university at Shantiniketan

On that visit Chidananda heard Tagore, nearly eighty deliver a talk in the Shanti niketan temple on 'Crisis in Civilization In that talk—a famous talk, published a few months after Chidananda heard it—Tagore said he had always believed that the springs of civilization would come out of 'the heart of Europe' Now, with the war and the coming cataclysm, he could no longer have that faith But he couldn't lose faith in man, that would be a sin He lived now in the hope that the dawn would come from the East, where the sun rises' and that the saviour would be born 'in our midst, in this poverty shamed hovel which is India '

It was an old man s melancholy farewell to the world Five years later the war was over Europe began to heal, in the second half of the century Europe and the West were to be stronger and more creative and more influential than they had ever been The calamity Tagore hadn t foreseen was the calamity that was to come to Calcutta

In 1946 there were the Hindu-Muslim masacres They marked the beginning of the end for the city The next year India was independent, but partitioned Bengal was divided A large Hindu refugee population came and camped in Calcutta and Calcutta, without a hundredth part of the resilience of Europe, never really recovered Certain important things were in the future—the cinema of Satyajit Ray, especially—but the great days of the city, all its intellectual life, were over And it could appear that the British-built city—its grandeur still ghostly at night—began to die when the British went away

• *Concluded*

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FACTS & FANCIES

Of Trees...

Our country has an abundant variety of some of the most beautiful trees in the world. It is in our country that trees are held sacred and venerated more than anywhere else. Unfortunately, however, no real attempt has been made to keep a record of older and better known specimens. The banyan tree of The Botanical Gardens is famous for its size and age. But, there is a report of a banyan tree with a circumference of 2,000 ft! So great that 20,000 people could take shelter under its canopy! Unfortunately, the report did not mention the place where this tree is located.

In contrast, in the West one can find recorded information of several well-known trees. The Abbot's Oak near Woburn was so called because the abbot of Woburn was hanged from its branches in 1537 by the order of Henry VIII. There are several other famous oaks: Herne's Oak (Windsor Park), Cawthorpe Oak (Yorkshire), Parliament Oak (Sherwood Forest), Honour Oak (Whitechurch), etc, and there is a story behind each one.

The giant sequoias (named after the great Cherokee Indian Sequoyah) on the Westerly slopes of the US, have often a tale to tell. The largest tree in the Sequoia National Park is the General Sherman Tree, which is said to be 3,000 to 4,000 years old! In the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, and the *Jardin des Plantes* in Paris, there are sections of gigantic sequoias with 1,335 rings. Our trees dwarf beside such statistics.

Word Play

WHO, BODMAS, RADAR, CAT, are popular acronyms commonly used in our everyday lives. Some others, PIA (Please Inform Allah) and AI (Allah Informed) etc., are good for a laugh.

With children spending more and more time with videos and videogames, word games have been given a back seat. Here are some acronyms, some old, some new:

POISON: Please Open If Suicide Occasion Nears.
COLUMBUS: Christopher Observing Land Uttered Must Be United States.
NOAH: Navigator Of Aquatic Houses.
DEVI LAL: Did Embarrass Vishwanath Immensely—Learnt A Lesson.
NEHRU, ARUN: Never Ever Helped Rajiv Unconditionally—A Real Underhand Negotiator.
P.T. USHA: Probably Tired—Until She Hurdles Again.

Monopolise the City

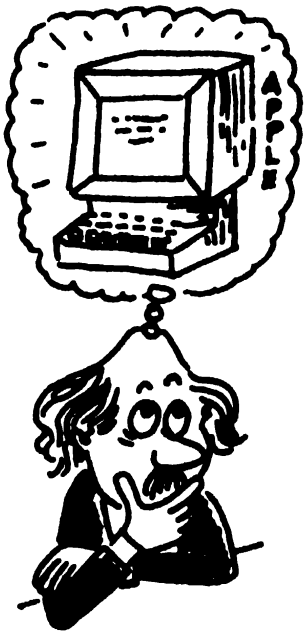
In 1930, the creator of Monopoly borrowed the game's street names from Atlantic City, US. Now, the authorities plan to 'Monopolise' the city by having signs and shapes to match the Monopoly Board!

"Go to Jail," for example, will lead to Atlantic City Pokey. The eaves of the houses will be colour-coordinated and the hedges will be trimmed in the shape of the hotels, etc.

..... And Apple Tales

APPLE: the word conjures up images of a computer, Adam and Eve or the "doctor away", depending upon whether you are a scientist, an evolutionist or a health-fadist!

The world produces an estimated 100,000,000,000 apples a year; and if all the medicinal properties attributed to the fruit are genuine, then what would the world do without an apple a day?



There is reference to the medicinal properties of an apple in the Arabian Nights story of Prince Ahmad who purchased his apple at Samarkand, leading to the phrase "Prince Ahmad's Apple", a cure for every disorder.

Mention is made of the apple more than once in Greek legends. The phrase "apple of discord" came about because the goddess of Discord (Eris) created a dispute among the three beauties, Hera (Juno), Pallas Athene (Minerva) and Aphrodite (Venus), when she appeared uninvited at the wedding of Thetis and Peleus, and threw a golden apple at the table for "the most beautiful".

"Apple of discord" is the cause of dispute; but what is undisputed is that it was the fall of an apple that led Newton to formalise his law of gravity.

That apart, there are the "Apples of Sodom", the fruit of trees that grow on the shores of the Dead Sea "which bear lovely fruit but within are all full of ashes". There is also an "Apple-john", which matures about St John's (The Baptist) Day, June 24th. It is believed that apple-johns (not apples-john) will keep for two years, and are best when they are shrivelled.



And for those of you who were the apple of their teacher's eye, because you kept everything in apple-pie order and did not rag freshers by making apple-pie beds, would certainly see to it that you would not upset the apple cart by having too much apple-jack!

Illustrations by Katie Dalal

Shamlu Dudeja and Nalini Sitlani

RAM GOPAL GHOSH (1814-68)

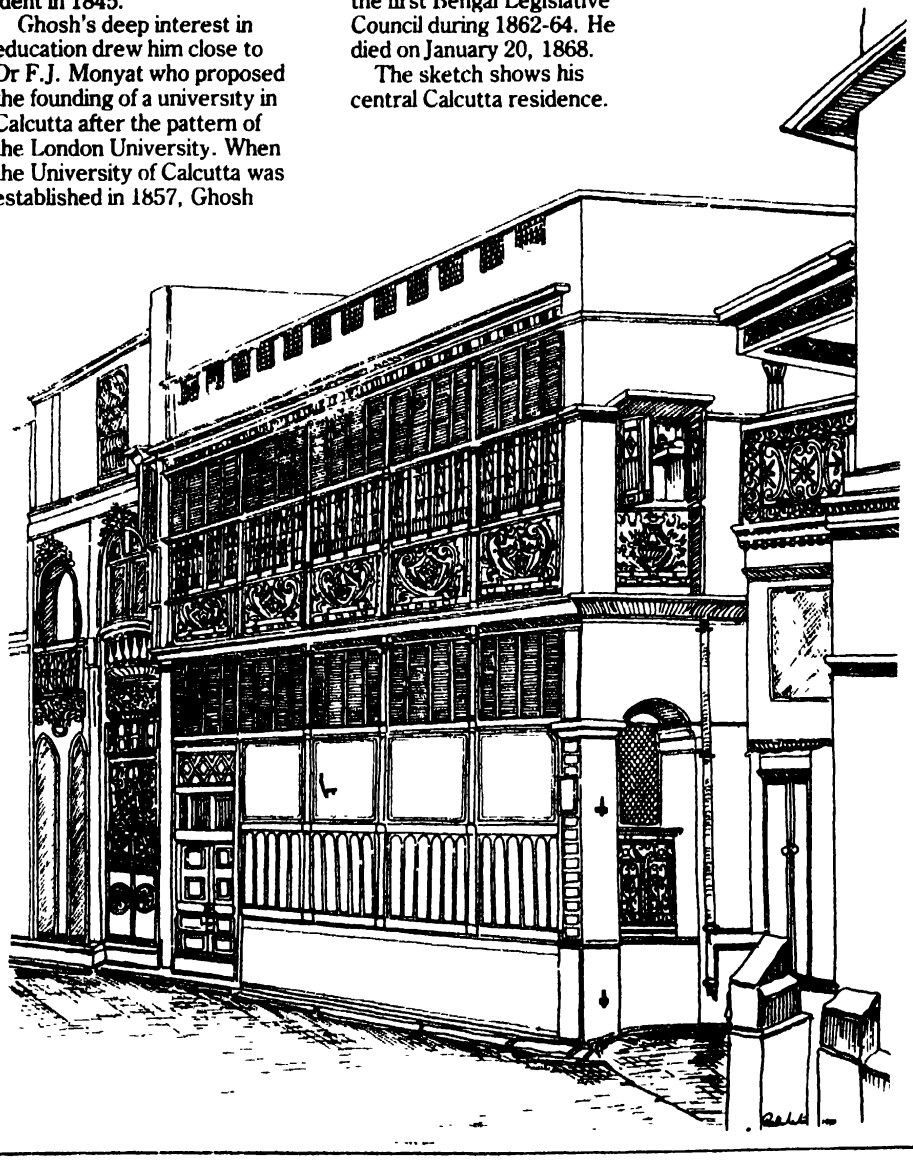
A prominent figure of the Young Bengal, Ram Gopal Ghosh studied in Sherbourne's School and Hindu College from where he left while a student of the second class to supplement his father's poor income. David Hare helped him secure a job with Joseph Company. Here he prepared an account of small industries and agricultural products. This impressed his boss so much that he earned rapid promotions. His natural bent for business led him to develop close ties with the Joseph and Kelsall Company. After Joseph's retirement he went into partnership with Kelsall in export-import. In 1846, Ghosh surrendered his partnership for Rs 2 lakhs and three years later floated his own firm, R.G. Ghosh and Company.

While in college, Ghosh was greatly influenced by the teachings of Derozio. He took an active interest in all progressive movements. One of the principal founders of the Society for the Acquisition of General Knowledge and of the bilingual journal, *Bengal Spectator*, Ghosh was greatly assisted by his college friends Tarachand Chakravorty and Peary Chand Mitra. Their collaboration with George Thomson paved the way for the formation of the Bengal British India Society on April 20, 1843. Ghosh became its president in 1845.

Ghosh's deep interest in education drew him close to Dr F.J. Monyat who proposed the founding of a university in Calcutta after the pattern of the London University. When the University of Calcutta was established in 1857, Ghosh was appointed one of its founding members. He supported the draft bills of the law member, Bethune, to remove the discrimination between the European and Indian communities in legal and judicial matters. This irked the Whites, who removed him from the vice-presidentship of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society.

Ghosh was also one of the principal spokesmen of the British Indian Association. He was a nominated member of the first Bengal Legislative Council during 1862-64. He died on January 20, 1868.

The sketch shows his central Calcutta residence.



INNER EYE □ Bejan Daruwalla



ARIES

March 21—April 20

Rising expenses looking after the sick and the needy collaborations meets, interviews new appoint ments and romance are the week s main trends Those who are employed can now expect a change in the nature of job or profession Between Monday and Wednesday expect your heart to pound and shout for love

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Love laughter, luck and happiness are the highlights of the week Your love will be a rose and a dream A chance to make a fast buck will be available Commission sales, perks and more production make you confident No ma jor health problem is foreseen

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Your work brings success, glory and money But attend to health matters Your family may draw a bit close or there could be a parting for ever paradoxically Contacts contracts and new assignments are predicted Nothing too much in romance, except an occasional snack and breakfast

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Publicity success in ventures and adventures, new beginnings and lots of happy communication around September 11 constitute the week You will make money and socialise too as both could be interlinked In romance your blood will sing and you dance with your mate No health problem is foreseen, so go ahead bravely

LEO

July 21—August 21

Loans, funds, buying, selling, ceremonies, rituals and a possibility of travel and transfer are likely In romance your heart glows with joy and happiness Overwork and overindulgence are your enemies, sports and pastime your real friends The next month should be better for travel

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Romance, official engagements, collaborations, journey with a possible stopover, meets and conference make a busy week Keep your contacts fully alive and vibrant Those in trade commerce and multi-nationals get a generous slice of the cake The time is just ripe and ready for romance

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The employed find satisfaction You will entertain and this might be expensive Introspection and self-assessment are the other features Both income and expenses will multiply First attend to work if you have spare time then go for romance The back, spine and kidney may cause some discomfort Do not overeat or drink In your family you excel as a parent or a son/daughter

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Children hobbies and creative pursuits are favourably signified Try to fuse pleasure with profit, and do not be greedy Your love will be reciprocated and thus warm the cockles of your heart Friendship, fun travel and business make the quartet There lies a danger of accidents but if you watch your steps no real trouble is foreseen Hugs, kisses and plenty of nostalgia in the home and family

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 24—Dec 20

Home property, buying selling and travel in a grand medley Those in business, travel, trade and communication have an edge over others Romance promises plenty of kicks and kisses therefore, an exciting week Some opposition to your plans could upset you and that could, in turn cause health problems A lot of commuting and contacting is likely Learn to be polite and friendly

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Wine and roses friendship and money and travel and ceremonies constitute the week Push with all you have Those in publicity sales acting media, and business make an absolute killing Finance and romance make a lovable pair It is time to move and reach out to people and places At home you find contentment and happiness and get set to make important changes in property

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Dinners, parties, get-togethers, loans, funds, mortgage, lease and plenty of action are promised Your passion will scream and have the last word Take appropriate health precautions, it is time for a medical check-up Travel is advisable and is vital as well Expect visitors to drop in In the family, there will be a meeting and a separation, paradoxically enough

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Guard your health Expect sweeter times in your job and profession Pets and kids take control of your life Romance is favourably signified Gains will accrue in October, so work extra hard this month No major health upsets if you exercise care and moderation Travel is an important feature Stay away from sharp implements and that goes for all in the family. If at the wheel, go slow.

BIRTHDAYS

September 9

Moon trine sun: A birthyear of progress, pelf, power, travel and good money You may take the initiative, but a little tact and politeness will do the trick faster Expect visitors to drop in Renovation, decoration, buying and selling are probable.

September 10

Moon conjunction Mars This conjunction will energise and activate you. Expect a fast forward in work and play. That is your destiny

September 11

Moon's first quarter. This quarter activates your work area and therefore success is certain Jealousy and rivalry are inevitable. Be not afraid Despite hurdles, success and happiness are yours.

September 12

No strong aspect. Now is the chance to be the boss and do what you want. But there is no [illegible] Changes in the home and work fronts are destined Eventually, they prove lucky

September 13

Moon sextile Mars-Venus: Those in hotels, fashions, acting, travel, trade, housing and interior decoration win laurels and will be much in demand Friends and supporters will help you, This is the right birthyear to push forward with the blessings of elders and well-wishers. That is the astro way to make it.

September 14

Victory will crown your efforts. So, give in your best. Changes in the family and on the home front are absolutely certain. Be not afraid of opposition and upsets. Face them boldly. Journeys and ties prove lucky. A birthyear to pick up courage and have faith in the Almighty.

September 15

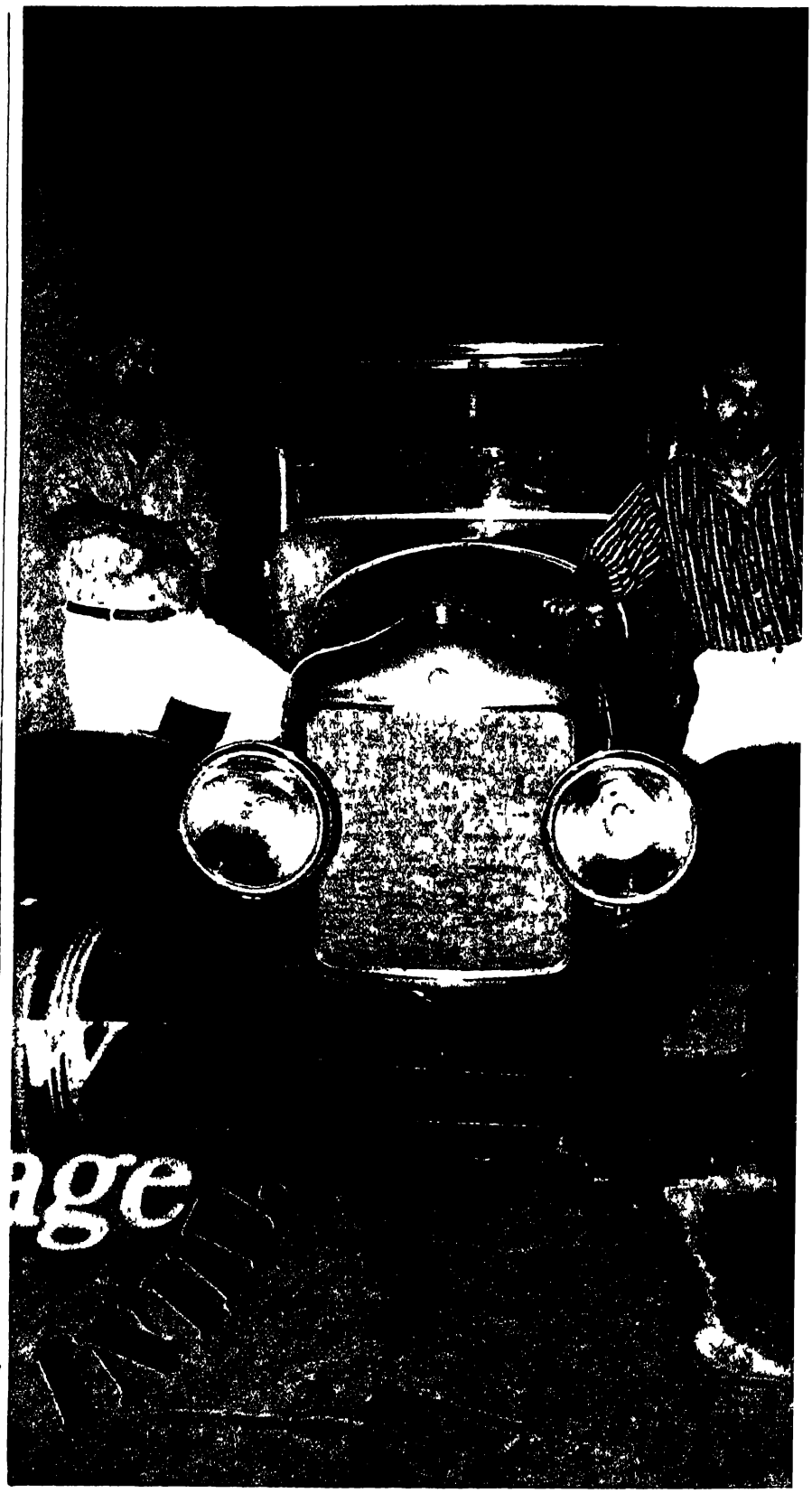
Sun conjunction Mercury: A possible wish-fulfilment for Virgoans. Those in travel, the arts, research and business do remarkably well. Romance [illegible] and kids give joy all the [illegible]

MADE IN

Anirudh Singh of Indore has a bee in his bonnet: making replicas of expensive vintage cars and selling them. For all those who have dreamt of not just owning a Rolls Royce, but driving it to office daily, this could mean a dream come true. S. SRINIVASAN visits the prince in his own world of make-believe

Even *you* can slide behind a gilded steering wheel, switch on the ignition and go for a spin in a gleaming 1916 Rolls Royce or the famous 540 K vintage Mercedes Benz. You can speed up to 100 kms per hour and see the Maruti really turn pink. You can own either car for a fraction of the price it currently fetches in the world motor market. Hard to believe? Maybe but it's true. Except that unlike any other vintage car you can race it on a rough track, go on a long weekend drive and, if you fancy, even drive it to the office. If there's a snag you can always go to a friendly neighbourhood mechanic.

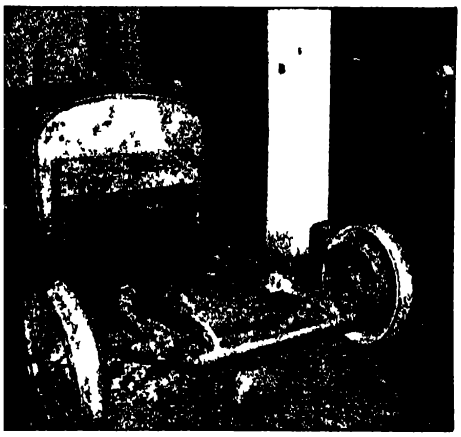
There is, obviously, a catch. The cars would only be 'on the lines' of Rolls Royce and Mercedes and would not be the



Anirudh Singh's younger brother, Manvendra (right) with a 1925 Belgium Rolls (Minerva), a seven-passenger limousine with a division

Photographs: Rajesh Kumar

originals themselves The standard Rolls insigma of Winged Victory would be missing from the front hood instead only the superimposed R's would be visible The vintage character of the cars would be skin deep Beneath the replicated facade would be the mechanical parts of an Indian jeep



The 1927 Buggati, a basket case. The car had to be lifted and taken to the worksite on crates

The creator of these fascinating cars is Anirudh Singh, 'heir apparent to the now non existant Badwani throne, 156 kms from Indore on the Agra Bombay highway Anirudh the eldest son of the former ruler of Badwani, Maharaja Devi Singh, took a fancy to cars at an early age His father a car lover himself, built a body on a Ford station wagon to make it look like the Experimental Cadillac of 1954 Anirudh worked closely with his father on the modification Later, the idea struck him that he could build replicas based on the vintage models of Europe and America The car craze has spread in the family like a virus The 68 year old maharaja loves his cars today as much as he did in his heyday The second son, Manvendra Singh, too, is deeply involved with vintage cars of the original kind He restores a whole range of cars of various makes and different periods under one roof

Anirudh Singh s first opportunity to give shape to his ideas came in 1980 when Asian Paints organised a car show in Delhi A range of exquisite old crocks were for the first time displayed in the interior environs of a hotel, and a five star one at that The huge glass doors of the Ashoka Hotel were removed from their hinges and the cars were driven in The hotel staff, after initial reluctance allowed the cars inside the majestic airconditioned annexures Anirudh Singh and his brother displayed some excellent examples of custom painting and received an enthusiastic response

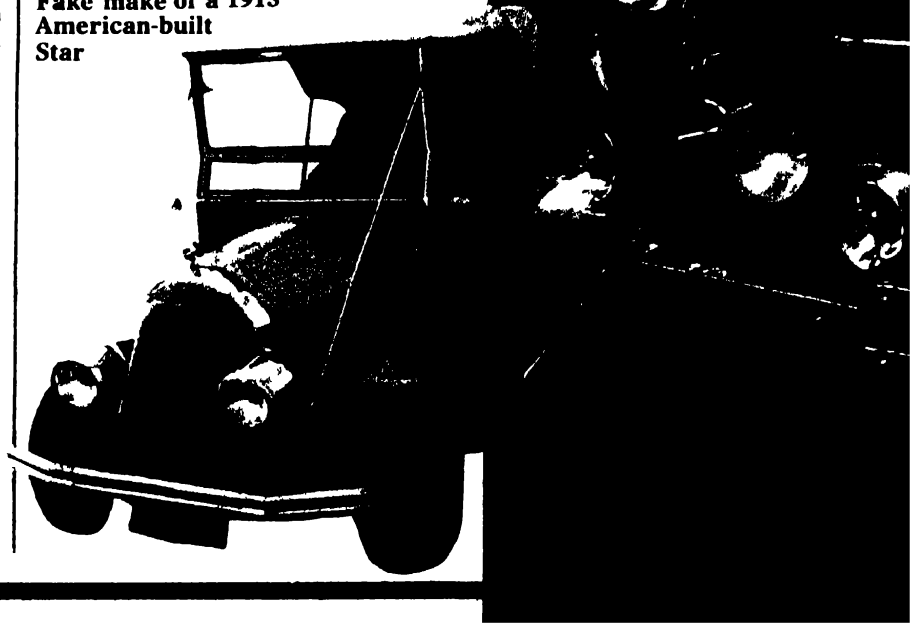
The exposure gave Anirudh the encouragement he needed to start building his replicas With the help of books on vintage cars from his own library he sketched a design on paper He then made a complete mock up, with steel wires, on the actual chasis of a jeep Alterations were made wherever required

Anirudh Singh says he tries to keep the parameters as close as possible to the actual cars although this is not always possible Each vintage has been hand made and no two such cars can be identical, according to him

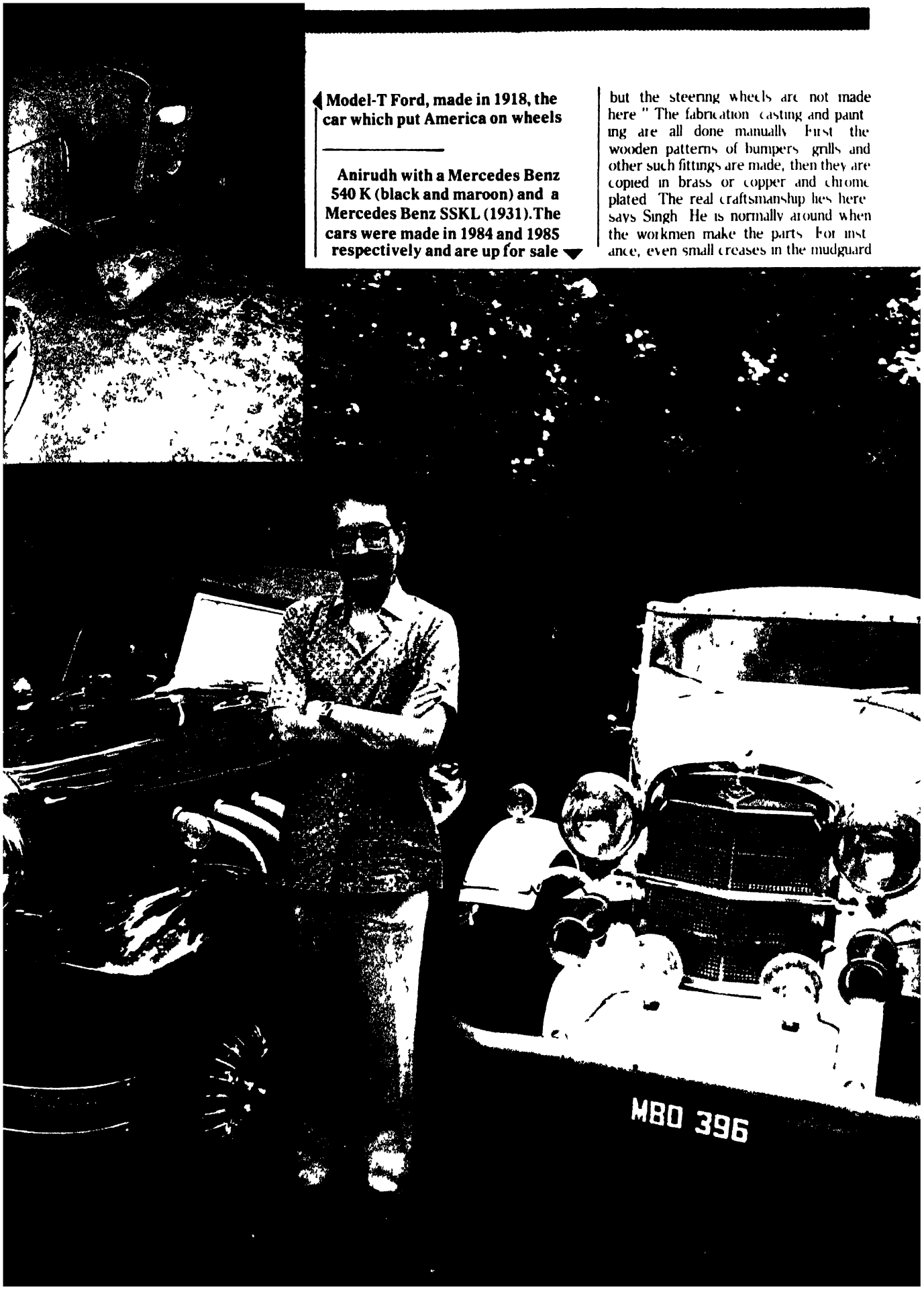
The building of replicas is a work of art It is not merely a question of assembling a few nuts and bolts, but of visualising a car on the basis of available evidence, conceptualising a design and translating it into a form Certain vital parameters are available and some others are extrapolated The most important factor is identifying appropriate materials and extracting the maximum from the workmen But the attempt all along is to give the car the closest possible resemblance to its original

But why replicas? Says Anirudh, "I built them because I could not afford to buy an SSK or 540 K The only way I could have owned them was as replicas " Besides, the original vintages, some of them very expensive and rare models, are never run on the roads on a daily basis They are kept in the museums or private collections and at the most, dusted, freshly polished and displayed proudly at the vintage rallies before being put away again

All the replica cars have a larger wheel base than the normal jeep and, therefore, tempo tyres are mounted on the rims Anirudh explains, "Obviously we cannot fix jeep wheels onto a car " The wooden steering wheels are imported from Italy "We make almost all other parts locally,



Fake make of a 1915 American-built Star



Model-T Ford, made in 1918, the car which put America on wheels

Anirudh with a Mercedes Benz 540 K (black and maroon) and a Mercedes Benz SSKL (1931). The cars were made in 1984 and 1985 respectively and are up for sale

but the steering wheels are not made here " The fabrication casting and painting are all done manually First the wooden patterns of bumpers grills and other such fittings are made, then they are copied in brass or copper and chrome plated The real craftsmanship lies here says Singh He is normally around when the workmen make the parts For instance, even small creases in the mudguard

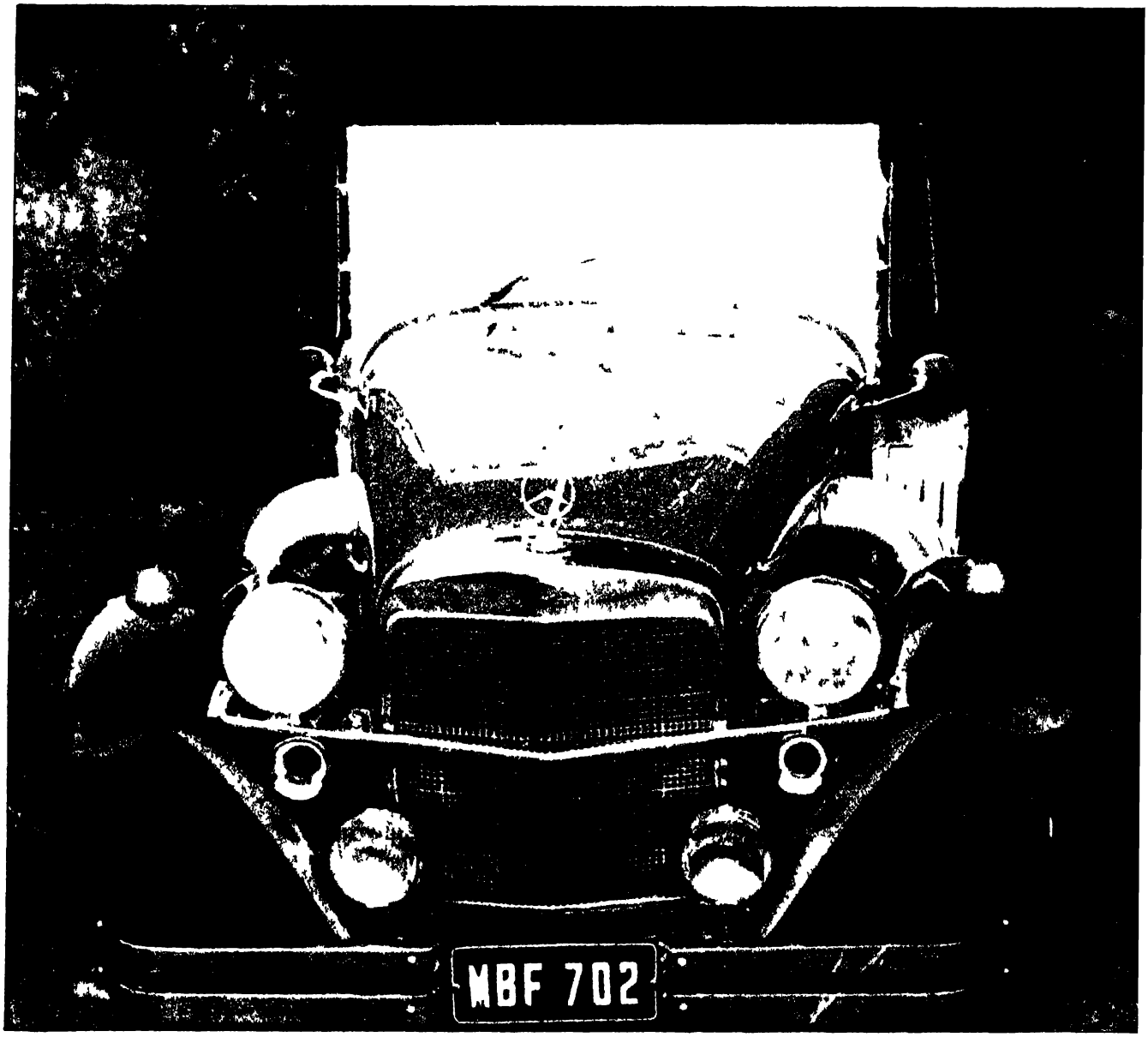
are copied (from the original) and very finely made The grills again are hand made and not pirated out of any Mercedes Benz cars Each square of the grill is marked on aluminium sheets and individually hand cut and filed there are about 1400 of them

Painting involves an equally painstaking process The majestic shades are hand rubbed with 12 coats of acrylic lacquer The dashboard is made up of real wood facia upholstery of genuine leather and the floors carpeted On the sides each rubber matting is custom made and mounted Even the hub caps are adapted to the car with special brackets All this is done by a permanent staff of not more than three people It takes nearly eight to 10 months for Anirudh Singh to build a car but he says 'If I have definite orders I can finish them in three months'

The first replica made by him was a 1915 Star, an all American car The two seater with canvas roof brass grills and fittings did not have sidescreens which gave it a casual look In March 1980 the classy car was sold to the legendary Raj Kapoor The Star true to its name starred in the Hindi movie *Biwi O Biwi* The second car built by Anirudh was on the lines of the 1916 model of Rolls Royce The four seater buggy painted grey and red with pink upholstery was picked up by a Bombay businessman The replicas invariably seem to land up in filmdom The Rolls appeared in at least two episodes of the TV sitcom, *Buniyaad* The car, incidentally, was driven by Vijayendra Ghatge who also hails from Indore The next one on the assembly line of Anirudh was the replica of the 1927 Mercedes Benz SSK Since the car has a bigger base it was built on the chasis of Hindustan Trekker with an Ambassador petrol engine The car complete with the famous three point star insignia of the company was sold in 1983 to another Bombay businessman

Anirudh Singh then turned his attention to sports versions and decided to build some of the rarest and most sought after models The result was a two third replica of the Mercedes 540 K a 1935 model with

Mercedes Benz (1927), a four-seater sold to a Bombay businessman



Window Shoppin' 2

September 9, 199

Sweta went shopping for the Pujas
and I decided to follow.

Because she seemed to know
what exactly to buy for the family,
where to go and how much to pay

And I had a job to do

So, lead on Sweta



A GRIFFIN ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Kamalalaya Centre

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Where Kamalalaya Stores Used To Be



Facilities include:
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For shops and office-spaces, contact Raju Mall/Bijoy Dhacholia
Kamalalaya Centre 156A Lenin Sarani, Calcutta 700 013 Phone 27 8486

Window Shoppin'2



First in the list of priority-shopping was of course sarees. Because new designs arrive around this time of the year and the best vanish almost on detection.

Sweta remembered her mother specifically instructing her to check at **Adi Dhakeswari Bastralaya** in Gariahat. The family has been regular customers of this traditional saree shop. Here, she fell in love with a Dhakai Jamdani which led to an instant purchase.

While in the area, she also decided to check on some of the other shops. **Basak, Bhojraj... Kanishka,** I noticed, has done some wonderful things to the saree. A tram-ride to Deshapriya Park and a short walk from there, was **Kundahar** and **Mira Basu** Once there, I remembered accompanying a celebrity Bombay socialite, on a visit to the city, who asked to please be taken there. *'So, this is the place where Rakhee and Mrs. Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi get those gorgeous sarees from'*, she had thought aloud then, victoriously.

After a quick feel of her purse, Sweta decides to take a break. *Taxi!*

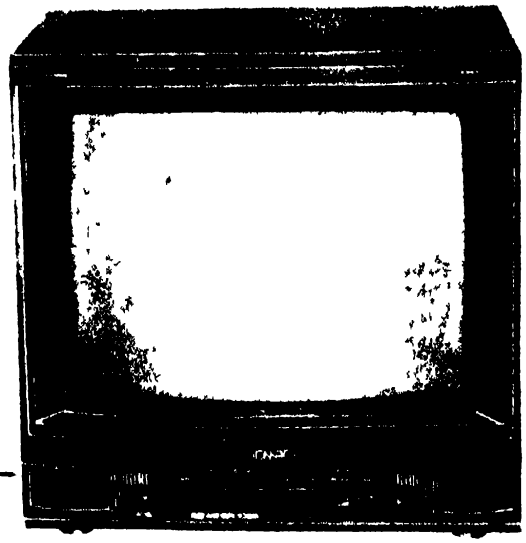
Iced-tea at **Dolly's** is just the thing to refresh yourself with, before taking on Dakshinapan. Sweta headed straight for **Gurjari**, the popular Gujrat State Handicrafts Emporium. Inside, it is a riot of colours - dresses, accessories and things. All kinds of evil things entered her mind. Behave yourself, she seemed to tell herself, as she got hold of herself and slowly walked towards the cash counter. The man from behind gave a generous discount on the bill and informed her that the sale is also on at Calcutta Chamber of Commerce Hall in Park Street. Hear, hear!

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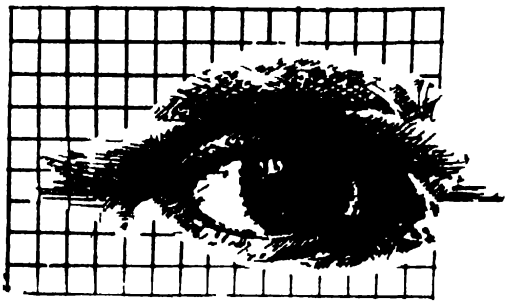




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Lawrence & Mayo

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CALCUTTA: 11 Govt Place East Tel 281818 / 208622 20 E , Park Street Tel 298310



3 & 4 Lindsay Street, Calcutta 700 087 Telephone 24 7936 (PP)

Window Shoppin'2

At another state emporium in Dakshinapan, Sweta meets a friend who tells her about the Puja Special discount at **Priyadarshini** and as she was headed that way offers to give her a lift upto **Karnataka Cauvery Upahar** near USIS at Chowringhee.

Next, Sweta decides to do New Market.

Gangadeen Gupta is an ancient shop. Some years back it was gutted in the fire that got that part of New Market and recently they had moved in to the new premises of the new complex. What was happening inside, was unbelievable. The shop was practically being raided. Sarees, matchings and dress-materials were all over the place. As one customer happily leaves with her bag-full of Gangadeen, I catch the man behind the counter giving her that 'Thank you, come again', look and quickly turning to attend to another who closed in. How do you do it, Man, I wanted to ask him but on being jostled out I decided to flee.



At **Geeta's Circle** it was the same scene. Frenzied shoppers literally pulling down the whole shop. Serves you guys right, for 'Calling All Women Kind'. That's their ad line, if you're wondering.

Siddhartha, for a change catered to men and children and it seemed very popular too.

'Buy now and avail a round-the-year discount scheme' seems to have caught on at **Dear N Darling.**

Always Something New..For You!

A Family Shop.. Only For You!!

MAHADEVIA & MEHTA

Largest house of cut-piece and lengths

STANDOSE Mafatlal



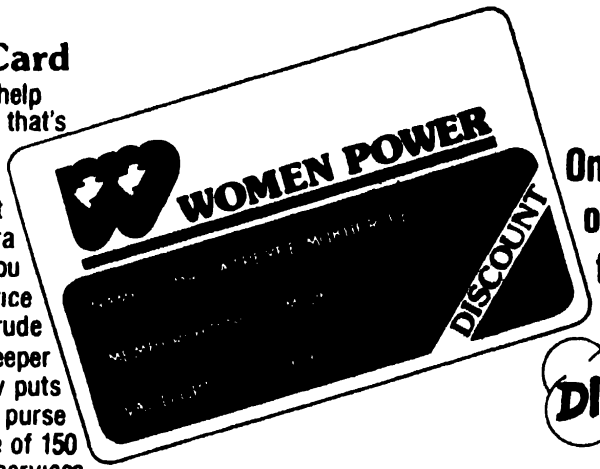
ROXY CINEMA BUILDING
2, BRABOURNE ROAD



MAGIC CARD

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Over the year, this Card will help you save a lot of money But that's just one aspect
Carry the Card on your next shopping trip and see the power it wields at the select
The sales persons are suddenly extra polite. More eager to serve you
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What's more, the Card covers purchase of 150 categories of products and services



On thousand of things, throughout the year

DISCOUNT!

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WOMEN POWER

WE HONOUR WOMEN POWER CARD

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MEMBERSHIP DETAILS AVAILABLE AT : (Rash Behari Av.) Basanalaya 124/C, Ellora 161/2/1, Smartwear 167E, Tex Printing Crafts & Curios 190/2, South Jewellery House 195/3A, Amrita Dresses 204/1, Punjabi House 204/1, Panchanan Medical Hall 107, Ekdalia Rd.- 19, Auto Star 38, Panditiya Rd - 29. (Ranikuthi NSC Bose Rd) Indira's Collection 131/6, Ghosh Bros. 148/2. (New Mkt. — New) Dear 'N' Darling F/24/10 (1st flr). (Shakespeare Sarani) Sangam Saree Mandir 28/B.

Window Shoppin'2

Talking of discounts, **Women Power** comes to mind.

Members of this just launched operation get spot discounts on purchases (Saress, Dresses, Car Hire, Computer Courses and What-have-you) from selected member-establishments.

And it's good news for shop-owners too.

The idea was to give the buyer, an incentive and the seller, increased sales.

With a target-audience of 15,000 member-consumers, they are talking of a combined purchasing power of Rs. 15 crores annually.

Sorry for the diversion and on with window shoppin'.

We are now at **The Novelty (V'Sons Collections)**, the family-wear shop in New Market, up-front near the clock-tower. Here too, it was sheer madness. People buying like crazy. Vinod Punwani, wearing the season's latest designs, pranced up and down the shop — throwing things at his manager, who would promptly pick it up and organise speed-billing and delivery, thank you.

Next, please Quick duck, if you don't want to be hit by an UFO. God!

EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION OF MENSWEAR AND CHILDRENSWEAR

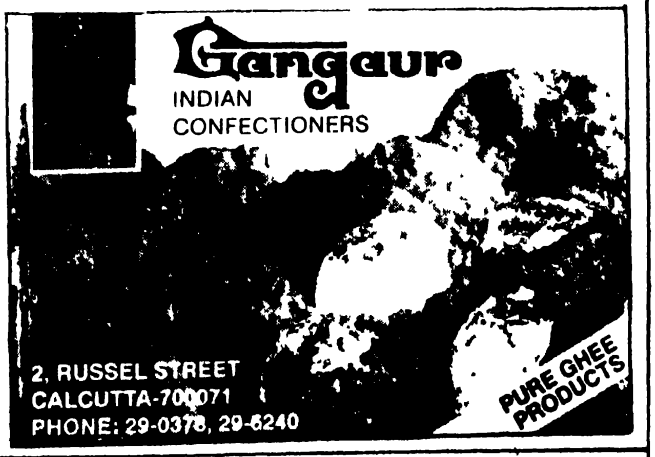


Sidharth's

Turning Point Of Fashion

Shop No F/6/8 New Market
1st Floor (New Complex) Calcutta 700 087

Please bring this cutting and avail a 5% Discount

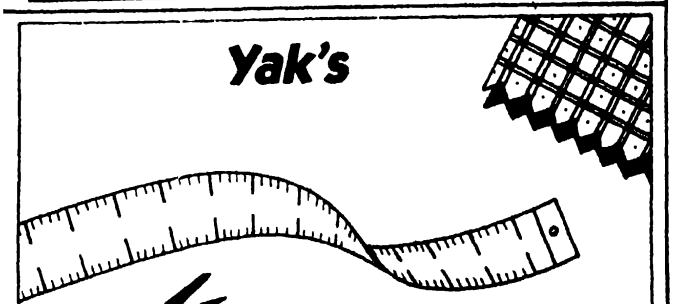


Geeta's Circle

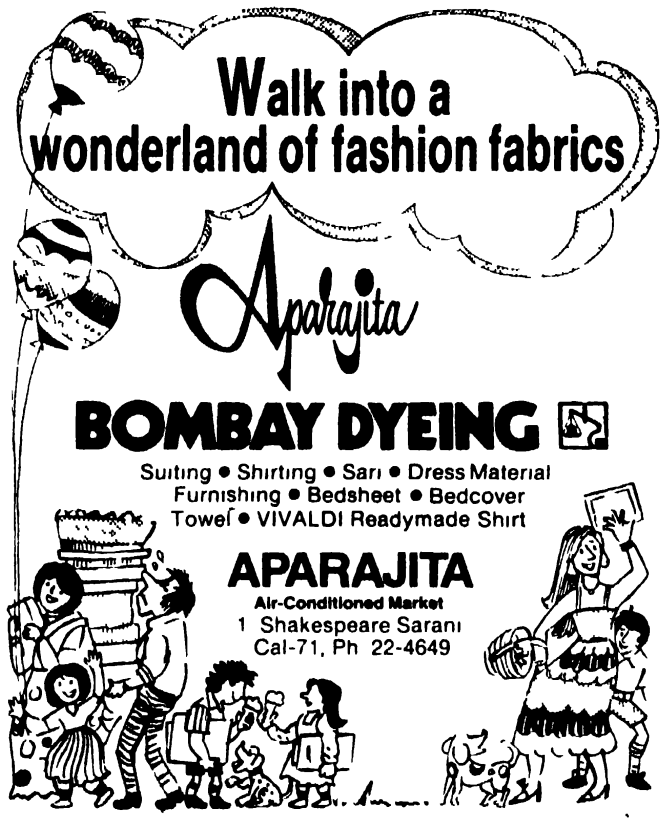


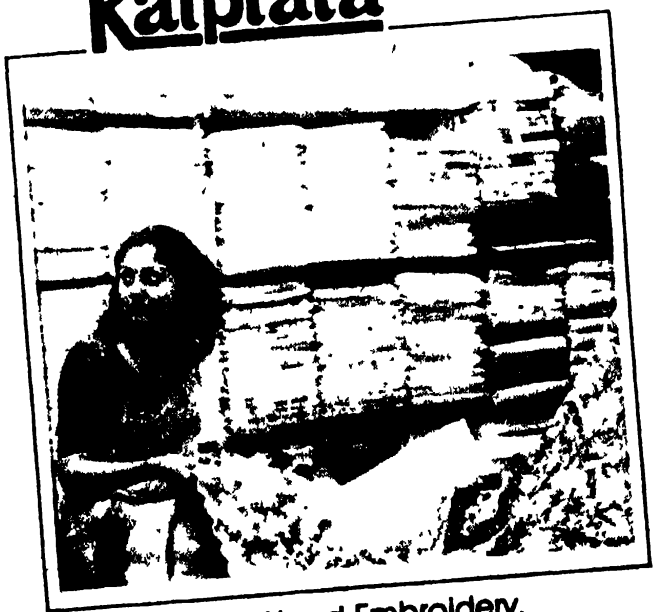
F/21/A/6 New Complex (1st Floor)
Near Escalator
New Market, Calcutta 700087

Yak's



Mens Tailors & Clothiers
75 Chowringhee Centre,
Calcutta 700 013 Phone 29 4521





Window Shoppin'2

Across the road is **Gypsy** boutique, where designer Raja Kalra is busy dressing his favourite mannequin with his latest creation while brother JP attends to fascinated onlookers and customers eagerly waiting to lay their hands on the hi- fashion dresses.

Just around the corner is **Treasure Island.** On spotting this air- conditioned shopping complex at a turning on Madge Lane, I felt like Long John Silver reacting to the excited cry of 'Land, Ahoy'! But Sweta had the map to the loot and she was already at it. Sarees, salwar-suits, ghagras (**Choice, Kala Niketan, Maharaja, Mayuri Saree Sagar, Shilpi, Libas, Status, Saket, Shabnam Selection, Suisse Selections, Shyam Vatika, The Miss**), readymade garments (**First Step, Rahman Reasonable Store, Rahman Selection Centre**), shirts and trousers (**Match Maker**), foot-wear (**Bubble's**), ladies bags (**Gift Club**), audio-cassettes (**Music Palace**), watches (**Rahman Time Corner**), and a departmental store (**City Express Supermarket**). While Sweta picked up some gems, I knew that shoppin here is absolutely no sweat.

Outside it is getting to be dark. Traffic is held up and a variety of car horns rent the air. A cop materialises while I follow Sweta inside the **Sumangal - Cliff Shop - 3 & 4** Complex.

I didn't know such shops even existed in Calcutta. Smart window displays, snazzy mannequins, elegant interiors, fish pond with fountain, special effects... the works!

While 'Sumangal' is the authorised showroom for **Digjam, OCM** and **Jiyajee,** they also stock **Hagger** and **Zodiac** trousers, shirts, ties, socks etc.. 'Cliff Shop' is the stop for designer-wear and formal & casual shirts, baggies, jogging suits etc. 3&4 (which is actually their address on Lindsay Street) on the mezzanine floor is the ladies and children section.

I could see that Sweta was floored. *Watch your step, Lady*

Lindsay, further up near Chowringhee crossing, was in full bloom with the seasons blossoms from Garden Vareli. Yes, **Silk Hut** is a sister concern, we heard the manager telling a resident of Gariahat.

At **Mahadevia & Mehta,** the Mafatlal Fabrics showroom near Roxy (they also have a showroom in Dalhousie), Sweta picked up some dress material she had earlier seen and fancied, on somebody else at a party.

I quickly checked at **Yak's** (men's tailors and clothiers) to enquire if they are still open to orders for deliveries before the Pujas. It seems I just about made it. *Phew!*



Fair Lady

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1 Shakespeare Sarani Calcutta 700 071 Phone 22 1942

For **Second September,** See Colour Extra

For Ladies Garments & Childrenswear



Sharmilee *F 4 Airconditioned Market*
1 Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta 71

nite 'n' Day



Shirts Trousers Jeans Jackets Party Coats Sleeping Suits Cotton Baggies Kurta-sets Sweaters Pullovers Belts Ties Accessories Salwar-suits Dresses

Treasure Island Off Lindsay Street
AC Market (1st F1) On Shakespeare Sarani

For sarees, Matchings & Dress-material

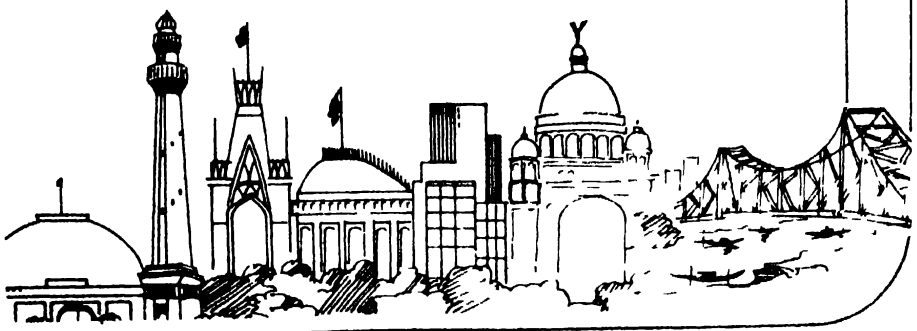


GANGADEEN GUPTA

N-682 New Complex New Market, Calcutta

GANGADIN GUPTA

Air-conditioned Market Shakespeare Sarani Calcutta



Priyo
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A Treasure-house Of Exquisitely Designed Jewellery!



Authorised Gold Ornaments

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All kinds of quality shoes
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This Puja, shop at

dear'n' darling

F 24/V/10 (1st Floor) New Market
(New Complex) Calcutta 700 087
And avail a 'Round-the-year' discount scheme

Happy Puja! Happy Shopping!!

Radu®
House of Quality Foot-wear And King Of Kolhapuri

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College Street Market, Calcutta 700 007
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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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Mechanised Facials
In a lying down posture
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To stop loss of hair and prevent dandruff
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4H Panchanantala
(Dhakuria Bridge Landing)
Near Golpark
Phone : 72 2797/8/5713

By now I was famished. While Sweta window shopped at Russel Street, I tucked in at **Gangaur**.

Good old **AC Market**. Just before entering, Sweta checks her list of pre-planned calls here. Yes, **Second September** (shirts, shirts and more shirts), **Sharmilee** (ladies garments and childrenswear), **Aparajita** (Bombay Dyeing showroom) and **Fair-Lady** (dress material) at the ground floor. On the first floor is **Nite 'N' Day** where the Puja Special is executive shirts in plain colour stripes and checks at Rs. 120. (They also have a shop at Treasure Island). **Kalplata** is a must for bed and table linen and some of their hand-embroidered stuff is really good. On the way out, Sweta passed **Gangadeen Gupta** on the ground floor and remembered what she had done to Sailesh Gupta at their New Market shop while fishing for sarees and matching-pieces.

Window Shopping at Lenin Sarani, Sweta was stopped short by a display of television sets. It was the branch office of **Konark Television Limited**, but she walked in just the same and asked for a demo and the friendly staff gladly obliged while the manager told her all about the company, it's products and services. After making its presence felt in the television market with sets at par with the best in the world and prompt after sales service, this Government of Orissa Enterprise has recently diversified into consumer durables such as washing machines, mixer-grinder, etc. Equipped with product literatures and a list of dealers in the neighbourhood, Sweta set out with her mind made up. Looks like soon its going to be 'Good Morning, Konark' at home, for her.

ADI DHAKESWARI BASTRALAYA

Sarees from
Nadia (West Bengal)
Hyderabad, Bangalore,
Kanchipuram, Benaras,
Orissa, Bhagalpur, etc.

New Exclusive Designs	Price (Starting)
Baluchari With Zari-embroidery	Rs 1,350
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Kashmiri Soft Silk	Rs 440
Chanderi Rajkot	Rs 2,000
Kanchipuram Jamevar Rajkot	Rs 1,000
Kanchipuram With Thin Border	Rs 1,000
Mysore Chamundi Silk	Rs 700
Rajkot Khadi Silk	Rs 1,200
Kashmiri Crepe Silk With Printed & Zari Border	Rs 800
Sarna Katan	Rs 800
Dhakai Jamdani With 2-colour Half & Half With 2 Blouse-pieces & 2 Anchals	Rs 1,700
Dakshini Silk Tangail	Rs 1,000
Relap Dhakai Buti	Rs 250
Tissue Tangail	Rs 400
Polyester Tangail	Rs 300
Dhanekali Tangail With Blouse-piece	

ADI DHAKESWARI BASTRALAYA
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Gurudas Mansion, Gariahat Junction
Calcutta 700 019 Phone 42 2698

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Puja Special

20%+10%
SPECIAL DISCOUNT

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GARIAHAT JASODA BHAWAN-2 (1st Floor)
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Avail **Attractive Discounts**
At Special Puja Sale,
Upto September 25

gurjari



Gurjari, Dakshinapan
& **Calcutta Chamber Of Commerce Hall**
Park Street (Next To Flury's)

Monday To Saturday - 10 30 AM - 7 30 PM
Sunday - Upto 2 30PM

Gujrat State Handicrafts Emporium
Dakshinapan 2 Gariahat Road Calcutta 700 068 Phone 42 9117

Window Shoppin'2

Outside, just across the road was **Kamalalaya Centre**, a brand new shopping complex where Kamalalaya Stores used to be. It hadn't opened fully but it deserved a closer look. There were some shops (consumer electronics, car decor, foam mattresses, etc.) in the front row while there was room for many more. I bumped into Raju Mall, partner of the property, who showed me around and informed me that while the first floor is centrally air-conditioned (for an electronic components market), the other four floors are meant for offices.

Soon, all that is available in Lenin Sarani, Chandni Market and around, will be available under this one roof.

I got so carried away with **Kamalalaya Centre** that I almost lost track of Sweta and just about managed to catch her boarding a mini-bus. In the bus, she meets a friend who informs her about the shoe shops in College Street, particularly **Radu & Co.** and **Bhanu Stores** Sweta promptly makes notes.

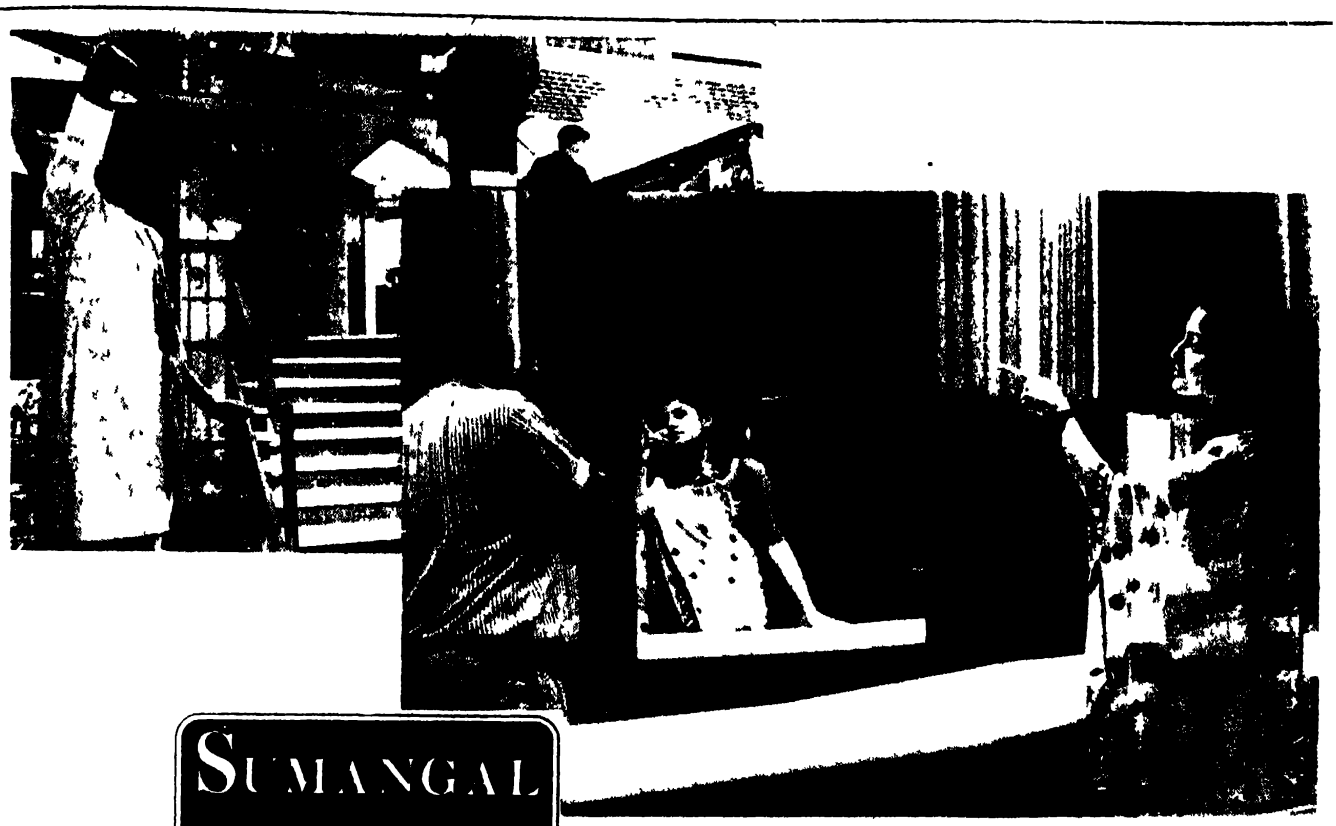


Oh, ho. *Baba's* glasses! Sweta gets off at **Lawrence & Mayo** to check if they were ready. *Did you know that they have showrooms all over the country.*

Walking from there, Sweta suddenly goes underground and surfaces at Tollygunge Metro Station. This time, she back tracks from there to Gariahat-stopping at places in-between.

Ma's earrings had to be picked up from **Priyo Jewellers** on Anwar Shah Road. Having completed her assignment there, she is informed about a branch in Rash Behari. *Good, Good.*

Next stop was **The Bijoylakshmi Stores**. After creating a sensation with his 'Young Lady' frocks, Bapi Saha is all set to go to town with his new designs. A one-stop-shop for the family, in Gariahat. A visit to **His N Hers**, further down, is also recommended. But first, she had to pick up a late evening snack for the family from **Atithi** near the Dhakuria Bridge landing at Panchanantala. While she waited for the take home pack, I discovered that this was one big complex which included **Avinandan** (Indian sweet meats) **Avisar** (furniture shop) and **Apsara** (beauty parlour).



SUMANGAL

DIGJAM • OOMI • JIYAJEE

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Telephone 29 7317 Res 29 5240/8952

The
Bijoylakshmi
Stores

Gariahat

A COMPLETE SHOPPING CENTRE

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Window Shoppin'2

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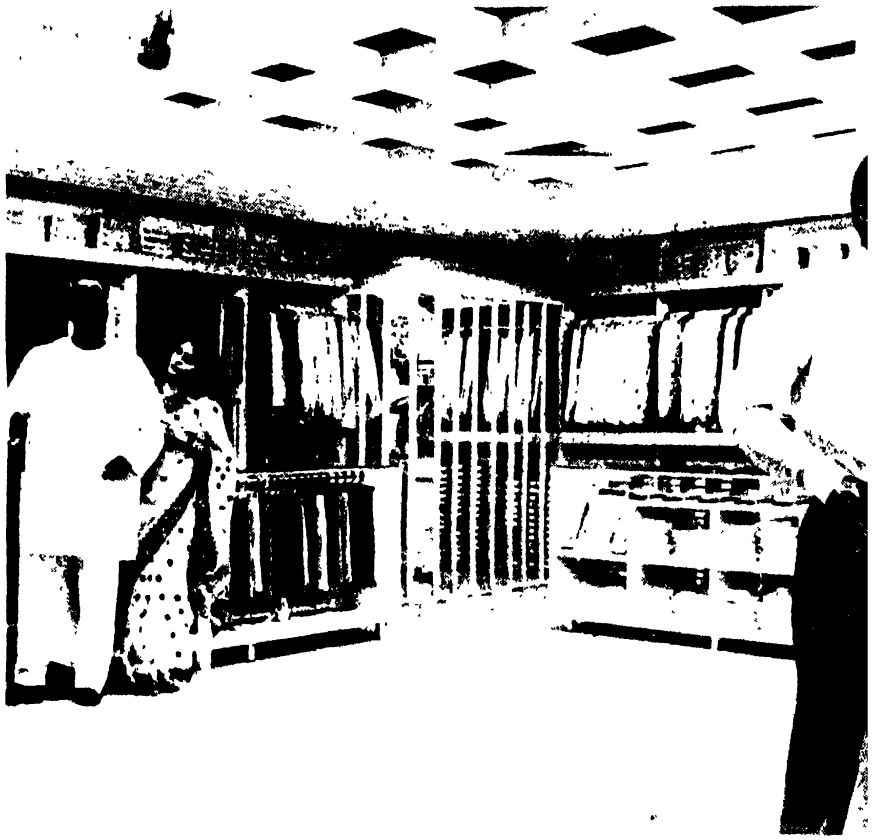
671 Marshall House
33/1 NS Road, Calcutta 700 001
Telephones (Office) 20 9862/4912
(Factory) 36 3190 (Res) 34 8693

By now it was late evening and as homeward bound office-goers and busy shoppers came in each others way, Sweta finally managed to give me the slip – disappearing into the evening.

Damn! I kicked my car. That reminds me I have to add two names in my list for tomorrow. **Auto Sales Agencies** and **Eastern Tyre Service.**

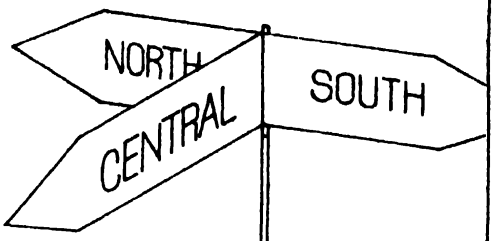
Back home I find the wife talking shop with a neighbour who I could make out was a gay shopper in Behala before coming here. I heard the names of **Babuji, New Indian Silk House** and **Bharat Shoe Concern** being mentioned.

Enough is enough, I thought, and crashed!



Designed & Produced By
GRIFFIN CREATIVE SERVICE PVT LTD
2 St Georges Gate Road Hastings
Calcutta 700 022 Phone 45 0125/6/7

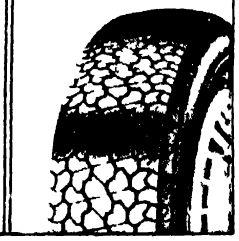
Your friendly neighbourhood tyre dealer



EASTERN TYRES
34 K K Tagore Street
Calcutta 700 070
Phone 34 7547/8069

EASTERN TYRE SERVICE
115 Chittaranjan Avenue
Calcutta 700 073
Phone 25 9545/6758

EASTERN AUTOMOBILES
4-A Ashutosh Mukherjee Road
Calcutta 700 020
Phone 48 3091/3695



Changing your tyres?

Change at ASA

For all sizes and makes of tyres, tubes and flaps at competitive prices and personalised service!



auto
sales agencies

126 Chittaranjan Avenue
(Next To Mohammedally Park)
CALCUTTA 700 070
Phone 39 0069, 38 0872

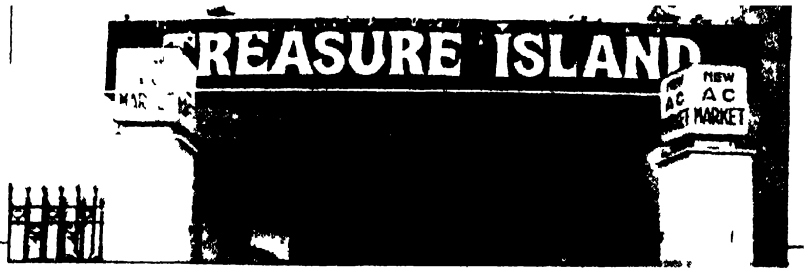
BABUJI



Benarasi • Silk • South Indian • Tant • Fancy Saree • Suiting • Shirting • Dress Material

264 Diamond Harbour Road (Opposite Behala PS)
Behala, Calcutta 700 034 Phone 77 7237

Window Shoppin'



3 Madge Lane, Calcutta 700 016

Sarees, Salwar-suits, Ghagras

CHOICE
Ladies Boutique Shop
Shop 22, Ground Floor

KALA NIKETAN
Exclusive Sarees & Salwar Suits
127 & 128C, First Floor

MAHARAJA
Exclusive Salwar Kameez Dupattas
Lahengas Sarees
112, First Floor

MAYURI SAREE SAGAR
Wholesaler & Retailer
Of A Variety Of Sarees
1 B&C, Ground Floor

SHILPI, LIBAS, STATUS
Exclusive Sarees Ladies
Garments And Shirts
3&5, Ground Floor

SAKET
A House Of Exclusive Sarees
4, Ground Floor

SHABNAM SELECTION
Specialist In Exclusive Salwar-suits
And Fancy Dupattas
138, First Floor

SUISSE SELECTIONS
Sensational Saree Shop
139, First Floor

SHYAM VATIKA
Salwar suits Skirt-tops
And Dress-material
G 35, Ground Floor

THE MISS
Womens Arcade
104, First Floor

Ready-made Garments

FIRST STEP
World Of Garments
33, Ground Floor

RAHMAN REASONABLE STORE
Hosiery Ready made & Piece Goods
117 & 118, First Floor

RAHMAN SELECTION CENTRE
All Types Of Garments
137, First Floor

Shirts & Trousers

MATCH MAKER
For The Winning Look
123, First Floor

Foot-wear

BUBBLE'S
Gents Ladies & Childrens Foot wear specialist
25, Ground Floor

Ladies Bags

GIFT CLUB
Leather Hand bags & Gift Articles
141, First Floor

Audio-cassettes

MUSIC PALACE
Audio-cassettes
A-128, First Floor

Watches

RAHMAN TIME CORNER
House Of Watches Clocks Time-pieces
127A, First Floor

Departmental Store

OPENING SOON

CITY EXPRESS SUPERMARKET
Basement



Window Shoppin' 2

COLOUR EXTRA



Burger break

Coming Next

Window Shoppin' 3

A CHRISTMAS & WINTER GUIDE
To shopping eating out celebrating
and holidaying

For advertisement space contact
GRIFFIN CREATIVE SERVICE PVT LTD
2 St George's Gate Road Hastings
Calcutta 700 022

Hunt Club, Kent, Paulo Gucci
and all the best



E1 Air-conditioned Market
1 Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta 700 071



2 Madge Lane Calcutta 700 016

Concept & Direction SUDIP SEN Layout RAJIB KUMAR Artwork PRADIP ROY
Executives RANJAN MUKHERJEE SWAPNA BAGCHI SARMISTHA DUTTA PRANAB
PATNAIK Office SUBHRA SENGUPTA K K DAS GHOSH NIKHIL GHOSH ASHOK DEY
AJOY DAS Photographers ASIT PODDAR (with model) SAMIR GHOSAL (without)
Model-Shopper RIDISHA BHADURI

The one stop family-wear shop

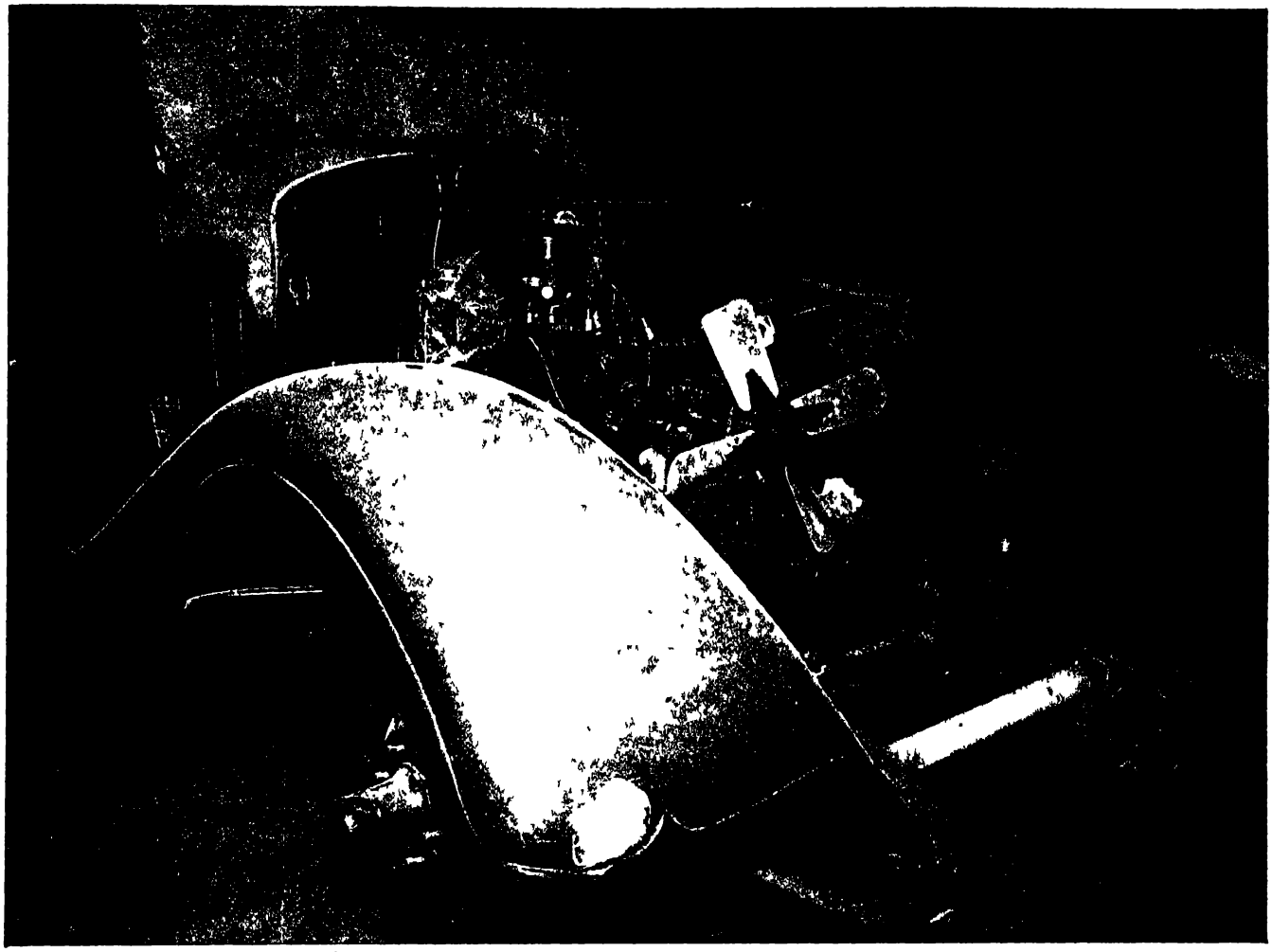




the novelty

V. sons collection

F 68 74 New Market Calcutta 700 016



A 1934 American model under restoration

a special feature of half a dozen extra exhaust vents attached to its engine The exhausts were used to throw out super charged gases The replica has dummy steel pipes fixed on its sides resembling the original

The Mercedes, painted maroon and black, has a rumble seat in the dickey A tug at the dickey handle and two adults of "average size' can slip into what are derogatorily called the 'mother in law' seats This is because the dickey is not covered and the occupant will have to suffer the vagaries of the weather whereas the front two seats are covered by a canvas roof This car is now up for sale

Anirudh made another car in 1985 again based on the mechanical components of a petrol Mahendra jeep This replica of the famous sports Mercedes SSKI (1931) is painted in stately white with red linings and upholstery

Anirudh becomes cautious when it comes to stating prices He says most of the originally hand made cars cost about $800,000 in the world market But he sells his replicas for less than six per cent of this He hastens to add that his is more a "work of art than a commercial enterprise "

Anirudh Singh also has a collection of special interest cars of the late Forties and early Fifties He has a 1947 convertible Cadillac parked in his garage which once belonged to the late Maharaja of Bundi It has already done 32 000 miles a record in itself It is one of the well kept originals

It has automatic transmission and its side windows and radio antennae are power operated, and so is its convertible top

He also owns a 1949 convertible Cadillac, earlier owned by the late Maharaja of Jaipur Painted in midnight blue the car really stands out His 1952 Cadillac Coupe de Ville, with a two door hardtop, is a golden anniversary Cadillac Anirudh as a child used to travel in the car and says, "I had never imagined that one day I would own it Among the other cars parked in his garage is a post World Chrysler Town and Country a four door sedan of 1948 which belonged to the late Maharaja of Gwalior George Jivaji Rao, father of former railways minister Madhav Rao Scindia Of the 3951 cars manufactured between 1946 and 1948 in this model Singh's is the 111th

All these cars are registered with the regional transport authority like any other The only difference is that these are registered as rebuilt cars' Replicating vintage models is a hobby the world over particularly in Europe Yet in India which once boasted of some of the rarest and most expensive cars thanks to the passion of its Maharajas and Nizams for the beautiful and the exotic Anirudh Singh remains one of a kind He is a vintage freak with a difference working tirelessly to keep the olde spirit alive If you want to zip down memory lane Maharaja style he is the man who could give you the ride of your life ■

7 DAYS



Neelam and Jackie in *Doodh Ka Karz*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aaj Ka Arjun** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) 4 shows

A film by K C Bokadia starring megastar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Pradha and Radhika The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Aashiqui** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917) & Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street 552210) 4 shows Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417) 3 shows

A film by Mahesh Bhatt starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy The music is by Nadeem Shravan

• **Dil** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141) 4 shows

Directed by Indra Kumar and with music by Anand Milind the film stars Aamir Khan Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher

• **Doodh Ka Karz** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442) Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 219888) Krishna (I C Dutta Street 250437) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 464440) Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) Tigar (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 38 108) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 311522) Chhaya (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 351382) Rajani (Behala Main Road 363264) Mahesh (Regent Park)

Directed by Ashok Gaikwad and with music by Annu Malik the film star Jackie Shroff Neelam Varsha and Amrish Puri

• **Jawani Zindabad** Jyoti (Deshapriya Sarani 241133) 4 shows

Aamir Khan and Farha are the main attraction in this film directed by Arun Bhatt The music is by Anand Milind

• **Paap Ki Kamaee** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383) Uttara (Bidhan Sarani 552200) Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue 390 62) Kalika (Sadananda Road 4 5111) Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road 564403)

An encounter between crime and law starring Mithun Chakraborty Kunal Goswami Sangeeta Bajlani Shilpa Shirodkar Prem Chopra and Kulbhushan Kharbanda The film is directed by Kewal Sharma and the music is by Annu Malik

• **Sailaab** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road 311090) Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 552932) Indira (Indira Roy Road 551757) Madhuban (Regent Park)

Madhuri Dixit is the chief attraction in this film directed by Deepak Balraj Vij and whose music is by Bappi Lahiri

Bengali Films

• **Bhangagara** Durgapur (Bidhan Sarani 558080)—2 30 5 30 8 Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 271882) 2 5 7 45

Directed by Guru Bagchi the main attractions of this film are Prasenjit Satabdi Roy Deepankar De Subhendu Chatterjee Debika Mukherjee and Rajeshwari Roy



Tapas Paul and Archana Joglekar in *Jeeban Sangee*

Choudhury The music is by Ravindra Jain

• **Debata (A)** Mina (Bidhan Sarani 552753) Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road 473462) Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road 352740) 2 45 5 30 8 15

Victor Banerjee Debashree Roy Dilip Roy Anup Kumar Kali Banerjee Indrani Halder Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R D Burman

• **Gharer Bou** Radha (Bidhan Sarani 553015)—2 30 5 30 8 Ujjala (Russa Road 758666) 2 30 5 30 8 30

A social entertainer, starring Sandhya Roy, Chiranjeet, Satabdi Roy, Joy Sengupta, Meenakshi Goswami, Nimu Bhowmick, Biplab Chatterjee and Sandhyarani.

Special Events

9 September: 11 am

Rangakarmee presents its latest Hindi play, *Holi*, directed by Usha Ganguli.

At Kala Mandir (B) (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086)

9-15 September: 3 pm - 8 pm

An exhibition of recent drawings by Chanchal Mukherjee.

At Chitrakoot Art Gallery (55 Gariahat Road)

9-14 September: 3 pm-8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Tarun Ghosh in the South Gallery. •Swakshar Sanskritik Samsad will hold a paintings exhibition in the New Gallery.

9 September onwards: 3 pm - 8 pm

Salil Bhattacharjee will hold his exhibition of paintings in the Central Gallery till September 17.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road, 284302)

9 September: 6.05 pm

Andhra Association and Balarangam present *The Life of Sri Ramanuja*, a colourful drama in English.

At Andhra Hall (13-A Shahanagar Road; Calcutta 26).

9 September: 6 pm

Sangit Kala Mandir presents a programme of light music, featuring Preeti Sagar and party.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani; 443666/9086).

9 and 15 September: 6.30 pm

Padatik and USIS present the Hindi play, *Baarish Wala*, a translation of Richard Nash's *The Rain Maker*, directed by Rodney Marriott and designed by Christopher Barreca. The cast includes Rajaram Yagnik, Shakil Khan, B.M. Hada, Sanchayita Bhattacharya, Vinay Sharma, Mahmud Aalam and Arun Sharma.

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

9 September: 6.30 pm

Kabyayan's first anniversary programme of recitation and reading features Suchitra Mitra, Pradip Ghosh, Sabitabrata Dutta, Purnendu Pattrea, Gouri Ghosh, Chaitali Dasgupta, Saswati Guha Thakurta, Bratati Banerjee, Partha Mukherjee, Sarmishtha Chatterjee, Tulsi Roy, Amitava Bagchi and others.

At Sisir Mancha (AJC Bose Road).

14 September: 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Fun with Chemistry—a workshop on chemistry experiments for middle-school teachers, organised by Progressive Educational Techniques Society.

At Birla Industrial and Technological Museum.

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4). SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4) SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1, 4) RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep (1, 4) RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6) TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6): IC-843 at 0755. Dep (6): IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115. Dep (6): IC 844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily): BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7): BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820, Dep. (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily) BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840 Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7) BG-093 at 1540, Arr (5) BG 097 at 1740, Arr (1,7) IC-224 at 1540 Arr (2,4,6) IC-224 at 1840

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (2,5) BG-698 at 1415, Dep (6) IC-225 at 1330

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr (2, 5) BG-697 at 1330, Arr (6) IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB 106 at 0900, Arr (2) KB 105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-1320 at 1300, Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240; Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr (5) AI 306 at 1815

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-265 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7). IC-271 at 1500, Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7) IC-272 at 2025,

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1,2,4,6). IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6); IC-541 at 1310.

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily): IC-229 at 1250;Arr. (daily) IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6). IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr (2,4). IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep (3,5,7): IC 213 at 1030. Arr. (3,5,7). IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6) IC-219 at 1120: Arr (1,3,5,6) IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-241 at 0700 Dep (2,4) IC-243 at 1400 Dep (3,5,6,7) IC-243 at 0600 Dep (1) IC 243 at 1400, Arr (daily) IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2,4) IC 244 at 1600, Arr (3,5, 6,7) IC 244 at 1020, Arr (1) IC 244 at 1600

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep (daily) IC-255 at 0600, Arr (daily) IC-256 at 1030

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6) IC 269 at 1710; Arr (3,5,6) IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745, Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 , Arr (2,4): IC-286 at 1015

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep (1): IC-287 at 0545, Arr (1) IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7) IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-727 at 0530; Arr. (1,3,5): PF-728 at 1120.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (7). PF-729A at 0550, Arr. (7) PF-730A at 1050.

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (1,3,5,7): PF-701 at 1140, Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-702 at 1615

Calcutta - Agartala - Kamalpur - Kailashar - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6). PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2,4,6) PF-730 at 1040

Calcutta - Silchar - Shillong - Guwahati - Silchar - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-701 at 1100; Arr. (2,4,6): PF-702 at 1715

Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (2,6): PF-709 at 0815, Arr. (2,6). PF-710 at 1840.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh: Dep. (4) PF-709 at 0815; Arr. (4): PF-710 at 1750.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (7) PF 709 at 0600; Arr. (7): PF-710 at 1705.

Calcutta - Agartala: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-729A at 1130 Arr.

(1,3,5) PF-730A at 1410.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep (2,4,6) PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310; Arr. (2,4,6)) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655.
Calcutta - Jamshedpur -Ranchi - Patna: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-725 at 0550, Arr (1,3,5)· PF-726 at 1115.
Calcutta - Jamshedpur: Dep. (2,4,6) PF-717 at 0550; Arr. (2,4,6): PF-718 at 0745.
Calcutta - Cooch Behar: Dep. (2,4,6,7): PF-707 at 0600; Arr. (2,4,6, 7) PF-708 at 0855.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Silchar - Guwahati: Dep. (1,3,5,7): PF-705 at 0915; Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-706 at 1620.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep Tues Thurs & Sat Arr - Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep -Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr— Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16 00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep- Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11 30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep - Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr —Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20 05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9 45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17 35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17 15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11 10	3026
¡3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050

Sealdah

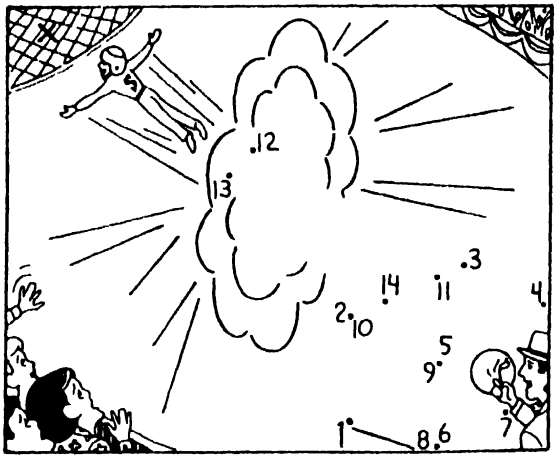
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

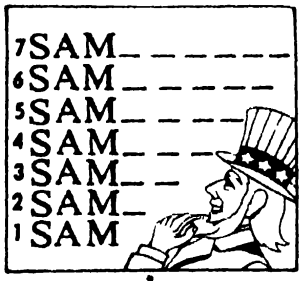
ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



ZOOM BOOM! What can you draw to complete the circus scene above? To find out, add connecting lines from 1 to 2, 3, etc

• HEADS ROLL! Behead a beast and you will find a larger beast and then, behold you will now have 10 With what word do you begin?

Begin with the word fox (than ox then x)



LEND SAM A HAND

Uncle Sam is pondering the SAM-words listed above. Each word begins with SAM and is one letter longer than its predecessor Let's see if you can help Uncle Sam find these words Definitions

1. **SAM (in place).**
2. **More of this can be boring.**
3. **South American dance.**
4. **Asian houseboat.**
5. **Russian tea urn.**
6. **Pollster's task.**
7. **Good deed doer.**

Fill in as many of the words as you can Time limit 2 minutes

1 Sam 2 Same, 3 Samba 4 Sampan 5 Samovar 6 Sampling 7 Samaritan

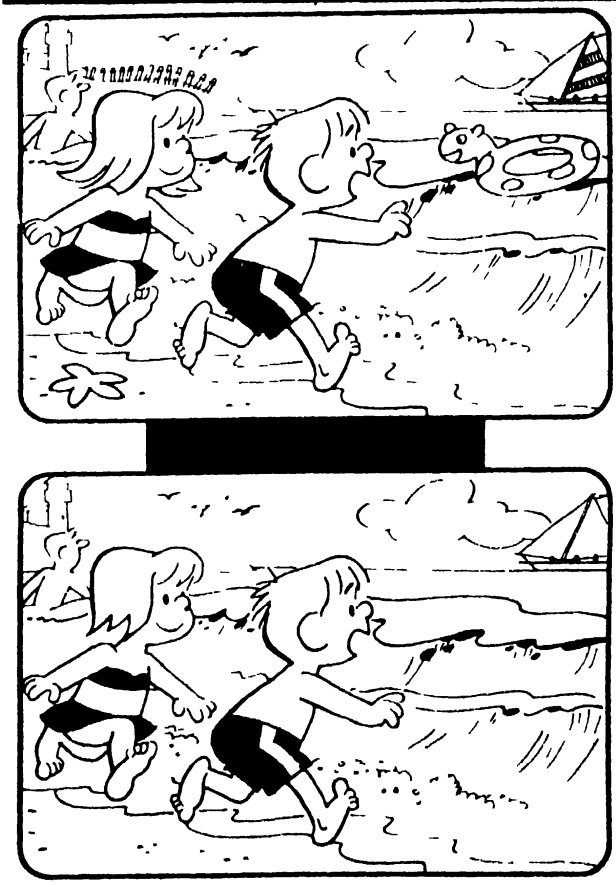
•FOUR CASTI Digits 1-4 are to be placed in the diagram below in such a manner that each horizontal, vetical and diagonal row will contain each of the four numbers just once. Sum of numbers in each row therefore wil be 10.

Four digits are already in place. How quickly can you insert the rest?

Across 2413, 1324, 3142, 4231, will do it.

2			3
4			1

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Fence is missing 2 Hair is different 3 Starfish is missing 4 Arm is moved 5 Swimming tube is missing 6 Sail is different

FUNSPOT



GREAT DAY! Hip, hip, hooray, for a banner day — July 4! Color above scene neatly. Code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Dk. blue. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Lt purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

STREAMER

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Tame rest



QUIZ ☐ Nalo Bian

Arindam Guha, Calcutta 30, wants to know why the Black Sea is called Black

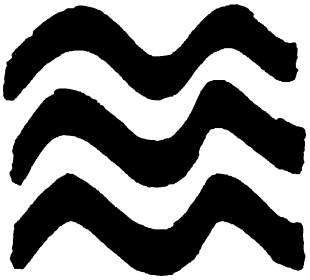
Of all the bodies of water, the one now known as the Black Sea raised the most nomenclatural complications It suffered both change of name and duality of name

It was commonly known simply as *Pontus*, one of several Greek words meaning "sea " Except as applied to this particular sea, however, the word was rare, occurring chiefly in poetry Moreover, it appears to be of Indo-European derivation (cognate with English "path"), referring especially to the sea conceived as a means of communication Yet this sea was always on the edge of the Greek world, and one cannot find a time in history when it could reasonably have been "the path " A borrowing from some local language, possibly Thracian, seems to be demanded

The two secondary names, *Hellespont* and *Propontis*, also suggest local borrowing *Propontis* is an interesting one for its point of view Meaning "in front of the *Pontus*," it provides evidence that the Greeks approached from the Aegean If *Pontus* had been an old name which was brought by the Greeks from some ancient northern homeland, we should have possibly had such a name as *Epipontis*, "beyond the *Pontus* "

As for *Hellespont*, it ought to mean something like "the narrow *Pontus*," or "entrance to *Pontus* " But even the language is uncertain, and the Greeks merely told a mythological story about it

Helle and Phryxus sought to escape the wrath of their step-mother Ino on the back of the ram with the golden fleece The luckless Helle out of weariness dropped from the flying ram s back and fell into a narrow sea over which they were passing and was drowned The narrow sea became the *Hellespont*



When the Greeks first began to navigate Pontus, its shores were largely inhabited by Iranian-speaking peoples They sensed the difference in appearance between the water of inland streams and that of the open sea, calling the latter "dark," in their language, *axsaena* The Greeks adopted this as *Axeions*, "inhospitable," and to avoid the suggestion of evil, altered it to *Euxine*, "hospitable " This ancient Iranian name still preserves itself, translated into many farflung languages, usually altered to mean not so much "dark" as "black "

Dr Suptendra Sarbadhikari, Calcutta-45, writes

"Today s 'Quiz column (July 22) suddenly reminded me of my own collection of 'phobia which amounts upto about 125 Publishing that list might take up the whole page alloted for 'Quiz'!

"However, I found an interesting question What is common to the 'fear' of snake, pain, dirt, madness, bee and poisoning?

"The answer is that each of them have at least two terms 'isophio' and 'ophidio' for snake, 'algo' and 'odyne' for pain, 'myso and 'rhypo' for dirt 'mania' and 'lysso' for madness, 'api and 'melisso for bee and 'toxico and 'lo for poisoning

"This is of course by no means an exclusive list of double phobias, but certainly can increase the 'phobophobia of many!"

A quiz report from K C Dutta, Nagaon

"A quiz competition was organised at the Nagaon District Library under the auspices of the Nagaon Branch of All Assam Likhika Somaroh, a women s organisation It was jointly conducted by Ava Borah, Geeti Mallika Saikia and Lakhimi Borah before a fairly large crowd

"The quiz received an excellent response with competitors in five groups It was a keenly contested affair with very few questions bouncing back to the quiz persons

"Team C won with 58 points, team A came next with 44 points while team D took the third place "

CBS

11th Question: **What is the 'Barber's Chair' sign? (Rajat Bhargava, 92 Jodhpur Park, Calcutta-700068.)**

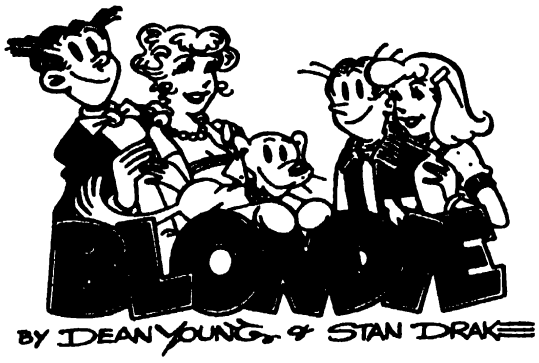
Ans: **It is an electric shock-like sensation which radiates into the arms, down the back or into the legs when the patient bends his neck forward as found in a disease called Multiple Sclerosis.**

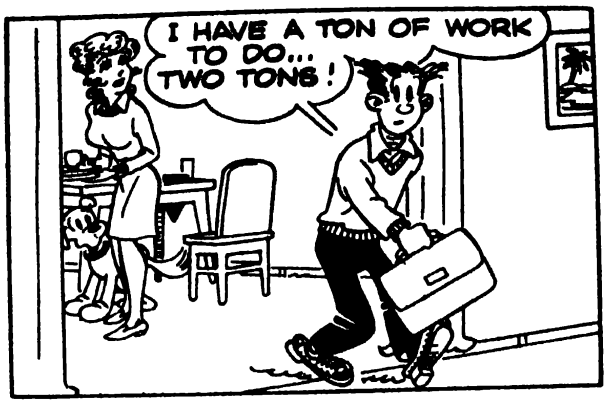
QUESTIONS

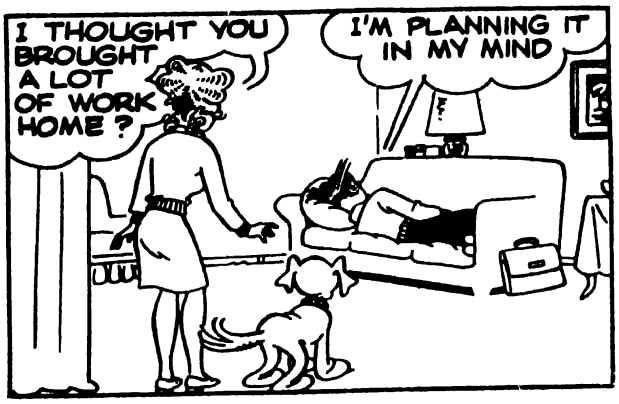
1. Name the two athletes on whom the Oscar winning film *Chariots of Fire* is based. (Mohan Kumar 'Agrawal, Bargarh 28)
2. Which is the principal poison gas weapon on which the US relies? (Manjeet Singh, Bokaro Steel City 3)
3. On whose death, *Paris Match* gave the headline, "Hamlet rejoins Scarlett"? (Subrata Haldar, Triberi 3)
4. In the local language what does 'Ladakh' mean? (Surju Barpanda, Bolangir 45)
5. FIFA had a panel of 36 referees for Italia'90 but one of them remained absent because he quit the game Who was he and why did he quit? (Othello Mazoomdar, Bora 743505)
6. Which sportsman said, "People think of me as an oldie. They forget that I am just 21"? (Tajdaar Bakht, Calcutta 17)
7. Which was the first cinemascope film in Malayalam? (Roy George, Dimapur)
8. Who was Antonio Gramasci? (L.C Ngaihte, Churachandpur)
9. Sherlock Holmes resided at 221B Baker Street. On which street did Mycroft Holmes have his quarters? (Soumyadip Chowdhury, Calcutta 29)
10. During Italia '90, some spectators at every match could be spotted holding a banner which simply said, "John 3.16" What is its significance? (Anindita Das, Calcutta 33)

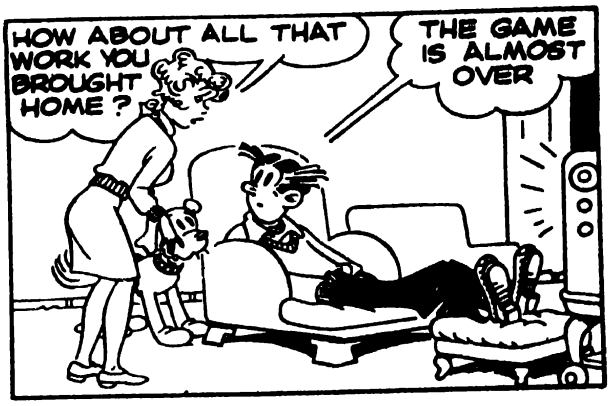
ANSWERS

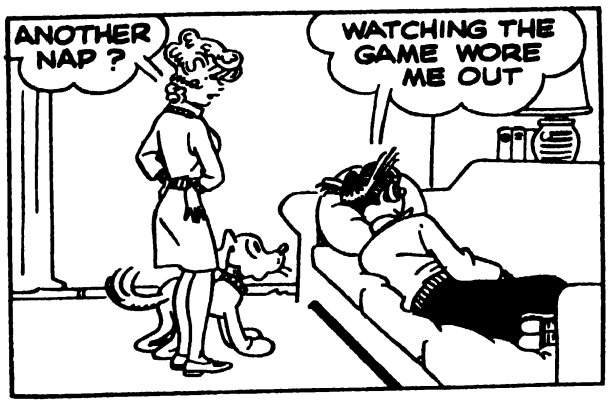
1. Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell.
2. Sarin gas.
3. Laurence Olivier (the late Vivien Leigh who played Scarlett O'Hara in *Gone With the Wind* was Olivier's wife)
4. Land of the Split Moon.
5. Jesus Diaz Palacio of Colombia had decided to quit after the murder of his colleague, Alberto Ortego Nadero, following a Colombian League match at which they had officiated in November 1989
6. Boris Becker
7. *Thacholi Ambu*
8. He was a founder of the communist Party of Italy whose ideas still influence Italian Communism.
9. Pall Mall (street (as described in *The Bruce Partington Plans*).
10. It refers to the Gospel of St John, Chapter 3 Verse 16, which reads: 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.'

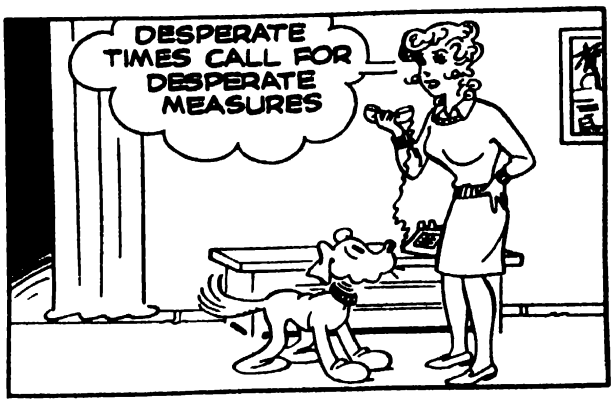


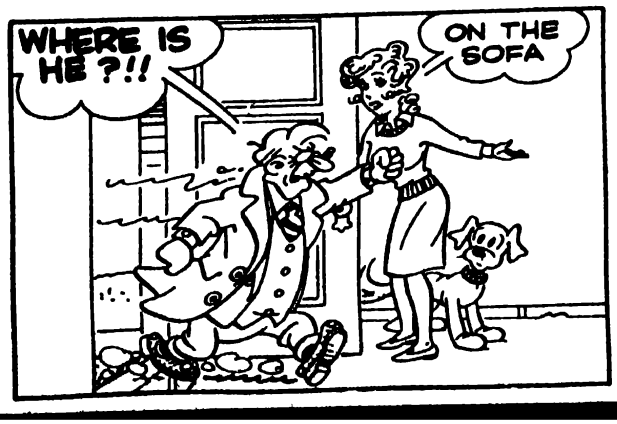






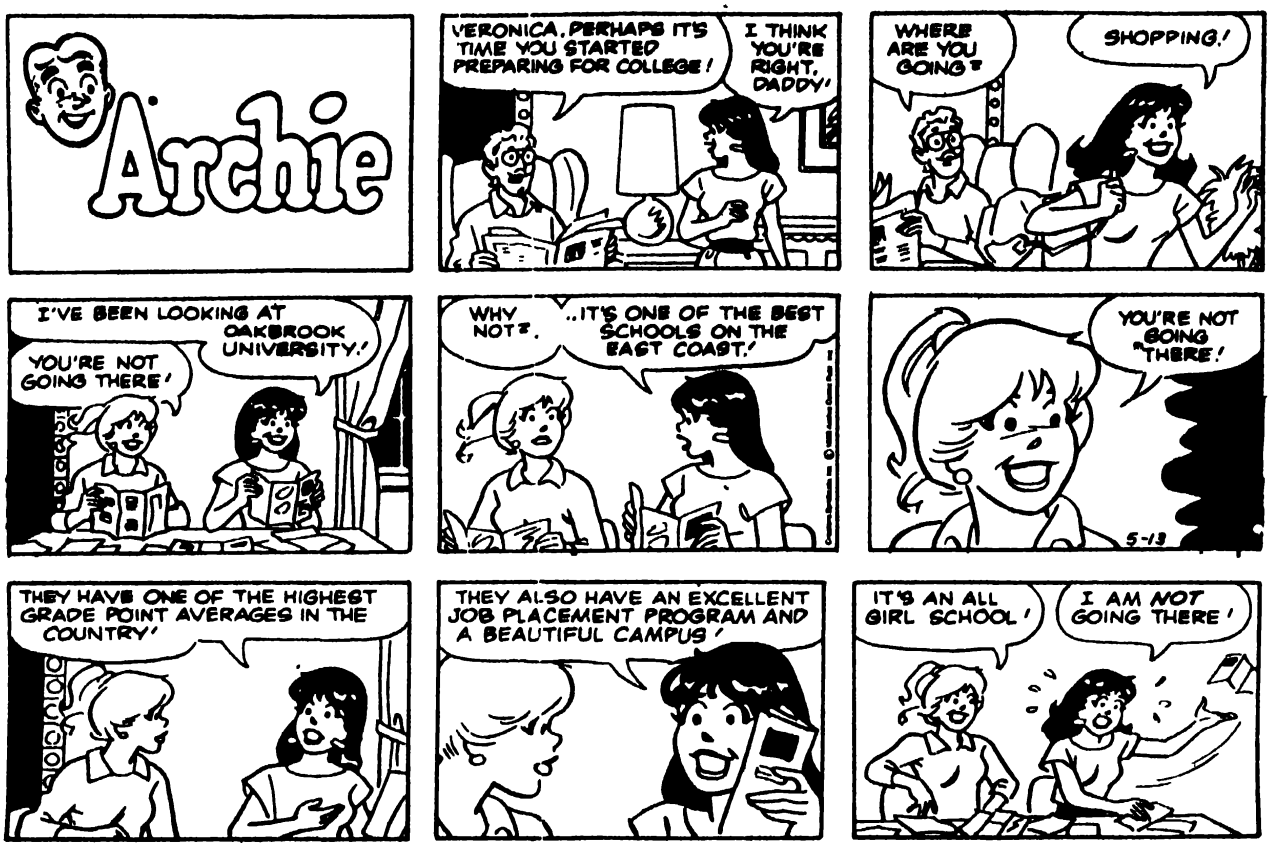


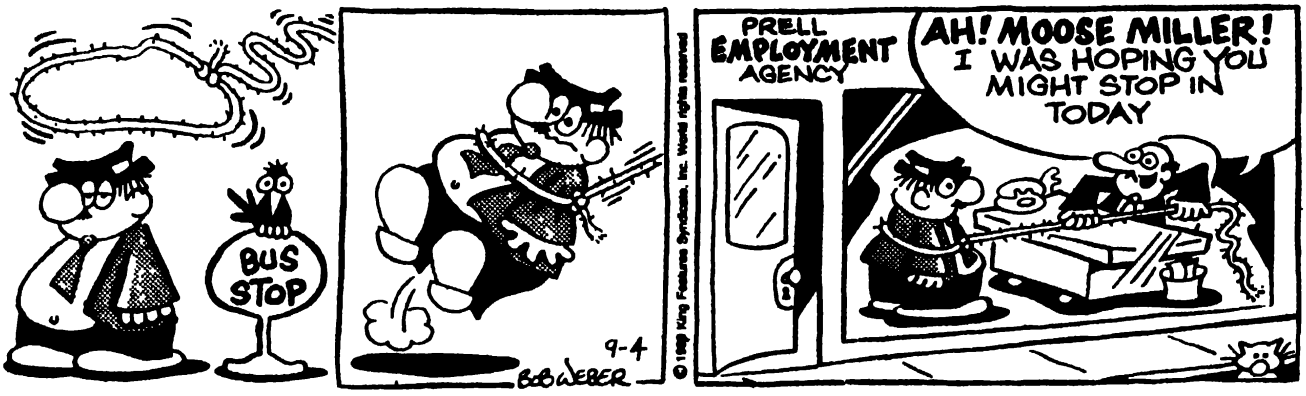


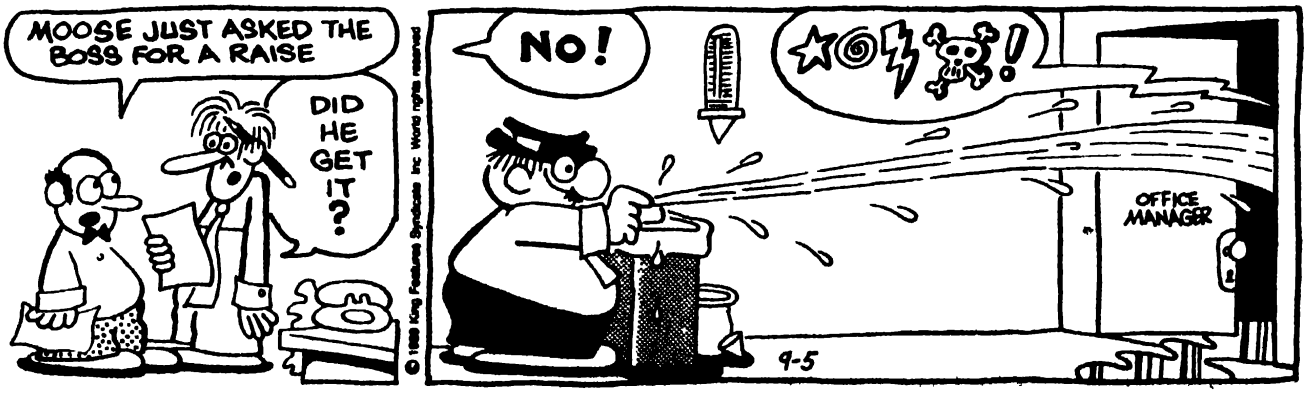


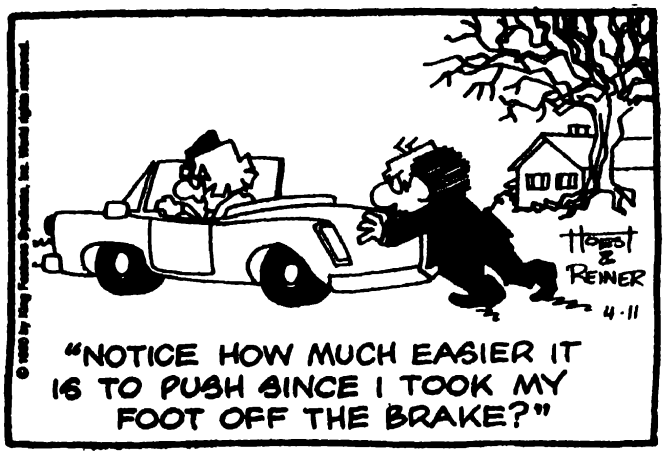
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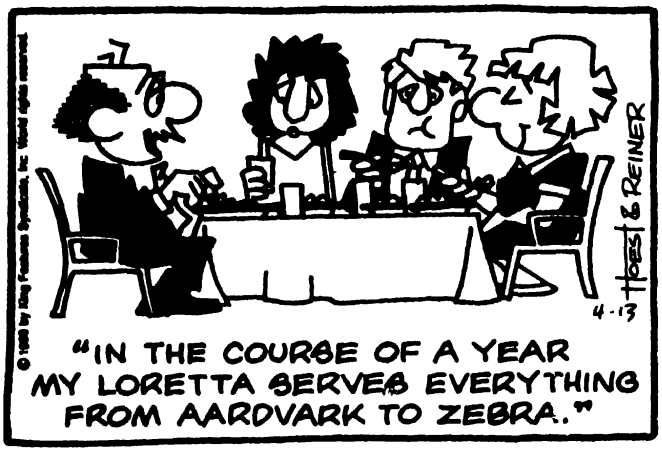

Archie
VERONICA, PERHAPS IT'S TIME YOU STARTED PREPARING FOR COLLEGE!
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT, DADDY!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
SHOPPING!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT OAKBROOK UNIVERSITY!
YOU'RE NOT GOING THERE!
WHY NOT?
..IT'S ONE OF THE BEST SCHOOLS ON THE EAST COAST!
YOU'RE NOT GOING "THERE"!
5-13
THEY HAVE ONE OF THE HIGHEST GRADE POINT AVERAGES IN THE COUNTRY!
THEY ALSO HAVE AN EXCELLENT JOB PLACEMENT PROGRAM AND A BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS!
IT'S AN ALL GIRL SCHOOL!
I AM NOT GOING THERE!

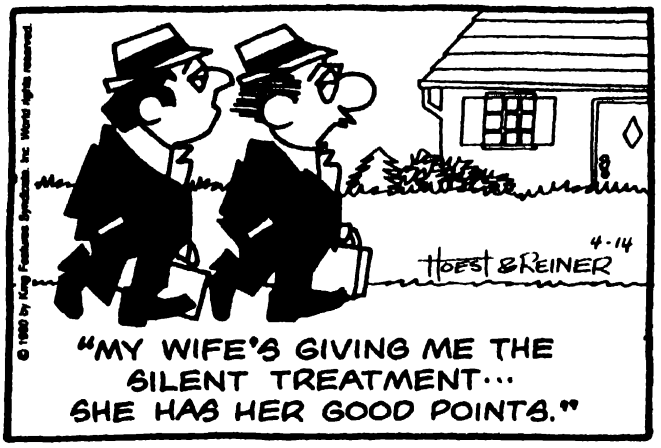

BUS STOP
9-4
BOB WEBER
© 1989 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved
PRELL EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
AH! MOOSE MILLER! I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT STOP IN TODAY


MOOSE JUST ASKED THE BOSS FOR A RAISE
DID HE GET IT?
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NO!
OFFICE MANAGER
9-5

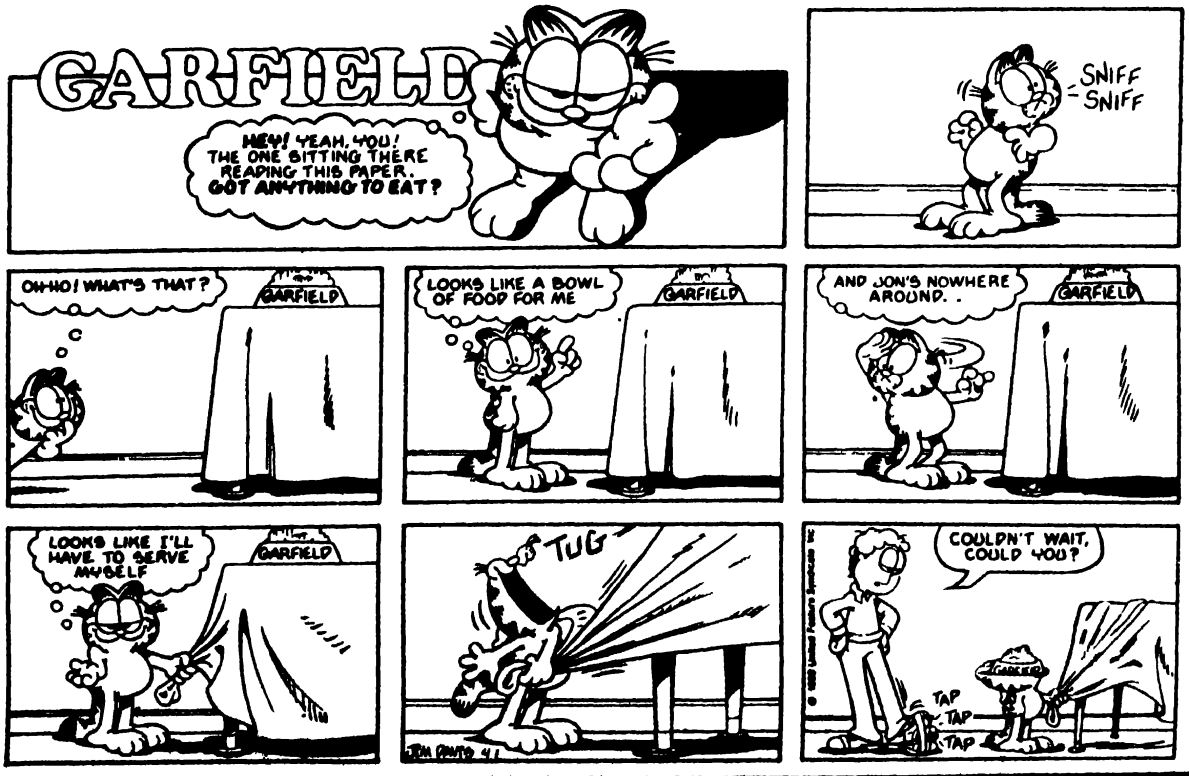


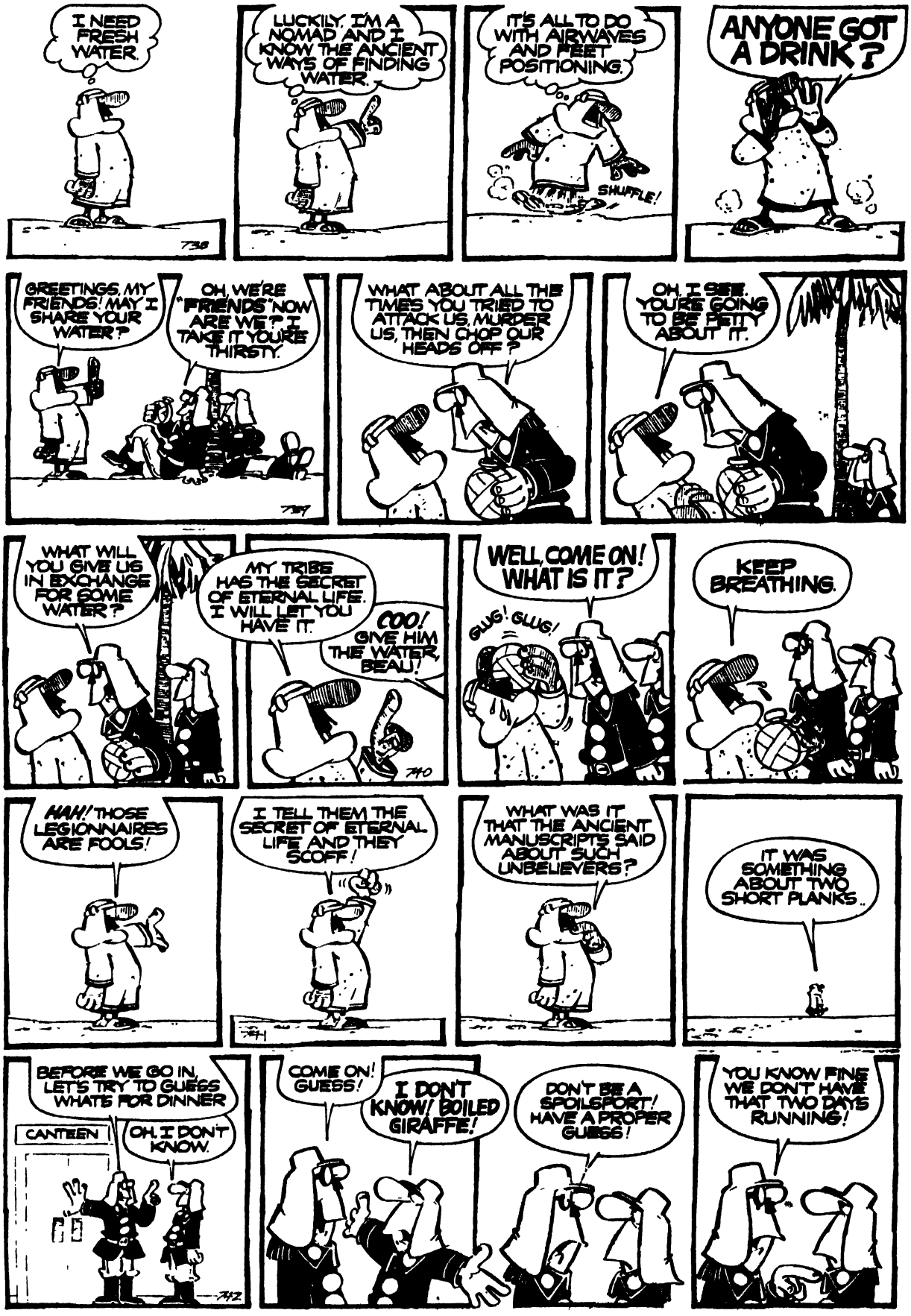






GARFIELD By Jim Davis



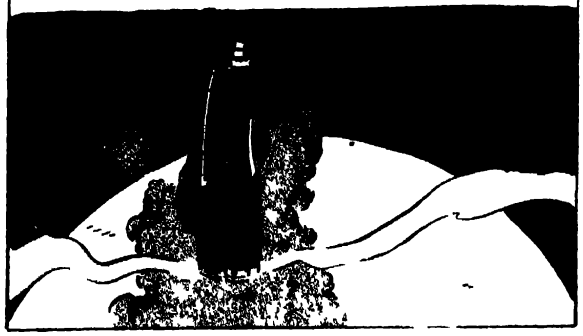

I NEED FRESH WATER.
LUCKILY, I'M A NOMAD AND I KNOW THE ANCIENT WAYS OF FINDING WATER.
IT'S ALL TO DO WITH AIRWAVES AND FEET POSITIONING.
SHUFFLE!
ANYONE GOT A DRINK?
GREETINGS, MY FRIENDS! MAY I SHARE YOUR WATER?
OH, WE'RE "FRIENDS" NOW ARE WE? I TAKE IT YOU'RE THIRSTY.
WHAT ABOUT ALL THE TIMES YOU TRIED TO ATTACK US, MURDER US, THEN CHOP OUR HEADS OFF?
OH, I SEE. YOU'RE GOING TO BE PETTY ABOUT IT.
WHAT WILL YOU GIVE US IN EXCHANGE FOR SOME WATER?
MY TRIBE HAS THE SECRET OF ETERNAL LIFE. I WILL LET YOU HAVE IT.
COO! GIVE HIM THE WATER, BEAU!
WELL, COME ON! WHAT IS IT?
GLUG! GLUG!
KEEP BREATHING.
HAH! THOSE LEGIONNAIRES ARE FOOLS!
I TELL THEM THE SECRET OF ETERNAL LIFE AND THEY SCOFF!
WHAT WAS IT THAT THE ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS SAID ABOUT SUCH UNBELIEVERS?
IT WAS SOMETHING ABOUT TWO SHORT PLANKS...
BEFORE WE GO IN, LET'S TRY TO GUESS WHAT'S FOR DINNER
CANTEEN
OH, I DON'T KNOW.
COME ON! GUESS!
I DON'T KNOW! BOILED GIRAFFE!
DON'T BE A SPOILSPORT! HAVE A PROPER GUESS!
YOU KNOW FINE WE DON'T HAVE THAT TWO DAYS RUNNING!

HE-MAN™ AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™

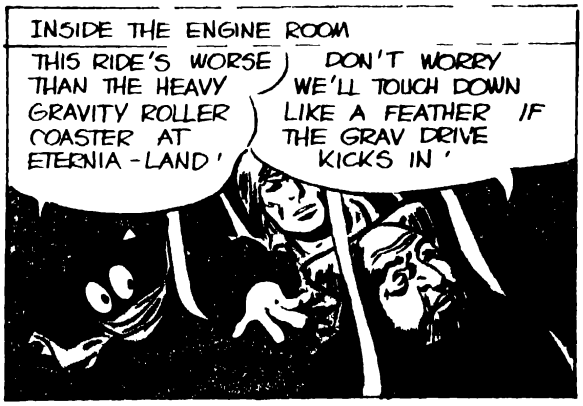
IN THE MAIN ENGINE ROOM OF GWILDOR'S EXPERIMENTAL STARSHIP



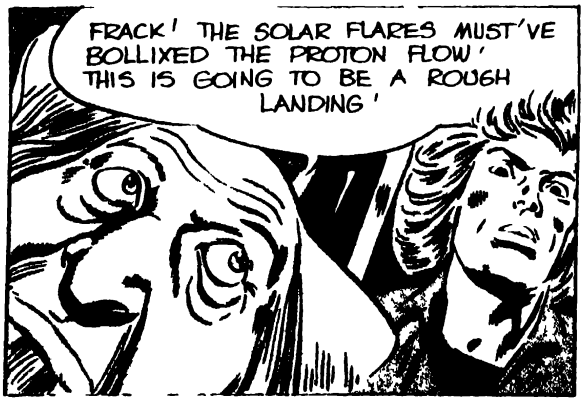
THE QUEEN ILEENE SCREAMS THROUGH THE STRATOSPHERE OF THE PLANET NAXOS.

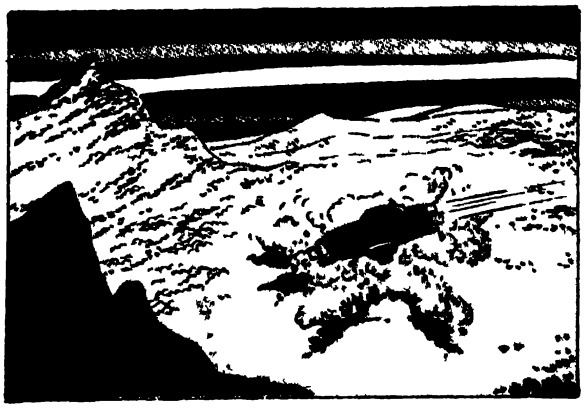


INSIDE THE ENGINE ROOM

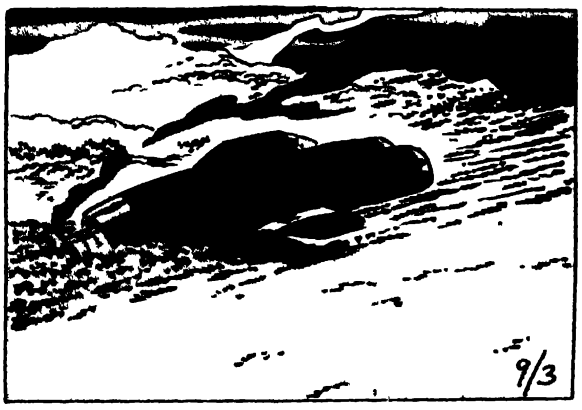








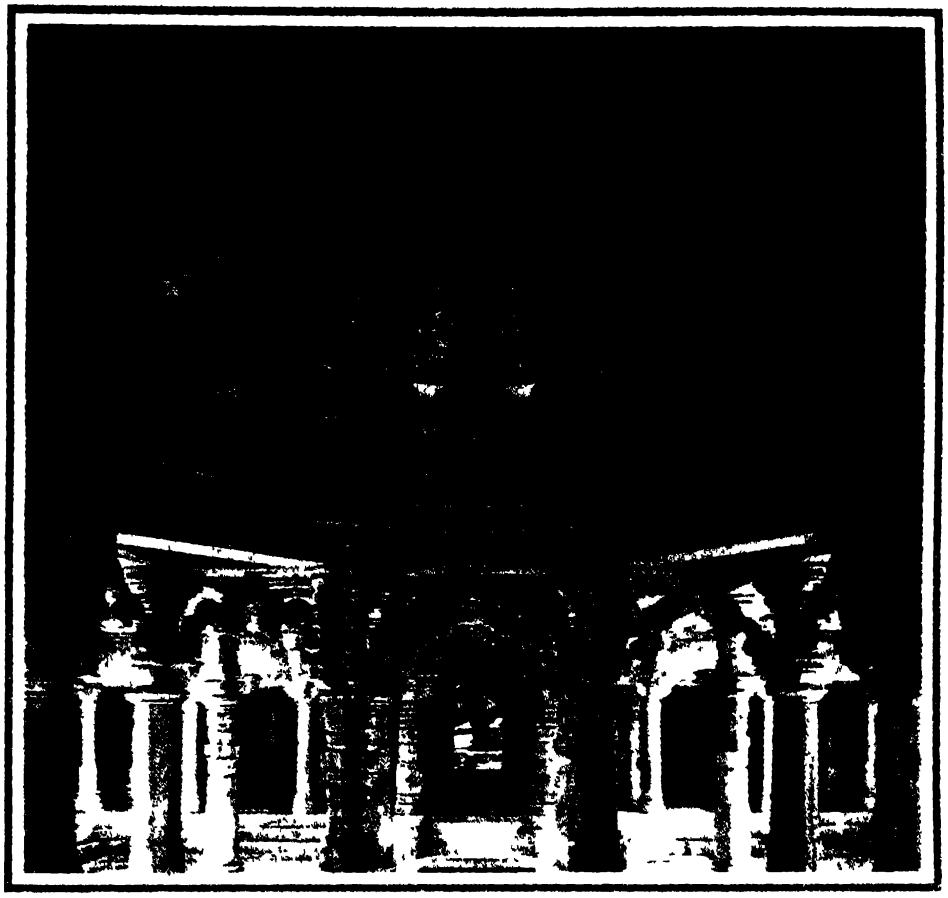
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When you approach something called *Khula Manch* with a *gala-bandh* it is what doublespeak is all about. The Union minister of information and broadcasting, **P. Upendra,** wagged his tongue a little too much about that strange animal called autonomy; now he's eating humble pie.

Photograph by SOUMEN CHATTERJEE



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

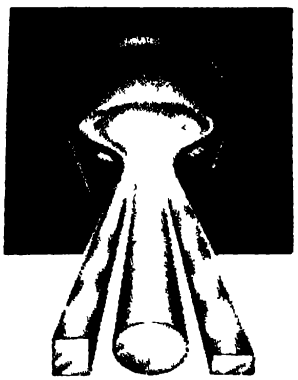
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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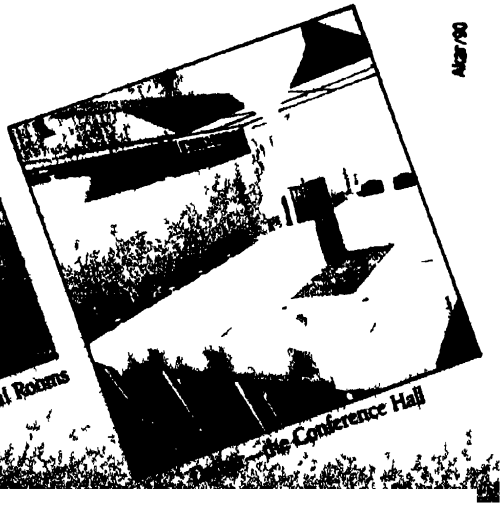
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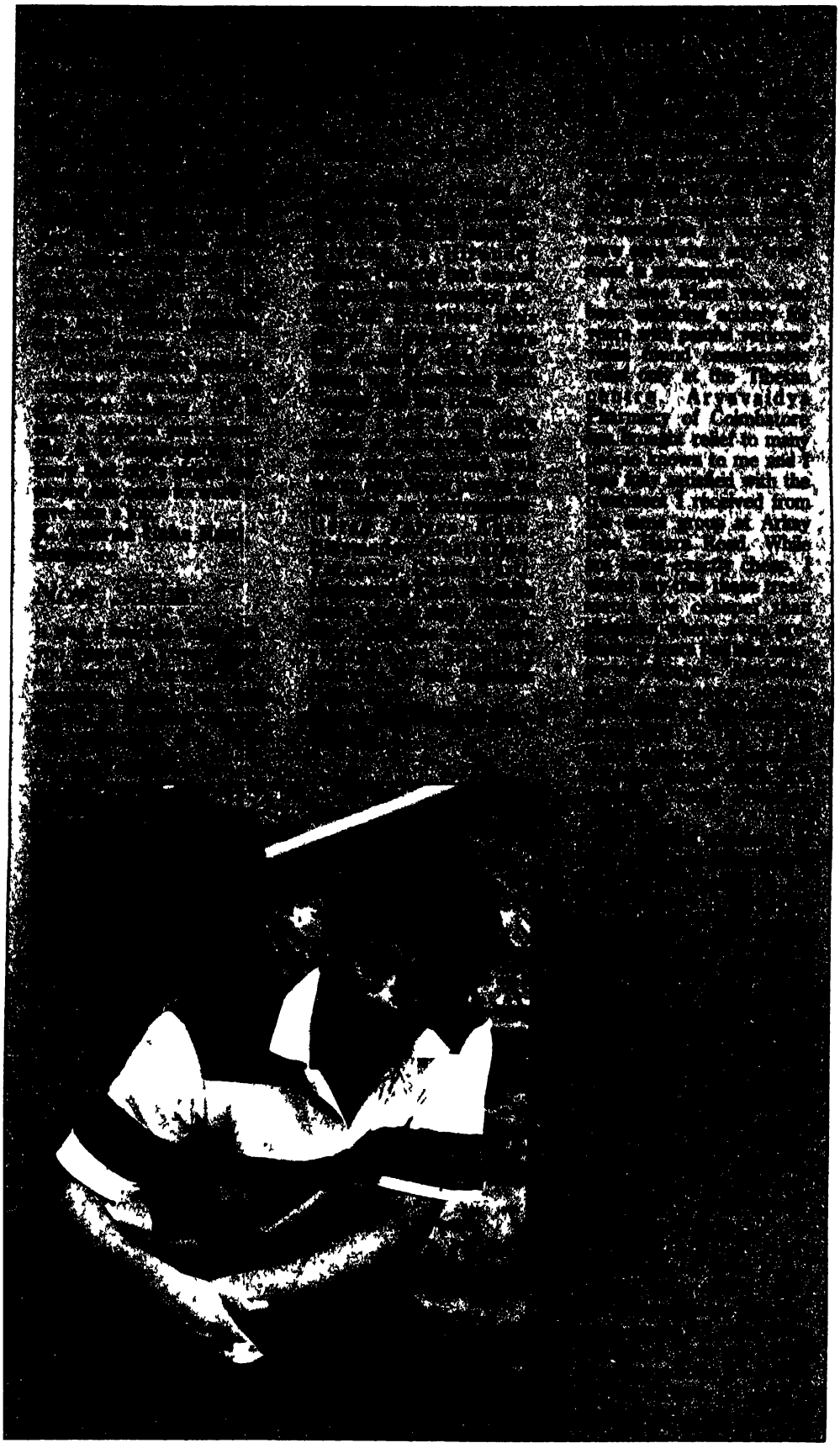




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POST MORTEM



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The Telegraph
16 SEPTEMBER 1990



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Soumitra Ghosh on the lesser known Mahananda wildlife sanctuary which promises to challenge the best soon

Photographs: Prabuddha Bhattacharya



Deer are part of the forestlife of Mahananda



And quiet flows the Mahananda

Enter, softly

Imagine a forest, a virgin, wild and unexplored stretch of sheer green. Visualise tall trees. Dripping moss. Bushes. Creepers. Dark, treacherous forest floors. Visualise vast wetlands, thickly wooded hills and undulating plains criss-crossed by waterways: mighty, turbulent rivers, seasonal hillstreams, small fountains and waterfalls.

Imagine a wilderness that now exists only in old hunting annals and dusty gazettes.

For you are imagining the Terai. You are visualising one of the greatest tropical forests on earth, nearly all of which is gone to the sawmills, hearths and *chullahs*.

But, all this is history and to a certain extent, cliche. Sob stories about the loss of natural environment have become so commonplace that people ignore them these days. What if, for a change, someone literally rebuilds a real bit of Terai for you? A Shangrilla where your 'wildest' fancies may come true? No, we are not discussing well-fed and famous preserves like Corbett, Dudhwa or Manas. This is much nearer home, right inside West Bengal, a state which has only 13 per cent of official forest cover left and where acute, ever increasing demographic pressure keeps hindering conservation activities at every possible step. The whole thing may sound like forest department propaganda, but such a preserve is really there, just a few hundred kilometres away from Calcutta and just beyond the busy commercial township of Siliguri: the Mahananda wildlife sanctuary (better known as Sukna and Sevoke forests), of which the average tourist (perhaps, even the most avid wildlifer) is quite ignorant.

Deriving its name from the river Mahananda (also known as Mahanadi) which bisects the preserve cleanly before coming down to the Siliguri plains, the Mahananda wildlife sanctuary sprawls over an area of 144.21 sq. kms. of Kurseong forest division. Within this, it incorporates a variety of vegetational types—sheer sal patches; semi-evergreen, moist deciduous and dry deciduous forests; a few small pockets of grassland; riverain forest and bare rock faces ranging from 1500 metres at Latpanchar to a mere 150-200 metres around Sukna or Sevoke. The famous Siliguri-Darjeeling Hill Cart Road (now renamed Tenzing Norgay Sadak) and the greenish, roaring torrent of Teesta form the boundaries of a striking topographical area: deep gorges flanked by vertically rising hills, sandy riverbeds, plateaus and marshy plains.

The terrainal variations and the vegetational varieties are manifestations of a typical Terai ecosystem harbouring a dazzling array of wild animals. The whole Mahananda area was once fabulously rich in wildlife, so rich that even a century of indifferent forest management, continued habitat destruction and hunting sprees bordering on sheer butchery could not altogether finish the elephants, tigers, 'bisons' and deer. Ask anybody, any old resident of the neighbouring Siliguri town, just old enough to go out hunting during the late Fifties and the early Sixties and you will be rewarded with an animal story. There was someone who killed 50-odd tigers, lots of leopards, 'bisons', sambars and so on. Someone else had killed so many cheetals that he never bothered to count them. You will hear stories about wild elephants blocking the highways and the railway tracks, about good old hunting days when you could shoot deer and boars and hares and even tigers without getting down from your car.

The 'happy' hunting days at Mahananda ultimately ended when the Indo-China war broke out in 1962 and "for the broader and greater interests of the Nation" the prime high forests of Baikunthapur, Sevoke and Sukna were duly converted into idyllic army cantonments, firing ranges, and truckloads of sal logs were driven away.

"Give us some time, say, one, two years. And Mahananda will be one of the finest parks in the country," says Dr B.L. Sharma, a trained wildlifer fresh from Dehra Dun and the DFO in charge of the Mahananda forests. "We have several crippling handicaps. Lack of trained staff, modern telecom facilities and a proper buffer zone to ensure the habitat continuum, as well as biotic interferences—these all are there. But the main thing is that we are working here at Mahananda", asserts Ujjal Bhattacharya, range officer, Sukna.

The main idea behind this sudden conservation thrust is the creation of an elephant haven where the bigger migratory herds from the Bhutan and Assam Terai can be contained. The proposed elephant corridor running along the entire length of the Bhutan foothills will merge into the Mahananda preserve which is going to form its eastern tip. A secure habitat for the elephants will in turn guarantee the survival and proliferation of all other herbivores in the preserve. The presence of prey species, on the other hand, may signal the increase in the park's predator population—besides tiger and leopard, some Himalayan black bear and even, the very rare clouded leopard.

Intensive patrolling and large scale habitat improvement work in the form of fodder glades, water holes, new plantations on the riverbeds and denuded hillsides, undertaken during the last couple of years, have resulted in an obvious increase in the animal population of Mahananda. According to an offhand estimate of Dr Sharma, there are 450-550 cheetals, 150 to 200 sambars, many barking deer and a few hog deer in the preserve now, as well as countless wild boars, 50 to 60 gaurs and nine resident elephants.

Among the predators there are at least six (possibly eight) tigers, some leopards and sloth bear. The primates in the park are represented by the common rhesus monkeys, hanuman langurs, Assam macaques, a troop of Hoolock gibbons, introduced way back in the Sixties and may be by a solitary golden langur, a species so far known to be confined solely to a forest pocket in the Manas preserve, Assam. Viable populations of *ghoral* and *serow*—both goat-antelopes and quite rare—exist in the sanctuary and the lesser mammals include several species of squirrels, bats, civets, otters and a relic from the past—the pangolin.

The avifauna of Mahananda has always been rich, and the park still harbours no less than 500 species. While hornbills, peafowls and junglefowls are most easily noticed, flocks of minivets, barbets, orioles, drongos, flycatchers, lapwings, wagtails or the solitary pheasants and parakeets make the entire Mahananda area a birdwatcher's paradise.

The conservation success in Mahananda has another interesting aspect. Here, the problem of fringe and forest village development has been attended to from the onset. Not with guns and *dandas*, the usual practice. Instead, the forest staff are going to the villages to help the villagers raise alternative, quick-growing fuel and fodder—providing species like *Sababal, Jarul* or *Amla* in the forest fringes so that they do not have to intrude into the animal territory. There are regular meetings with the villagers and motivation campaigns. The result is that a new, different kind of awareness is growing. Previously, the forests were just plain forests, to cut, cook and sell. Now it is a sanctuary.

Reaching the preserve is easy. From Siliguri, take a bus or autorickshaw and get off at Sukna en route Darjeeling after 13 kms and 30 minutes. The Himalayan foothills start from Sukna. While collecting your entry papers from the wildlife office, don't forget to visit the superb Nature Interpretation Centre upstairs in the same building. For a general idea about the Terai fauna and the Mahananda sanctuary, the museum at the centre is invaluable. Proceed with your vehicle or just walk to Golaghat, seven kms away, a beautiful picnic spot right at the heart of the sanctuary. The place is popularly known as Sukna Lake because of a weir on the river Mahananda. The wooded hills rise steeply from the crystal clear water and clouds lie thick over the distant mountains. If you succeed in avoiding the rush of picknickers, lovers and sightseers, a placid sea of jungle silence will soon engulf you. Lie on the boulders strewn in the riverbed or go climbing up to the fodder glade nearby for fresh cheetal

and sambar pugmarks. Just be sure that you get back within 4 pm. After that the elephants become a little more active and the sanctuary is closed to the tourists.

At present Mahananda does not have any tourist infrastructure and the average tourist is not allowed beyond Golaghat. But with the DFO's permission you can enter the 73 sq. km. core area and also enjoy a night's rest in the pretty resthouse right on the Hill Cart Road at Sukna. Start early in the morning. Look out for the hornbills and the Hoolock gibbons as you cross the generally dry Panchanai river to enter the sanctuary. If you have a four-wheeler, drive straight to the 10th Mile range office on Sevok Road or NH 31, just 12 kms from Golaghat. The road is nothing short of a visual feast as you drive through the luxurious natural forests of Gulma, and Silivita. Cheetals and elephants are normally sighted in the early mornings and even if you do not come across them on the drive, the soft, desolate riverbeds are full of pugmarks. If you are really keen on trying your animal luck, take the dirt roads branching off to the right, to Chalkdong Khola (Chalkdong river). The natural salt licks there are ideal for viewing deer, elephants, gaurs and occasionally, tigers. Come back to the main road and drive to the Gulma river, where there is an abandoned railway station on the metergauge track to Assam. The station was abandoned because of "elephant problems" and there is a plan to convert it into a tourist complex. The entire Gulma region is a real wilderness zone, with the hills soaring almost vertically up to 3,000 ft beyond the river. The river is also a good place to see storks, herons and cormorants.

After reaching the NH 31, proceed further to Sevok where the mighty Teesta comes down to the plains. The knife-like, inaccessible ridges rising from Nandikhola near Sevok bazaar are the home of *ghorals* and the solitary *serows*. Negotiate the Teesta and Nandikhola beds on foot and camp out there on the superb sandy expanse surrounded by grasslands and Khair forests. Or you can go to Kalijhora on Teesta, a distance of six kms, another popular and lovely picnic spot, from where a jeepable road takes you to the Latpanchar cinchona plantations, 12 kms away, the topmost point in the sanctuary. En route, enjoy panoramic views of the Teesta and Kalijhora gorges and the dense, unspoilt foothill forests. Latpanchar has been selected for the World Bank-aided pheasant farming project and the wet, dark forests of the area contain not only pheasants, but black bear, tigers, clouded leopards and king cobras, too. Take a night's rest in the rest-shed built at the site of the old hunting lodge of the Governor, a memento of the British days when forests seemed to be inexhaustible and the wild animals existed solely to be hunted.

From Latpanchar, treks start. Various natural trails radiate from here and enter deep into the forest. Golaghat trek was the most popular with the Britishers. In those eight kms you descend nearly 4,000 ft. A different and difficult trail goes to Nandikhola (17 kms) and another to Mahanadi Railway Station on the Hill Cart Road. All the treks offer thrills in plenty and spectacular forest sceneries, and are without exception, backbreaking. However, the most difficult trek in the area starts at Gulma river. A one-and-a-half day's steady climbing will take you to the Gulma Valley, where, as the local legend goes, the ruins of an old fort and a temple (both built by a Gulma king) are zealously guarded by enough tigers, gaurs and other animals to last you a lifetime. Take a guide who has been there previously as the only visible trail is the river. And prepare yourself for the adventures ahead which include an acrobatic Tarzan swing on a wild creeper—to negotiate a waterfall. ■



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A FOREST GUIDE

Why not go wild for a change? **Basav Bhattacharya** on the where and how

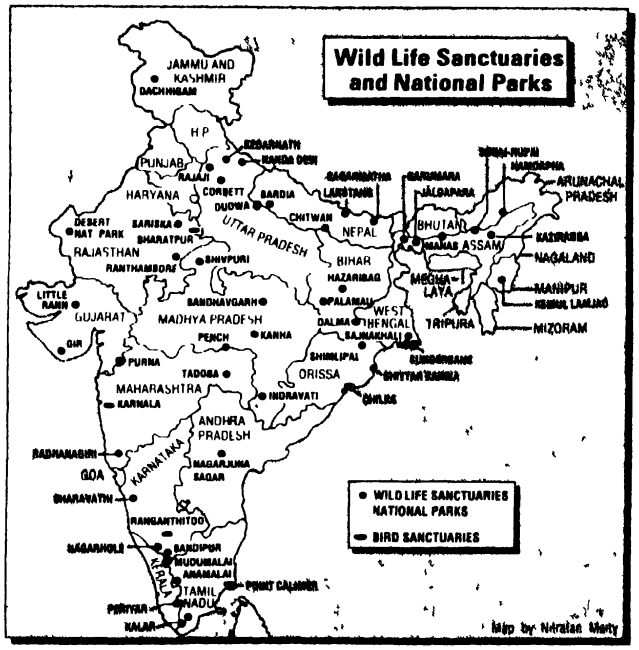
There are at present 67 national parks, 398 wildlife sanctuaries and 17 tiger reserves in the country covering an area of 98,908 sq.kms. This may seem a big area but consider the 75,000 species of fauna and 45,000 species of flora ; the space set aside is not all that large. We have already lost species such as the cheetah and the two-horned rhinos forever. Still, the sub-continent today is the last home for a diverse variety of birds, reptiles and animals, as well as flora.

Game viewing at **Kaziranga National Park** in Assam is like an action drama being enacted with the visitor a mesmerised spectator. Step out into the jungle on elephant back and you may find yourself in the midst of tuskers, rhinos and Asiatic water buffaloes, three of the strongest animals in Asia. An occasional grey-headed fishing eagle or a greater adjutant stork may fly overhead while a fleeting glimpse of the tiger is never ruled out.

Being on the banks of the river Brahmaputra the park is mostly flooded during the monsoon which takes a big toll on the lives of many animals. Poaching for rhino horns has also done a lot of damage.

The peak visiting time is between November and March with a large number of migrant water birds flocking in from January. The accommodation is fairly comfortable in the rest houses and bungalows and in the ITDC-run Kaziranga forest lodge.

Contact the field director, Kaziranga National Park, Bokakhat, Jorhat, Assam 785612. Jorhat, 95 kms away, is the nearest rail and air-head.



Cradling a portion of Bhutan and Assam, **Manas Biosphere Reserve** spreads over 2,600 sq. kms. The forest bungalows on the Indian side are at Mathanguri by the gurgling Manas river.

Manas is the home of 20 species of highly endangered animals including the pigmy hog, hispid hare and golden langur, the latter found only on the Bhutan side, and probably nowhere else in the wild. The king of Bhutan retires to the park once every year and surprisingly has to enter through the Indian side.

Manas has almost all the large mammals found in India. The size of a bull Indian bison and the water buffalo found here has to be seen to be believed.

The park is approachable from Guwahati by road while the nearest rail-head is Barpeta Road. Best time to visit is November to March

Contact: field director, Project Tiger, P.O. Barpeta Road, Barpeta, Assam 781315.

Sikkim's **Kanchendzonga National Park** is bounded by Nepal in the west, Zemu glacier in the north, Bhutan in the east and N. Bengal in the south. On the western flank are some of the world's highest peaks, including the Kanchendzonga peak.

This park is the home of the magnificent snow leopard, an animal hunted to near extinction by poachers for its skin.

The best time to go is from mid-February to May and from August to October. There are four rest houses belonging to the forest department which can be booked from the assistant wildlife officer, K.N.P, Forest Department, Deorali, Sikkim 737102.

Namdapha National Park is set in the far north-eastern state of Arunachal Pradesh. Sprawled over 1807 sq. kms, and at heights ranging from 200 metres to 4500 metres above sea level, the forest changes from wet evergreen to temperate alpine in the higher reaches. The park boasts of the elusive clouded leopard as well as snow leopards. The mammals found here include the gaur, goral, takin, Hoolock gibbon, loris, binturong and red panda. The bird life is pretty diverse and rich.

It is difficult to reach the park, (a reason why it is still untouched). The nearest town is Margherita, 62 kms away, and the only means of transport is by the occasional bus. The nearest airport is Dibrugarh, about 163 kms away. For reservation get in touch with the field director, Tiger Project, P.O. Miao, district Tirap, Arunachal Pradesh.

Royal Chitwan National Park and the **Bardia Wildlife Sanctuary,** in Nepal were once the hunting preserves of the maharajah. The royalty invited guests from abroad for game hunting and this took a severe toll on the mammal population of the parks. In 1938-39 the Viceroy of India bagged 120 tigers, 38 rhinos, 27 leopards and a number of other animals as

trophies!

Chitwan is situated in the Shivalik range and stretches to the floodplains of the Reu, Rapti and the Narayani rivers. Bardia being on the southern part of the Shivalik hills spreads into the Gangetic plains.

The two parks have a network of motorable roads and seeing animals in safaries is fairly common. Elephant rides are the most common mode of game viewing. Chitwan has a fair population of rhinos and is one of their last three homes. Bardia also has a wide variety of mammals and birds.

Chitwan has the best staying places in a forest, perhaps in the whole of South Asia. Tiger Tops in the west part of the park has a jungle lodge on the banks of the river Reu with deluxe rooms on tree top cottages. Tents can also be hired and the Bandorjhula island in the Narayani river has comfortable safari tents. Bookings can be made from Tiger Tops, Box 242 Darbar Marg, Kathmandu. Tiger Tops is open from September to mid-June and the camps from October to May.

Nearest airport is Meghavli. Chitwan is about five hours from Kathmandu by car. Bookings at Bardia can also be made at the address of Tiger Tops.

Along with elephants, **Jaldapara Wild Life Sanctuary** offers one of the finest rhino viewing facilities in North Bengal. These two mammals are found in plenty and are frequently viewed on elephant treks.

Situated south of the Bhutan hills, covering an area of 44 sq. kms the park is bisected by Torsa river. The bird-life here is pretty diverse and it is quite common to find a wide variety of waterfowls.

The Holong Tourist Lodge is inside the forest while the WBTDC has a complex at Madarihat outside the park, (bookings from the BBD Bag Calcutta office). For the forest lodge write to the DFO, wild life division II, P.O. Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

Imagine yourself poised above an open air theatre where one act plays are being enacted. The stage is the salt-lick of the **Garumara Wild Life Sanctuary** and the point of view is from the watch tower 200 ft above.

As dusk sets in, gaurs come to the lick enticed by the salt and "gur" mixture which the forest guard places for the animals. Soon after, a lone sambar stag makes a cautious entry; followed by a herd of elephants. Before midnight it is the turn of the rhinos, and a mother and a calf makes a determined entry driving away the others from the lick. All goes well till another rhino, this time a male, comes into the scene. Tempers run high with the mother shielding the calf while guarding the salt lick as well. Finally truce settles the three animals at the lick.

While sitting at the tower do keep a ear open for the elephants. Last year a few visitors had a terrifying experience when two rogue tuskers tried their best to dislodge the watch tower from the cliff completely disregarding the blank shots fired by the beat officer.

Booking at the beautiful rest house can be made from the forest office at Bhawani Bhawan, Alipore, Calcutta or by writing directly to the DFO, Jalpaiguri.

The approach to the park is from Jalpaiguri, via Lataguri. The park begins from the Lataguri tea estate. The forest complex is about five kms away and the only way to get inside is by jeeps or cars. Do not dare to walk the distance—it is elephant country! Food has to be purchased for the entire stay.

Best time to go is in spring and winter, when it gets very cold.

Mix equal amounts of salt water, slippery mud, humidity and fear and the result is **Sundarbans Tiger Reserve** (now a biosphere reserve). This unique forest has grown up around the delta of the river Hooghly and spreads up to the Bay of Bengal.



Asiatic wild ass

The whole forest is interlaced with numerous rivers and creeks. Most of the area is covered by estuarian mangrove forest and swamps supporting an ecosystem particularly suitable for high salinity. The rivers and creeks are filled with fish and crocodiles while the forest holds more tigers than any other tiger reserve in the country.

Tigers here are infamous for their outrageous and cunning temperament and being strong swimmers often attack a solitary fisherman in his boat. One can have a glimpse of them from the Netidhopani watch tower or while crossing a river.

Sundarbans is also a forest of uncertain weather. As the only means of transport is by boat or launch one is at the mercy of the tide and sudden storms. Nor'westers play havoc in April, while cyclones in September or later can be devastating.

The only place to stay is the Sajnekhali Tourist Lodge run by the West Bengal Tourism Department. Bookings can be made from the office at BBD Bag in Calcutta. The WBTDC has a superb launch which goes to the Sundarbans on excursions and offers cabins, upper and lower deck lodgings. It is worth a visit in winter when a large number of birds migrates to this place. One has to stay overnight on the launch or at the tourist lodge. The only mode of transport is by river and wandering about may prove dangerous. Avoid monsoons, they are unpleasantly humid with rains. Snakes are in plenty. Individually one can go to the tourist complex by travelling from Calcutta to Canning by rail and then proceeding to the tourist complex by country-made powered boats or launches.

Palamau or **Betla Tiger Reserve** is where the world's first tiger census took place in 1932 and in 1973 it became one of the first tiger reserves in the country. Situated on the northern flanks of the Chotanagpur plateau the sanctuary is beautiful in a unique way. Elephants, gaurs, chitals, sambar and nilgai rule the place.

The best time to go is from October to May. Betla has a couple of forest rest houses and tourist complexes. Contact the field director, Project Tiger, Palamau Tiger Reserve, Daltanganj, Bihar. 822101.

The **Similpal Tiger Reserve** was previously the hunting reserve of the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj. It was declared a national park in 1980 with a total area of 2,750 sq.

kms and is one of the first tiger projects in the country.

The park has a unique topography with 12 rivers criss-crossing its length and breadth. It has some of the most beautiful scenic spots in Orissa and places like Meghasini are a must. The forest consists largely of sal trees broken by clearings of large grasslands. The rivers are frequented by mugger crocodiles while the large mammals comprise elephants, gaur, sambars, etc. The tiger is evenly distributed and so is the leopard, though viewing the latter is difficult. It was here that the playful tigress, Khairi, lived with her foster parents, the field director and his wife.

Best time to go is from January to June. Winters are severe and heavy woollens are a must. Dry months can be equally hot with the nights being pleasant.

Approach to the park is from Joshipur and Baripada. It is well connected from Calcutta (distance 240 kms) by bus which leaves at dawn and reaches Joshipur by afternoon. Buses also connect the town of Baripada.

Accommodation can be booked with the field director, Similipal Tiger Reserve, P.O. Khairic Joshipur, Mayurbhanj district, Orissa. The nearest rail and air-head is Jamshedpur, 139 kms, while Bhubaneswar is 347 kms away.

Dudhwa National Park in UP is the new home for the great Indian rhinoceros. A few of these endangered beasts were translocated in this park when their home in the Himalayan foothills was threatened by poachers. The park also has a fair population of elephants, sloth bear, ratels, fishing cat, jungle cats, sambar, chital, blue-bulls, the gharial and the mugger crocodiles. At one time it had become infamous for man-eating tigers of which there are no recent reports. It is now the home of Billy Arjan Singh and his pet tigress, Tara, whom he had introduced in the wild. Dudhwa attracts a host of winter birds specially waterfowls and is the residence of a wide variety of birds including major birds of prey.

[redacted]

There are excellent staying places within the park, all set in very beautiful surroundings. Rest houses at Dudhwa and Sathiana can be booked from Tiger Haven, P. O. Palia in the Kheri district of UP. Contact the field director, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Lakhimpur Kheri, UP, also for forest lodges.

Best time to go is December-June though there are chances of getting caught in the dry spell of the summer months. The nearest rail-head is Dudhwa while the nearest airport is Lucknow, 256 kms.

In the south west portion of the Saurashtra peninsula in Gujarat lies the **Gir National Park,** the only home of the Asiatic lion.

Once threatened by the increasing pressure of human settlements the lions lost a great part of their habitat, resulting in a sharp decline in their number. It was the Nawab of Junagadh who set upon the task of protecting this magnificent beast from being totally wiped out. Today their number has increased to above 200.

Going about in the park is possible only in vehicles which have suitably armed guards. Tourists can get pretty near the beasts provided they are in a good mood.

The park remains closed from June to October and it is advisable to make a visit between December and March.

Reservations can be made from the sanctuary supervisor's office, Sasan Gir, Junagadh, Gujarat. There is an ITDC Lodge which can be booked from any tourist office in the country. Forest rest houses can also be booked with the conservator of forest, Sardar Bag, Junagadh 362001.

The nearest rail station is Sasan, just a kilometre away while the closest airport is Keshod, 86 kms away.

About 32 kms away from Jaisalmer in Rajasthan lies the **Desert National Park.** Part of it resembles the desert of Sahara with rolling sand dunes, while a major portion of the rest is covered with patchy scrub forests and trees. This is the home of the great Indian bustard, chinkara, blackbuck, and a variety of eagles. Summers are scorching hot and the best time to go is between September and March.

Get in touch with the director research, Desert National Park, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

Right in the middle of the country lies the **Bandhavgarh National Park** set amongst the Vindhya Hills of MP. Legend has it that on his return journey from Sri Lanka, Ram stopped here for a rest.

The park is closed from July to October and the best time to visit is from January to June. January and February are cold while May onwards it becomes unbearably hot, with day temperatures going over 45°c.

Kanha National Park situated a little further south is in the Madla forest division. It is a classic example of the success of Project Tiger, since it began in 1973. The aim was to save the tiger from extinction but in the process another animal, the hard-ground Barasingha, or the swamp deer, was saved from being totally wiped out.

Both Bandhavgarh and Kanha have excellent places to stay. Kanha has huts and cottages at Khatia, at the entrance of the gate. Besides there are separate cottages deep inside the forest.

Bandhavgarn nas the White Tiger Tourist Lodge which is a luxurious place to stay. There is also a dormitory for the economy travellers run by the forest department, and also a forest rest house. For the forest accommodation contact the field director, Bandhavgarh National Park, Umaria, Shahdol, M.P. 484661.

For both Bandhavgarh and Kanha the MP tourism offices conduct tours from the different cities. Bookings can also be made from their offices in these cities or directly from MPTDC's tourist office at Bhopal.

The four national parks of **Bandipur, Mudumalai, Wynad** and the **Nagarahole** form a cluster of dense forests in the southern part of the Indian peninsula. These form one of the best remaining habitats of the Indian elephants who have been a victim to the poacher's gun for ivory. The gaur or the Indian bison, the sambar, the barking deer, the mouse deer and the chausingha, or the four-horned

antelope, also live here.

Best time to go is from March to June and September to November. Avoid the monsoons as they are particularly severe in this rain forest.

Nagarahole has excellent facilities for staying at Kabini Jungle Lodge which has to be booked from Jungle Lodges and Resorts Ltd, Brooklands, 348/349, 13th Main Road , Raj Mahal Vilas Extn., Bangalore 560080. The two forest rest houses can be booked from the ACF's office, Wildlife Preservation SD, Vanivilas Road, Mysore. Mysore is also the nearest air-head.

Bandipur has forest lodges, cottages and rest houses at Kakanhalla, Mulehole, Kalkere and Gopalaswamy, all near the park. Get in touch with the field director, Project Tiger, Bandipur Tiger Reserve, Mysore 570004.

Nearest town is Gundulpet, 21 kms, airhead Mysore, 50 kms. Mudumalai has rest houses inside the park and has lovely accommodation at Bamboo Banks Farm 18 kms from the sanctuary gate. Bookings at Bamboo Farm can be made with Kotawala, Bamboo Banks, Masinagudi, P.O. Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu. For forest accommodation, contact the wildlife warden, Mahalingam Building, Coonoor Rd, Ooty 643001.

Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the most picturesque parks in the subcontinent. It is an outcome of a dam which was built along the Periyar river. The dam submerged a great portion of the low land forests, but over the century it has developed into a beautiful wildlife sanctuary which attracts the largest number of tourists in the whole of south India.

Prime time in the park is October-April just after the south-west monsoon. During the summer months the grass dries out and the concentration of animals becomes greater along the lake. However, as the lake never dries up, the animals and the tropical forest have thrived.

Elephants have a particular fascination for this lake and play happily in the water. Boat travel is the only means of transport in the sanctuary. Walking, though discouraged by the authorities, is possible with guides— but at one's own risk. Watch towers along the water front offer a great potential for wildlife viewing. It is here that one can see four species of monkeys, the lion-tailed macaque, Nilgiri langur, common langur and the bonnet macaque.

A number of rest houses have been built at vantage points on the banks of the lake. The bookings can be had by writing directly to the forest office at Thekkady. There is a jeepable road which connects Madurai with Mullakady rest house. Thannikudy rest house, which is even further down the lake, is a little secluded and thus offers undisturbed wildlife viewing. Altogether there are seven rest houses in the park. ■

Rajesh Bedi



Slow loris

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ARIES

March 21—April 20

Success in ventures, business and enterprise is assured and you will be in for a rare and thrilling experience Romance will be a part of this experience Promotion perks and happy returns are also predicted Your work will be appreciated No serious health problems are foreseen The home and family offers joy and comfort, and you will buy and sell like a real expert

TAURUS

April 21 May 20

The Venus-Neptune trine makes you creative and different Watch the money come in including loans funds and promotion You will be loved, invited and be very popular at functions and meets No major health complaints so be free to attend to work and pleasure The family will support you and your property affairs turn out favourably

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

The moon s last quarter makes you romantic and attractive A good week for buying, selling and investing Romance will be enjoyable and adventurous Minor health complaints like coughs and colds persist It is definitely the time to move and forge ahead An addition to the family, good news by mail and renovation are also probable

CANCER

June 21—July 20

The conditions at home improve and your popularity soars Your creativity leads you to the right direction Expenses will be there, but opportunities to boost your income will be available Romance will be hectic but great fun People, in general, will be cooperative Except for an occasional stomach ache your health remains in good shape Gains and happiness through travel are foreseen At home, your dear ones will adore you Have faith and socialise

LEO

July 21—August 21

The need to communicate at all levels will be paramount Fulfil it and you will be a singing bird Buying, selling, investing, shopping and entertaining are certain. You will certainly have your full share of romance Your health remains fine Travel and communication open up new avenues Disturbances will be less at home



VIRGO

August 22 Sept 22

The main trends are a new high in your work satisfaction at home and joy through children A boost to your earnings is signified Romance promises splendid opportunities including engagement or marriage Good health and plenty of worthwhile activities make you happy The Mercury-Venus conjunction indicates trips as well as attachments Renovation and decoration of your house also keep you busy

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Journey ceremony romance luck of the draw expenses and satisfaction are the highlights of the week You will read learn, study, research and develop new skills Romance promises an excellent going September 19-21 will be of mighty importance Except for a slight back trouble your health remains okay Purchases and refurbishing occupy the home affairs

BIRTHDAYS

September 16

Venus trine Neptune This trine favours artists, lovers, researchers, fashion designers, musicians, dramatists and actors However, learn to take health precautions Journey and celebration are on the cards

September 17

Moon conjunction Mercury: The conjunction will be exceptionally lucky for writers salesmen editors, musicians, industrialists, teachers, lawyers, entrepreneurs and detectives. The trick is in the communication. Given that, the rest should be easy.

September 18

Moon conjunction Venus: Those in property, fashions, art, commerce, chemicals and statistics do well. Your appetite for luxury and comforts will be satiated. A happy birthyear.

September 19

New moon: The new moon in [illegible]

your individualised astrascope stands for new beginnings and happy events. Learn to seize the opportunities that come your way. Help those who are less fortunate than you.

September 20

Venus sextile Pluto: Despite tensions and family squabbles you will eventually succeed. So do not lose heart. Avoid nervous tension by taking up a hobby or an artistic pursuit or a research project.

September 21

No strong aspect: Loans, funds, investments, shopping and changing the nature and scope of your work are the salient features. Take one problem at a time and solve it. Travel, visits and meets keep you busy.

September 22

Moon-Jupiter conjunction: This helps you to move fast, accelerate, go in for expansion and publicity. Expenses will also [illegible] do not worry. Children [illegible]

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

The week's main trends are loans, funds, socialising, transfer and renovation and decoration of the home and office It is time to make money and go in for necessary business and professional changes You will be loved cherished wanted and adored A few health posers should not upset you

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Changes on the work and property frontier are foretold Financial matters work out to your advantage Expect complications and tangles in romance but you will work it out You could be in low spirits for a day or two but that is part of the game Your business and profession may compel you to travel

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Travel success in litigation renovation, decoration joy through kids new assignments visits and interviews are favourably signified Finance promises good going specially for those in business and profession Romance will be eventful Minor health posers are likely You excel in the home and family affairs Loans and funds will be available, so go right ahead

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Romance, childbirth, hobbies, loans, funds, a carryover from the last month, plenty of movement and bargaining are predicted Journeys and long-distance connections are foretold Your health may show some uneasiness at the start of the week Property matters are definitely highlighted Buying, selling and shopping are focalised

PISCES

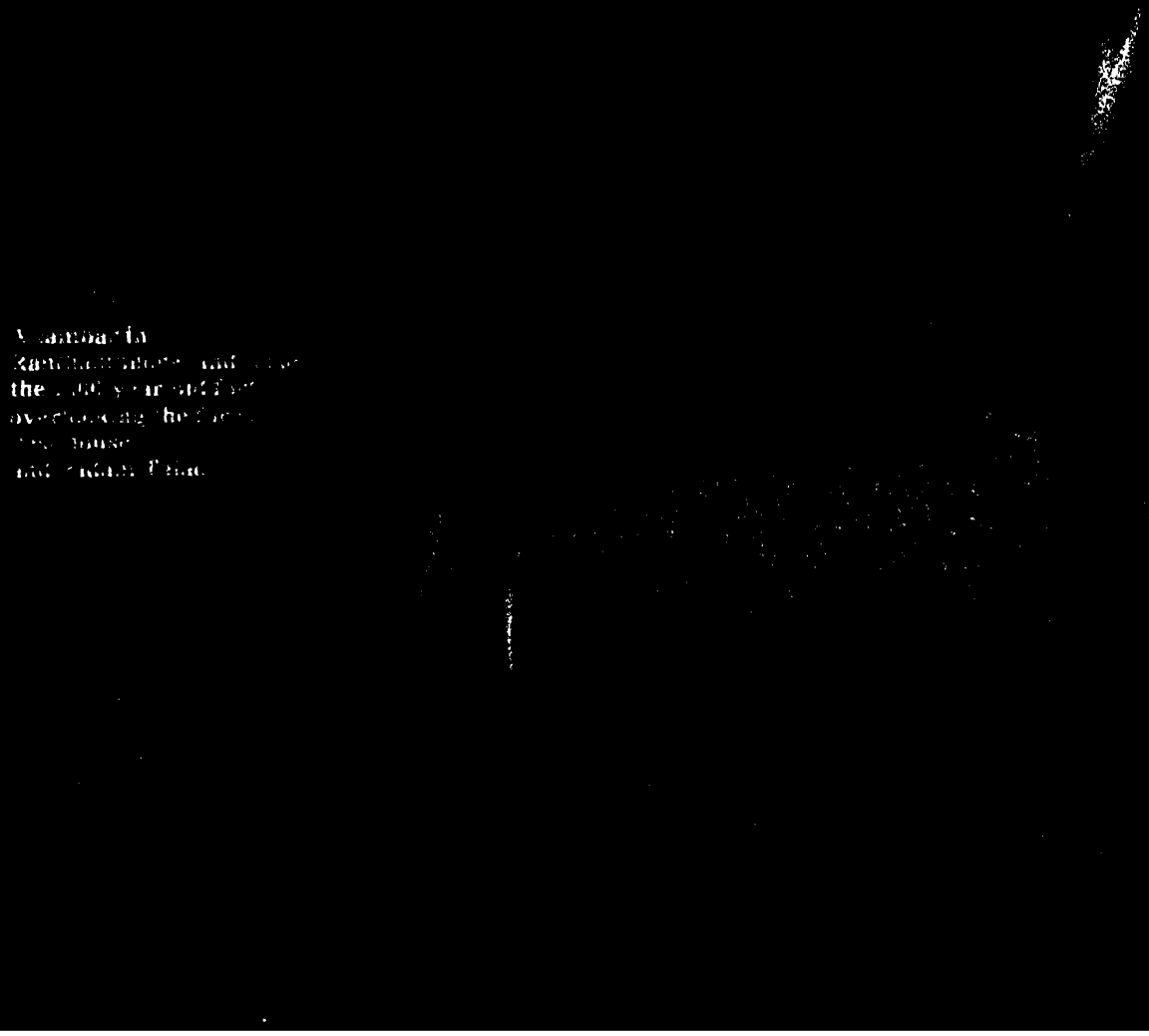
Feb 19—March 20

Home, property attachments, travel, communication and contacts are the astro menu. Promotion, fringe benefits, buying, selling, loans and funds are foretold The time is right for romance As far as health goes, slight breathing and feet posers at the most Travel could be beneficial with a stopover Just be careful if you are going to put down anything in writing



TRAVEL SPECIAL

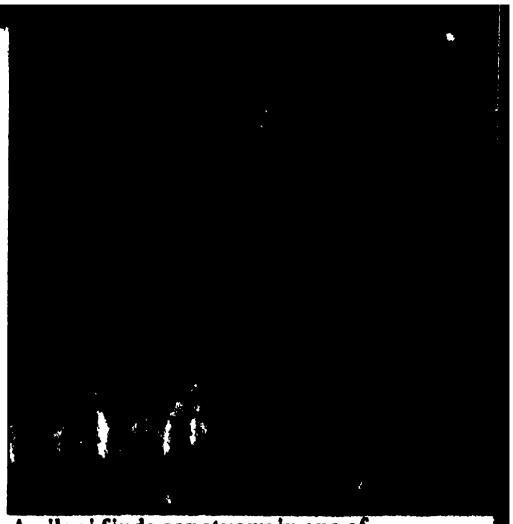




Chasing an elusive butterfly through a jungle of wild flowers waiting for a tiger that hides behind a thick curtain of grass discovering a sleeping owl in a dark tree hollow or just watching the sunlight dance on the treetops there are so many adventures you can seek in a wildlife sanctuary But you have to leave your city brainwashed mind behind so that you can look and listen in a new way and discover a totally different world India with its varied geographical makeup has the most amazing variety of wildlife habitats and each one is like a small kingdom with its own special allure The dry scrubland forests of Rajasthan the emerald green terrain of Assam and the lush rain washed tropical forests of Kerala the dense jungles of Madhya Pradesh and the coniferous forest of the Himalayas all have their own distinct features and that is what makes a wildlife sanctuary tour so exciting in our country The different seasons change the landscape too and only a protected forest area can reflect each and every facet of nature that appears and then disappears as summer winter and monsoon pass

This is most true of the famous **Keoladeo Ghana National Park** in Bharatpur Situated just 176 kms from Delhi and 50 kms from Agra this jewel in India's crown has a distinct winter and summer personality as the birdlife changes shifts There are about 350 species of birds to be found here and a third of them are winter migrants from Siberia and Central Asia Though the park is open throughout the year the best time to visit is from October to March if you want to see the star attractions of the park the Siberian Cranes These red faced long legged snow white birds come to winter in Bharatpur year after year and their arrival on the marshes is awaited with great anxiety not only in India but all over the world Their 6 400 km journey to Bharatpur is full of hazards since the birds have to fly over war-torn areas and hostile populations which often kill them But despite all the dangers 30 to 35 of these rare birds make it to Bharatpur every winter and you can see them enjoying the sunshine as they search for aquatic tubers their favourite food Some Siberian Crane pairs have a single chick with them and the parents often peel a tuber and feed their brown and white youngster There are only two places in the world where the Western race of this beautiful crane can be seen and Bharatpur is one of them

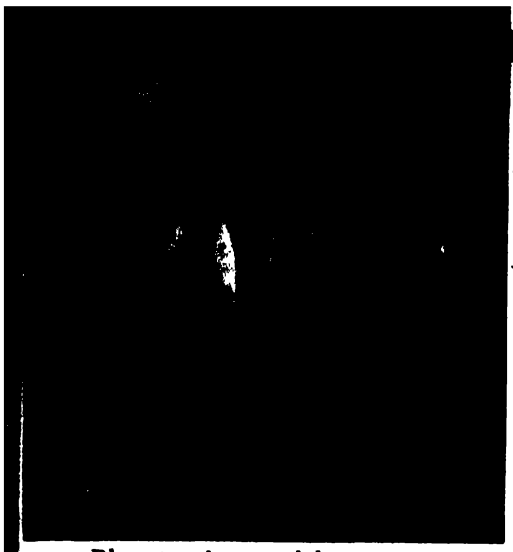
After you have paid your respects to the royal crane family you can walk around the 29 sq km area of the park to search for other birds There are several paths and trails running through the park and the lakes are divided by a narrow road so that you are never far away from the wetland area and can often look a startled marsh bird right in the eye Pheasant tailed jacanas pied kingfishers purple moorhens snake birds fishing eagles scops owls, nightjars and many other species reside all throughout the year here while huge colonies of painted storks white ibis openbill storks egrets and herons can be seen on the babul trees during the monsoon From October onwards the winter migrants begin to arrive and the lake gradually gets more and more crowded as gadwals pintail and brahminy ducks whistling teals bar headed and greylag geese jostle each for water space The perfect time to catch the maximum number of both water and woodland birds is early morning when they



A nilgai finds sanctuary in one of

Face to face with the tiger in Ranthambhore





Kushal Mookherjee

Bharatpur's many lakes

are all at their singing best and can be spotted easily. If you are brave enough to awake before dawn you will be rewarded by the fairytale sight of a golden pink lake on which hundreds of water birds glide gracefully.

To explore the entire park on foot may be a bit too energetic for even the most committed birdwatcher, leave alone a city commuter, so there are bicycles on hire or cycle rickshaws available. Most of the rickshaw*wallas* are quite well-informed about the park and will point out the various species of birds found here.

Though people visit Bharatpur to see the incredible birdlife that thrives on its marshes, lakes and skies, there are animals in the forest areas like the **sambar, nilgai,** spotted deer and a few black **buck.** Otters lurk in the water, diving **expertly** for fish while giant sized turtles dose **in the** sunshine. At Python Point, an arid, **eerily** silent area of the park, huge rock **pythons** crawl around their favourite hideouts. Since Bharatpur is extremely popular **with** tourists, it has many places to stay **in, and** Shanti Kutir and the Forest Lodge **are the** closest to the park. Contact the chief wildlife warden, Keoladeo National **Park,** Bharatpur, Rajasthan, for bookings.

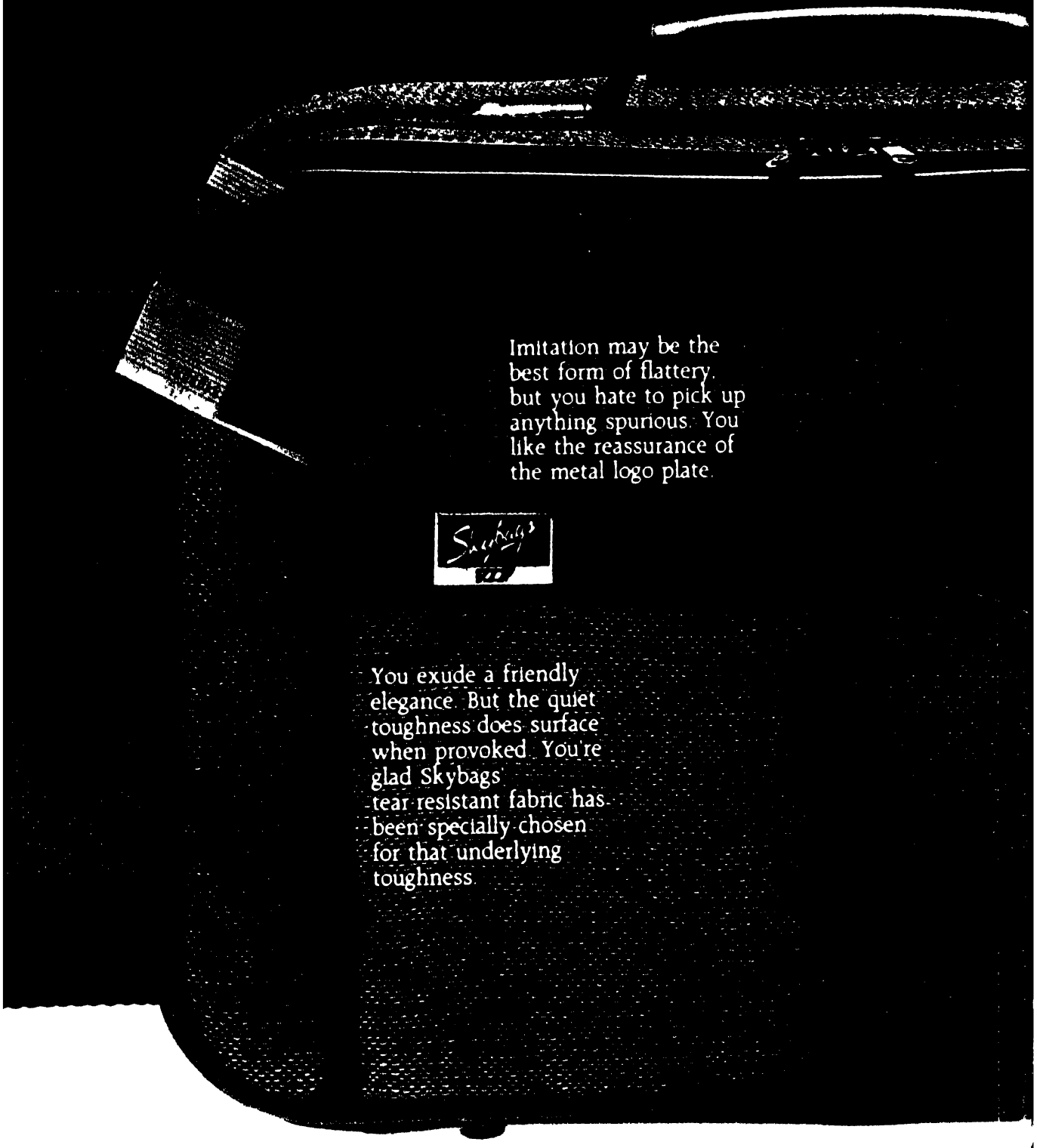
While Bharatpur is friendly and full of cheerful chattering birds, **Ranthambhore,** also in Rajasthan, is silent and

Photographs Tarapada Banerjee



THE PSYCHO-ANALYSIS

(Shouldn't you know what your

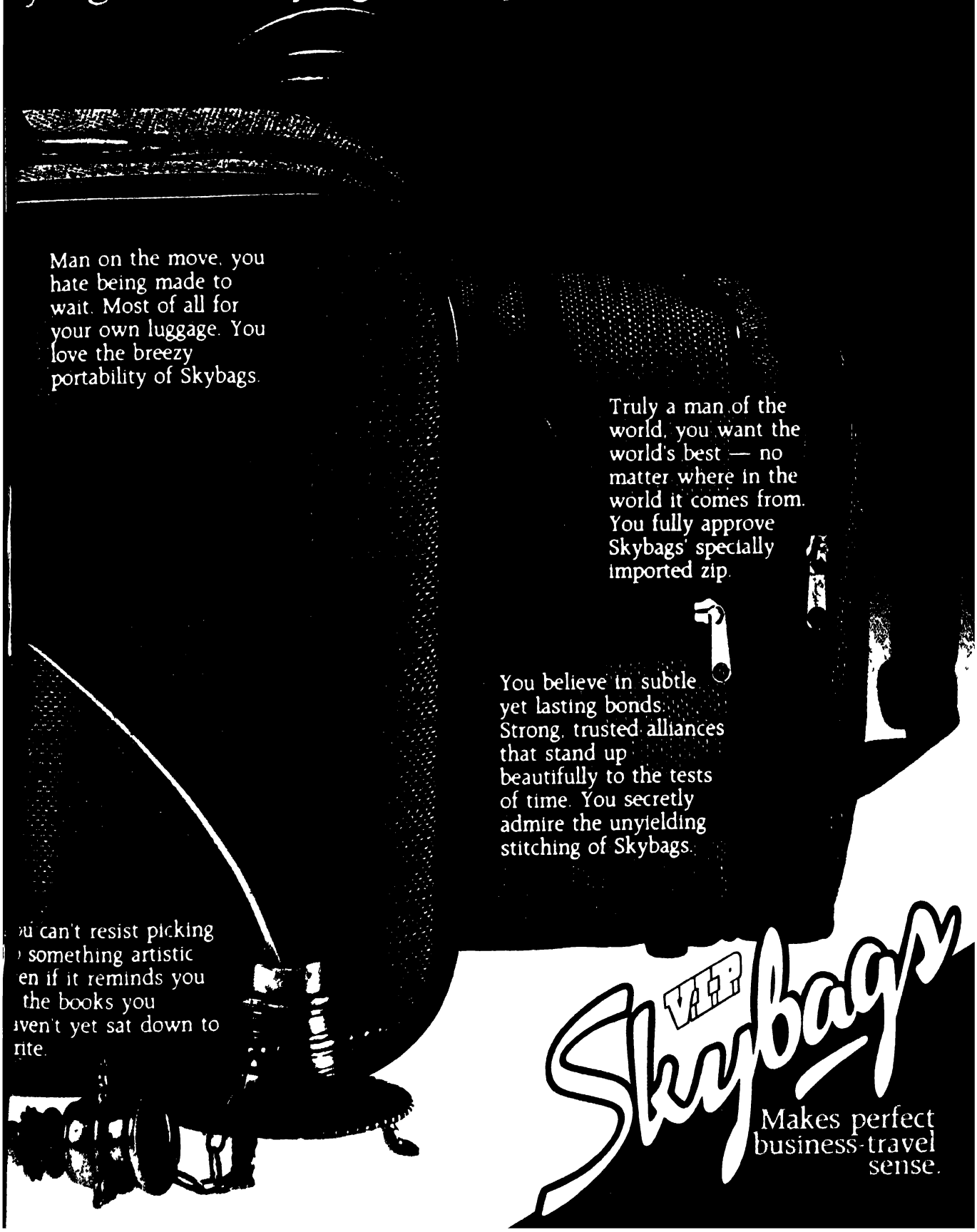


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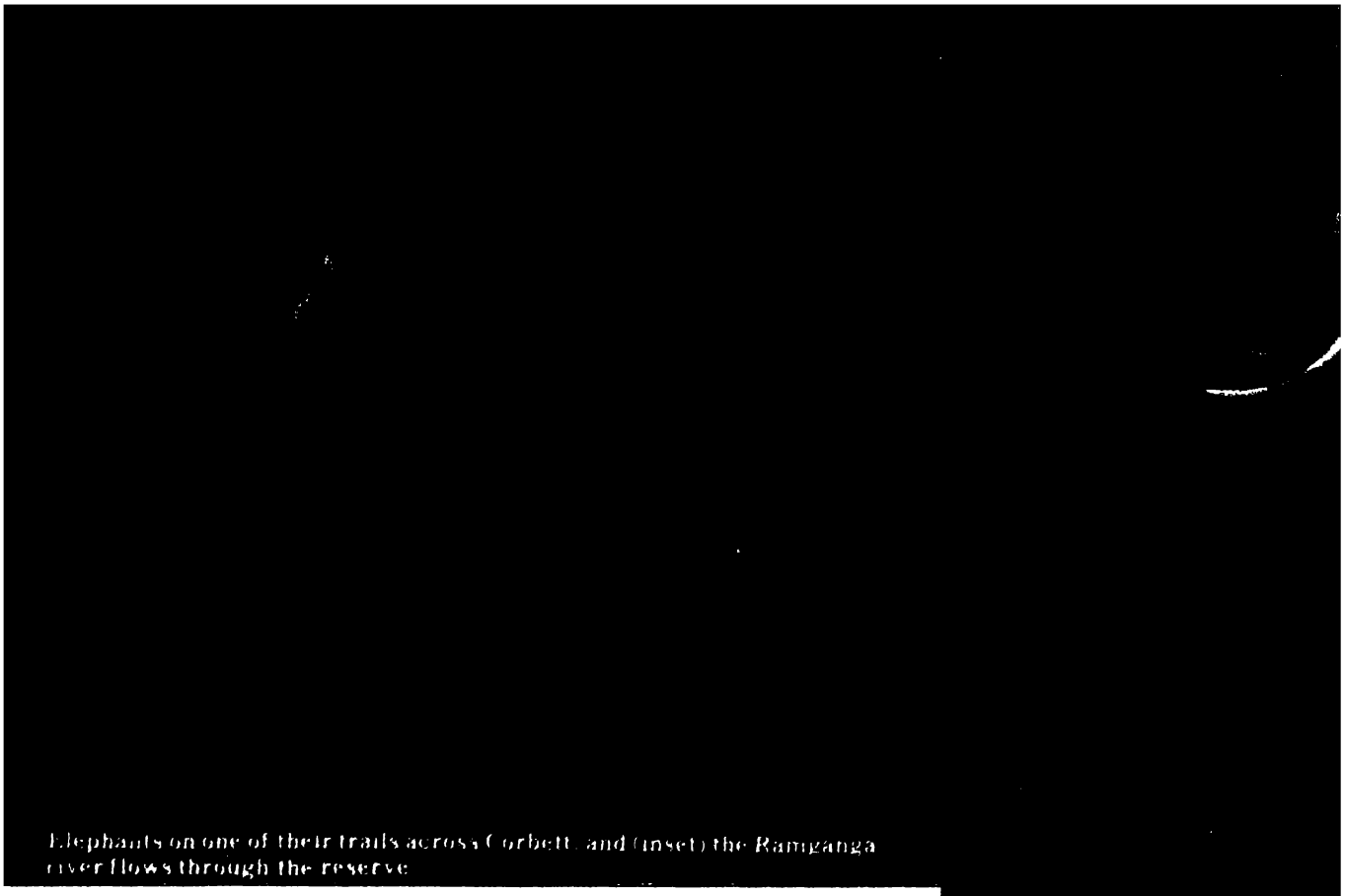
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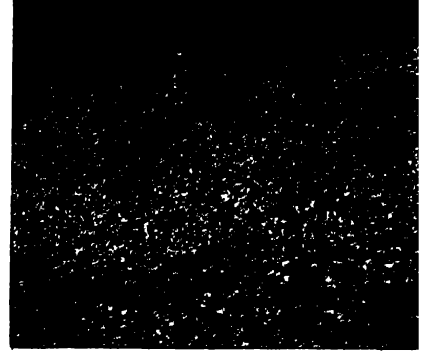


Elephants on one of their trails across Corbett and (inset) the Ramganga river flows through the reserve

awesome. A massive, 1,000-year-old fort stares down sternly at you as you enter the park and bids you to respect the laws of tiger land. This magnificent Ranthambhore fort impressed Akbar so much that the Mughal emperor had a series of miniature paintings depicting the fort painted by his best artists for the *Akbar Nama*. The forest area around the fort used to be the private hunting grounds of the maharajas of Jaipur and that is why this oasis of dense green managed to survive in the midst of a barren landscape. This national park has a core area of 410 sq. kms where there are about 40 tigers according to the 1986 census. It was one of the first parks where Project Tiger was launched in 1972 and has now become such a successful tiger story that few visitors go back without meeting the resident cats. In fact, in Ranthambhore the tiger feels so much at home that it roams about quite openly even during the day and may come quite close to your jeep. The amber eyes gleam with faint curiosity and then turn away to watch more interesting and edible creatures like the spotted deer or chinkara. The only way to get around the park is by jeep which can be hired at the gate. You are not allowed to walk in the forest at all and these rules are very strictly followed because the tiger has the right of way here. There are many panthers, too, strolling in the outer areas of the forest and marsh crocodiles peer out of the many lakes which dot the park.

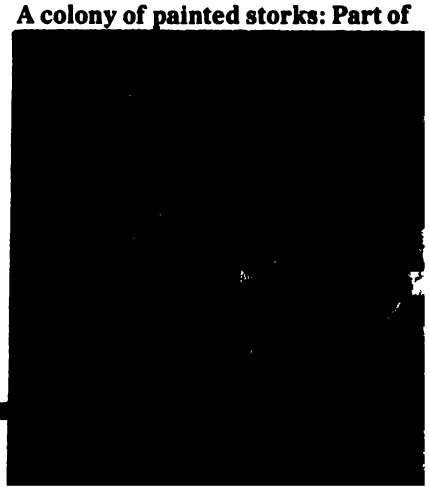
Besides predators there are many birds, smaller mammals and deer too and in winter the park gets quite a few migrant ducks. The best place to stay is the Jogi Mahal. This small forest rest house has the second largest banyan tree growing like a miniature forest in its **backyard** and the rooms overlook the Padam Talao—a huge lake with hundreds of sparkling waterlilies and a few lazy crocodiles. Bookings can be made through the field director, Ranthambhore National Park, Sawai Madhopur. There are a few other hotels too in Sawai Madhopur, 14 kms away, the nearest town and rail-head. The best time to visit the park is from October to April when you may be lucky enough to catch the entire tiger family basking in the sunshine.

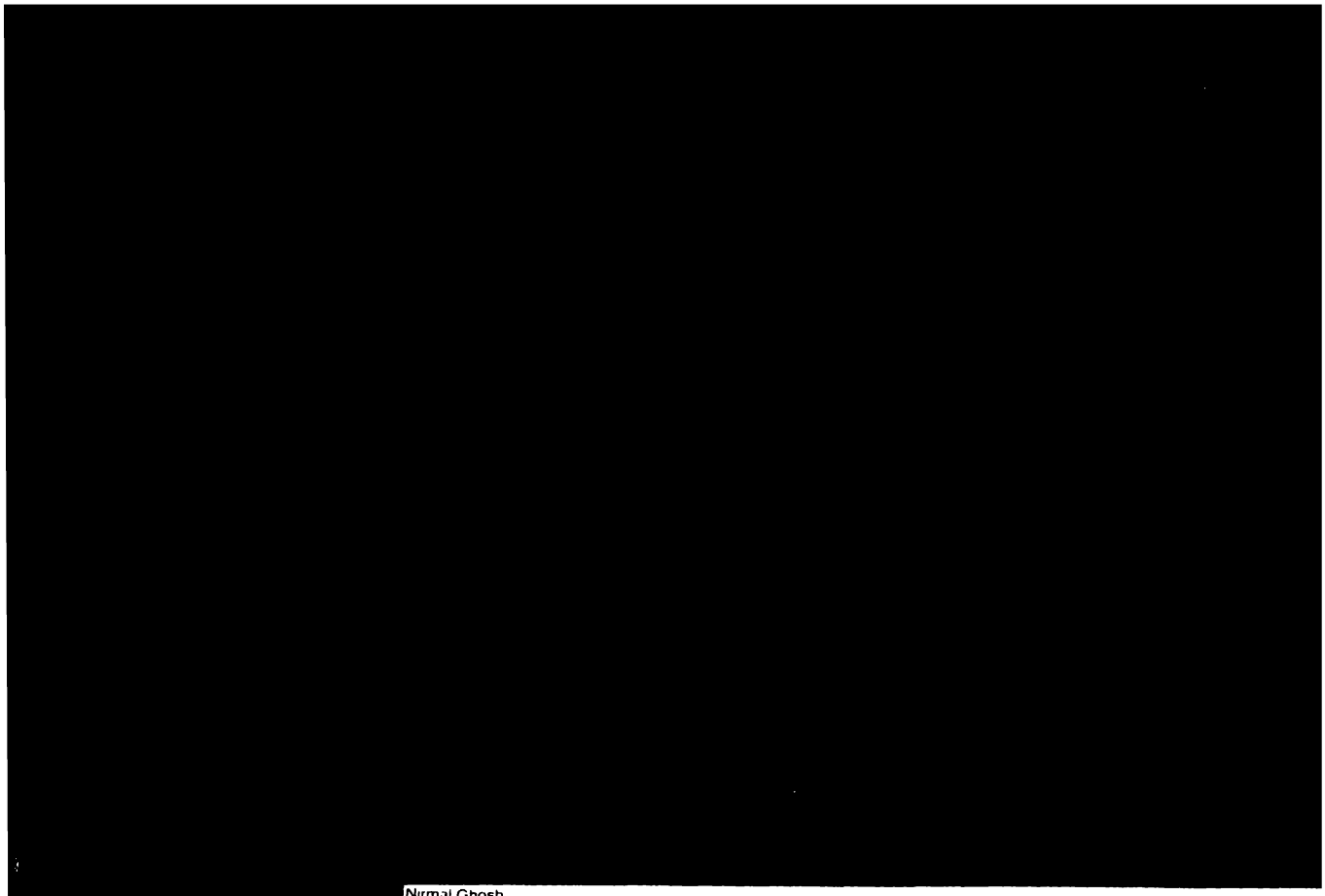
Another beautiful and totally different setting for the tiger is the **Corbett National Park** in Uttar Pradesh. Named after the famous hunter turned conservationist, Jim Corbett, who had shot many a man-eating tiger here, this huge park lies at the foothills of the Himalayas. The Ramganga river flows through the park and along with the thickly forested hilly ridges gives the park a varied topography which makes it a very interesting place to travel around. You move from dense sal forests on the hilly ridges to flat grasslands, from riverain tracts, where the elegant shisham trees grow, to tall chir pines. This rich and diverse habitat shelters an abundant variety of flora and fauna, some of which are yet to be studied.



Tigers, of course, rule the forest as usual but are difficult to catch sight of since the park has so many secret places for

A colony of painted storks: Part of





Nirmal Ghosh

to hide peacefully. But there are
reds of other wild animals waiting to
you an audience. You will meet herds
ld elephants crossing the jungle paths
orderly school children, long nosed

ratpur's fabulous birdlife

Kushal Mookherjee

gharials sunbathing by the river, huge gangs of spotted deer scampering in the forest You will hear the barking deer call out from their hidden corners and the langurs give a rude reply

The birdlife in Corbett at any time of the year is fascinating and there are about 580 species of birds to be seen here Migrant duck and geese swim in the river in winter, while snipes, sandpipers and wagtails march up and down the banks searching for food. The sky is crowded with sharp-eyed raptors like the osprey, blackwinged kites, fishing eagles and marsh harriers Porcupines scuttle past your feet and the hare waits in the shadows for the dusk to fall. In the dense forest where the sunlight just filters through, woodpeckers, owls and dronges fight for insects in the air while the red junglefowl rustles through the fallen leaves for worms The sloth bear roams the forest in search of mahua flowers and often gets drunk on its sweet nectar. The Himalayan black bear is here too but stays in the higher areas to be far away from its ill-mannered, alcoholic cousins. Leopards often sneak in from these higher regions into the tiger's territory but tread with extreme care so that the king does not catch them stealing its deer. The smaller cats come out to hunt in the dark and though you may not see them, the jungle cat and the rare fishing cat are very much here.

Since the rainfall is very heavy in this area, Corbett remains closed from July to mid-November The best time to visit is in winter when the forest is painted with dazzling green, gold and red hues The days are very pleasant and you can go for long elephant rides to search for that elusive tiger There are jeeps available too in the park, but the fascinating ever-changing scenery of Corbett Park is best seen from the elephant's majestic height although if you are a first-time rider, you may think that the animal is about to throw you head first into the nearest ditch where the tiger is waiting to finish you off But after a while you get used to the elephant's heavy but surefooted gait and can enjoy the ride The sun shines brightly during the day, but the temperature can drop suddenly in the evenings and being so close to the mountains it can get quite cold in Corbett during the night

The best place to stay is the Dhikala complex which has a beautiful view of the silvery river, where the elephants come to bathe and the forest beyond There are a few other forest rest houses scattered all over the park and bookings can be made through the Field Director, Project Tiger, Corbett National Park, P O. Ramnagar, Dist Nainital, U.P. There is a regular bus service from Delhi (300 kms) and Lucknow to the park entrance gate but since this is quite far from the Dhikala complex one should reach here early in the day. Traffic is not allowed in the park after sunset and only the tiger can disobey this rule. ■



Radhika, Amitabh Bachchan and Jaya Prada in *Aaj Ka Arjun*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

•**Aaj Ka Arjun:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266)—4 shows.

A film by K. C. Bokadia, starring megastar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Prada and Radhika. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

•**Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentinck Street; 281917), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270)- 4 shows; Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417) -3 shows.

A film by Mahesh Bhatt, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy. The music is by Nadeem Shravan.

•**Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road; 280141)—4 shows.

One of the recent big hits, the film stars Aamir Khan, Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher. It is directed by Indra Kumar and the music is by Anand Milind

•**Doodh Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street' 285442), Gem (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street, 250437), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440), Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108).

Directed by Ashok Gaikwad and with music by Annu Malik, the chief attractions are Jackie Shroff, Neelam, Varsha Usgaonkar and Amrish Puri.

•**Jawani Zindabad:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132)—4 shows.

Aamir Khan and Farha are the lead pair in this film, directed by Arun Bhatt. The music is by Anand Milind.

•**Paap Ki Kamaee:** Elite (S Banerjee Road; 241383), Uj (Bidhan Sarani; 552200), Prab (Chittaranjan Avenue; 3907 Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Ro 754403), Kalika (Sadananda Ro 758141)—4 shows.

Mithun Chakraborty, Ku Goswami, Sangeeta Bijlani, Sh Shirodkar, Prem Chopra and K bhushan Kharbanda are the m attractions in this film, directed Kawal Sharma. The music is Annu Malik.

•**Sailaab:** Roxy (Chowringh Place, 284138), Grace (Mahat Gandhi Road; 311090), Khan (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ro 552932), Indira (Indra Roy Ro 751757)

Directed by Deepak Balraaj and with music by Bappi Lahiri, film stars Madhuri Dixit along w Aditya Pancholi, Suresh Obe and Shafi Inamdar.

•**Sherdil:** Opera (Lenin Sara 281849), Lotus (S.N. Banerj Road; 242664), Moonlight (T Dutta Street; 254956), Purnas (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 5540 Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 31152 Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Ro 484808)—4 shows; Menoka (Sa Chatterjee Avenue; 410417) noon.

Directed by Jagdish Sidana a with music by Laxmikant Pyarel the film stars Dharmendra, Ri Kapoor, Anita Raaj, Kirti Kath and Kader Khan.

Bengali Films

•**Debata (A):** Minar (Bidh Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S Mukherjee Road; 753462), Ch bighar (Mahatma Gandhi Ro 352740)—2 45, 5.30, 8.15.

Victor Banerjee, Debashr Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, K Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Ar Chakraborty and Ranjit Mull comprise the main cast. The film directed by Abhijit Sen and music is by R.D. Burman.

•**Gharer Bou:** Radha (Bidh Sarani; 553045) –3 shows.

A social entertainer, starr Sandhya Roy, Chiranjeet, Sat Roy, Joy Sengupta, Meenak Goswami, Nimu Bhowmick, Bip Chatterjee and Sandhyarani. T film is directed by S. S. Roy a the music is by Ajoy Das.

•**Jeeban Sangee:** Rupb (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Ar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 3595 Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Ro 754686)—1, 4, 7.

Tapas Paul and Archana Jogle are the lead pair. Others starring are Deepankar De, S kuntala Barua, Kali Banerjee, Dey and Soumitra Chatterjee. film is directed by Ravi Kinagi the music is by Mrinal Baner



Indrani Halder and Arjun Chakraborty in *Debata*

Foreign Films

• **Dance of the Damned (A):** Lighthouse (Humayun Place; 291051)—4 shows; Navina (Prince Anwar Shah Road; 468091), Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045)

Special Events

16 September: 9.30 am

South India Junior High School and I.C. Cultural Institution present a cultural programme featuring drama, magic show, and vocal and instrumental music; the chief attractions are Tejendra Narayan Majumdar (sarod) and Sabir Khan (tabla).

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

16 September: 6 pm

An evening of ghazals and classical dances, in aid of S.K Acharya Cancer Detection Centre Baruipur, features Ghulam Ali, Pankaj Udhas, Amita Dutt (Kathak) and Anjana Banerjee (Bharata Natyam)

At Netaji Indoor Stadium.

16 September: 6.30 pm

Padatik and USIS present the Hindi play, *Baarish Wala*– a translation of Richard Nash's romantic comedy, *The Rain Maker*, and directed by Rodney Marriott Designed by Christopher Barreca, the cast includes Rajaram Yagnik, Shakil Khan, B M Hada, Sanchayita Bhattacharya, Vinay Sharma, Mahmud Alam and Arun Sharma

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street).

17 September onwards: 3 pm-8 pm

Shubu Choudhury and others will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

18 September onwards: 3 pm-8 pm

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Durlabh Kishore Arnab in the South Gallery

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302)

18 September: 6 pm

Sanskriti Sagar presents the Hindi play, *Chekhov Ki Duniya*, directed by Ranjit Kapoor and produced by Anamika Kala Sangam's creative wing.

At G.D. Birla Sabhagar (Ashutosh Chowdhury Avenue, 751797)

22 September: 6 pm

Sabuj Sporting Club, Behala, presents a musical evening, featuring Arati Mukherjee and Anup Ghoshal.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road: 289978).

22 September: 7 pm

Rangakarmee will stage its latest Hindi play, *Holi*, directed by Usha Ganguli.

At Kala Mandir (B) (Shakespeare Sarani; 443666/9086).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4) SU-537 at 1525

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4) SU 538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1, 4). RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4) RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG 314 at 1355

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6) IC 843 at 0755 Dep (6) IC 843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC 844 at 1115 Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (1, 6): RA-214 at 1250, Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600; Arr. (1, 6): RA-213 at 1150, Arr. (2; 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (daily) BG-092 at 1050 and BG-096 at 1920, Dep. (1,2,3,4,6,7). BG: 094 at 1620, Dep. (5):BG-098 at 1820 Dep (1,7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep (2,4,6): IC-223 at 1640.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (daily) BG-091 at 1010 and BG-095 at 1840 Arr (1,2,3,4,6,7). BG-093 at 1540, Arr (5) BG-097 at 1740, Arr (1,7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2,4,6) IC-224 at 1840

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (2,5) BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7) AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1) AI-1320 at 1300; Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2). AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1700; Arr (daily). IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7) IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7) IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)'; IC-541 at 0945, Arr (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily) IC-229 at 1250; Arr (daily) IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4) IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta - Tezpur Jorhat Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep (3,5,7) IC 213 at 1030 Arr. (3,5,7) IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep (1,3,5,6) IC-219 at 1120, Arr (1,3,5,6) IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily). IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600, Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily). IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (2,4) IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600, Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1) IC-287 at 0545, Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7). IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-727 at 0530; Arr. (1,3,5): PF-728 at 1120.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (7) PF-730A at 1050

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (1,3,5,7). PF-701 at 1140; Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-702 at 1615.

Calcutta - Agartala - Kamalpur - Kailashar - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2,4,6) PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta - Silchar - Shillong - Guwahati - Silchar - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-701 at 1100; Arr. (2,4,6). PF-702 at 1715.

Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (2,6): PF-709 at 0815, Arr. (2,6): PF-710 at 1840

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh: Dep. (4) PF-709 at 0815; Arr. (4): PF-710 at 1750

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (7): PF-709 at 0600; Arr. (7): PF-710 at 1705.

Calcutta - Agartala: Dep (1,3,5): PF-729A at 1130 Arr.

(1,3,5) PF-730A at 1410
Calcutta - Aizawl - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep (2,4,6) PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310, Arr (2,4,6)) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655
Calcutta - Jamshedpur -Ranchi - Patna: Dep (1,3,5) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (1,3,5) PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta - Jamshedpur: Dep (2,4,6) PF-717 at 0550, Arr (2,4,6): PF-718 at 0745
Calcutta - Cooch Behar: Dep (2,4,6,7) PF-707 at 0600, Arr (2,4,6, 7) PF-708 at 0855.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Silchar - Guwahati: Dep (1,3,5,7) PF-705 at 0915, Arr (1,3,5,7) PF-706 at 1620

Trains

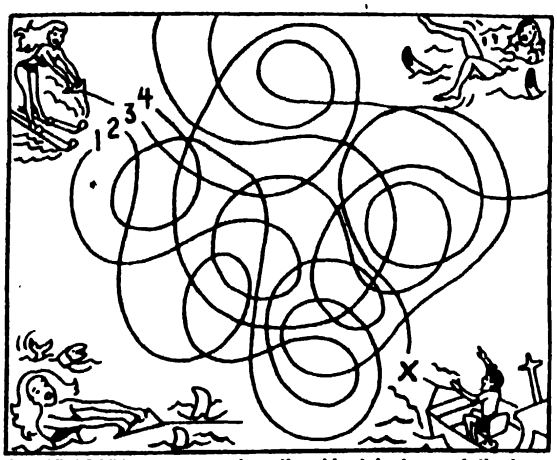
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
		Howrah		
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
		Howrah		
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



SKI TRIPPER! What route does the skier take to reach the boat, at point X? Trace through maze of lines to find out.

• ALMOST ALL! My first is almost all, so is my second, and also my whole. What word am I? Read again carefully, answer is stated. What is it?

The word is also

	1	2	3	4
1	O	P	N	E
2	H	E	U	A
3	N	S	R	X
4	S	T	E	P





	1	2	3	4
1	_	_	_	N
2	_	_	_	E
3	_	_	_	X
4	_	_	_	T

CROSSWORD SCRAMBLE!
You are given all the letters to be used in this word square. Arrange them to form four words across and four different words down. Letters of one word—NEXT—are in place.

Across: 1. Avoid contact.
2. Odour detector.
3 Highest point.
4. Chic and Jaunty

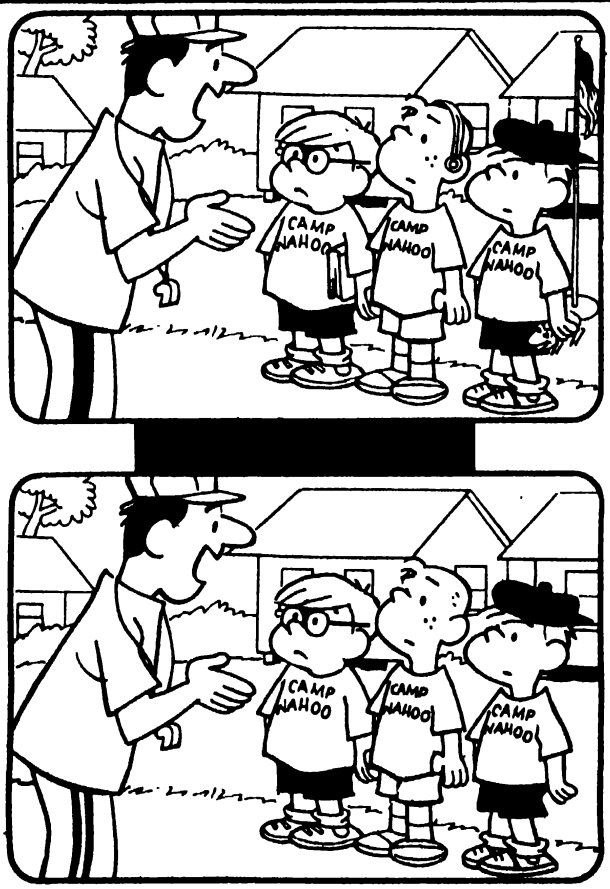
Down: 1.Cinch task
2. Famed diamond
3. Computer operior
4. Waiting room.
Time limit: 2 min.

Across Shun, nose spot, pet. Down snap, hope, user, next.



• FULL COUNT! All five full glasses may be eliminated from the circle below by counting them out thus: Begin at the star. Proceed clockwise to the 13th glass. Cross glass out. Begin at the next glass in line. Count 13, and cross that glass out, etc. Five such counts remove all full glasses.

HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1. Whistle cord is shorter. 3. Stripe is different. 3 Book is missing. 4. Headset is missing. 5. Frog is missing. 6. Flagpole is missing.

FUNSPOT



FAN FARE! Aw, come on, who can catch a ball while signing an autograph? Apply colors: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. blue.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words:

SPILLAGE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible twosome Slip, gale.



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

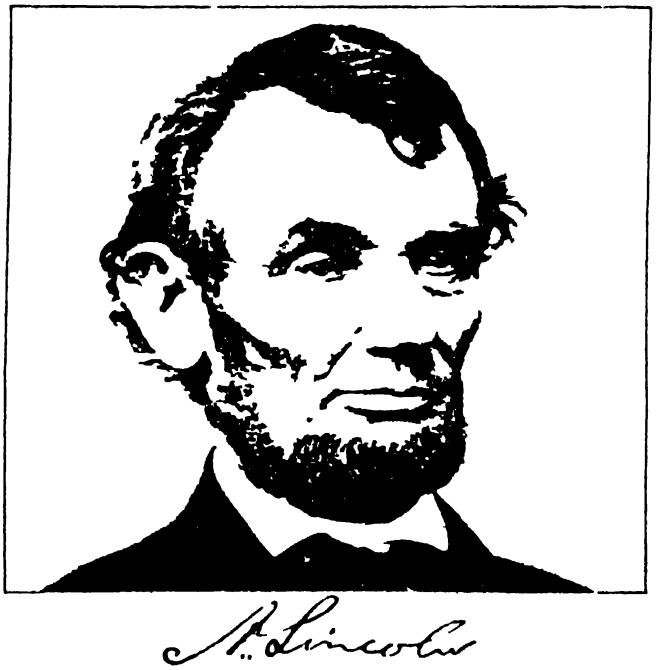
11th Question: Why was the first Earth Day programme in 1970, which was limited to the US,suspected by some as a 'Communist plot'? (D.P. Ray Chowdhury, 67/2A Apcar Garden, Asansol 4.)
***Ans:* Simply because it coincided with Lenin's birthday!**

Santanu Mitra Mustafi, Calcutta 63, has sent this interesting piece on the Gettysburg Address

"The Battle of Gettysburg, one of the bloodiest battles of the American Civil War, was fought during the first week of July (1863) The local authorities decided to dedicate the ground to the honoured dead The formal invitations to attend the exercises were sent to many The President was just asked to make 'a few appropriate remarks The ceremony was scheduled on November 19 Thursday, at 10 am (1863) Lincoln s turn came after a two-hour speech of Edward Everett He felt uneasy, but holding his paper firmly, he went through it Legend has it that he scribbled his speech on the back of a used envelope He was on his feet for less than three minutes and the audience felt disappointed The conventional story that no picture existed of Lincoln at Gettysburg proved untrue with the discovery of a picture by an unknown photographer showing Lincoln on the platform (Unfortunately the xerox copy of the photo Santanu has sent us would not reproduce well— O Brien)

"Lincoln s speech, in its immediate effect, was a failure but later the world realised that those 10 sentences contained vast philosophy In this memorable address Lincoln made one mistake when he said, "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here." for it came to be remembered as one of the best literary glories of the world

"At least six copies of this speech were made by Lincoln The first draft contained 239 words while the last two had 272 Scholars found on the first page 19 lines were written in ink, on the second page there were 10 lines in pencil It had five one-letter words, 46 were of two letters, 44 of three, 56 of four, 30 of five, 25 of six, 13 of seven and rest were of eight and more Of his address, 204 were a single syllable each, 50 of two syllables, and only 18 were of three and more In his entire speech, not once did that great President employ the personal pronoun 'I'"



Abhijit Ganguly of Graduates Association, Burnpur, writes

"Students' Academy, Burnpur, organised its second annual quiz on its Foundation Day About 70 teams participated in the quiz which was held for three groups After the preliminary rounds the final round was held with six teams in Group A and four teams in Groups B and C each

"Quizmaster Biswajit Basu, OJM, SBI, conducted the quiz brilliantly before a large audience Among the teams present the best performance was given by Raj Kumar Singh and P S Chahel in the open category "

The hony secretary of Saifee Club, Calcutta, writes

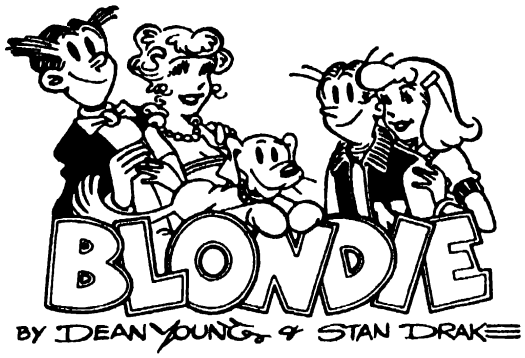
"The Saifee Club organised its annual 'Brains of Dawoodi Bohra quiz contest at Saifee Hall School Eight teams participated and the quiz was well conducted by Alban Scott A special round of religious questions also followed from Sk Joharbhai, the Head Mollim

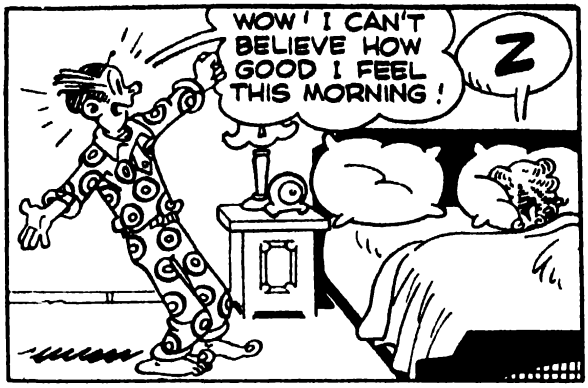
' The Saifee Club, represented by Murtaza and Zoeb Partapuri, were declared champions and awarded the 'Bartanwala shield and the 'Independence Cup The runners-up,Jamali Sports Club, represented by Husaini Partapuri and Mustafa Shakir, were presented with the 'August cup "

QUESTIONS

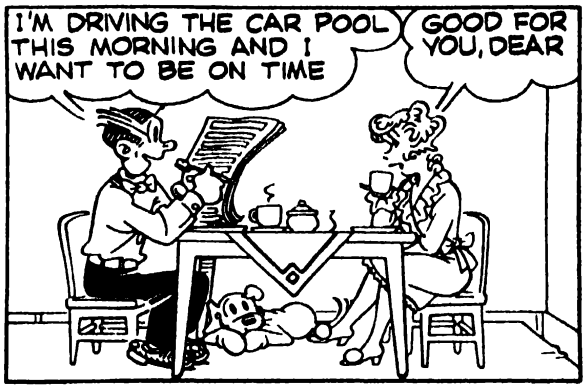
1. Which Indian spinner was nicknamed "Fergie"? (Amardip Das, Cuttack)
2. In which film did Sandip Patil act? (Nimbalaya Sarkar, Asansol 1)
3. Before 'Fergie', who was the last Duchess of York? (Anjanava Datta, Calcutta 31)
4. Where is it written, "Leave your shoes and minds outside"? (Sujanyadev and Pradipta Chakraborty, Ranchi 9)
5. Who was shown the first yellow card in India'88'? (Subrajit Pradhan, Belpahar 18)
6. Which actor refused an Oscar as a protest against the plight of the American Indians? (Mangesh Bahadurkar, Calcutta 31)
7. There are three stadiums in India which have been named after hockey players. Name them. (Roshan Kr Agrawal, Barpeta 2)
8. Which famous author marked, "Faith is a quality which intellect cannot dispense with "? (Subrata Halder, Triveni 3)
9. What is the 'Crystal River'? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)
10. How is Abul Hawl (Arabic for 'Father of Terror') better known? (Arvind Kochuriny, Calcutta 6)

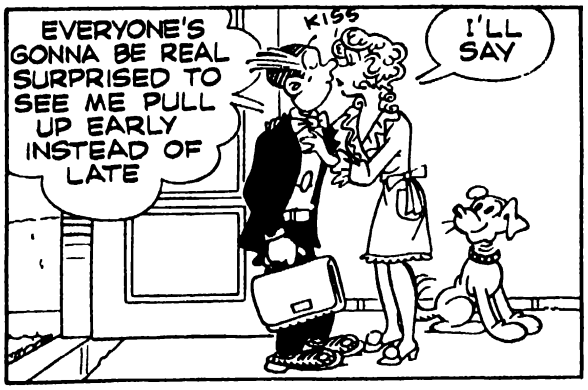
ANSWERS

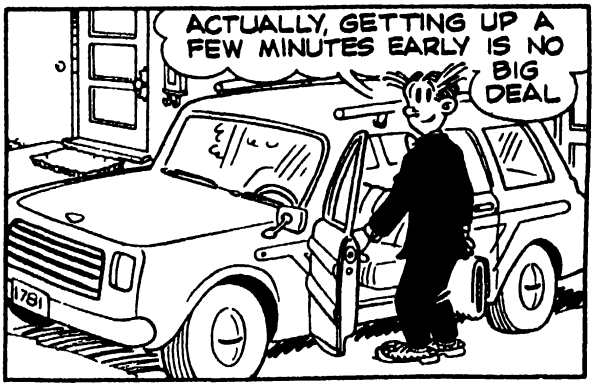






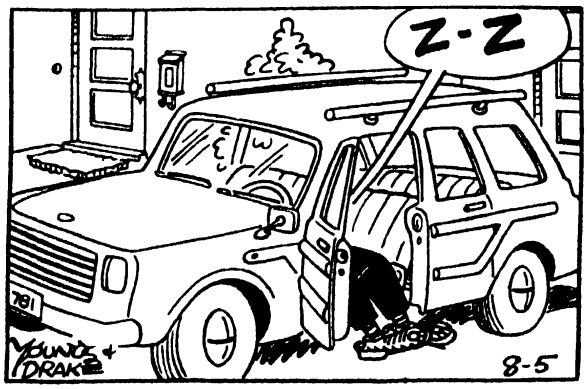


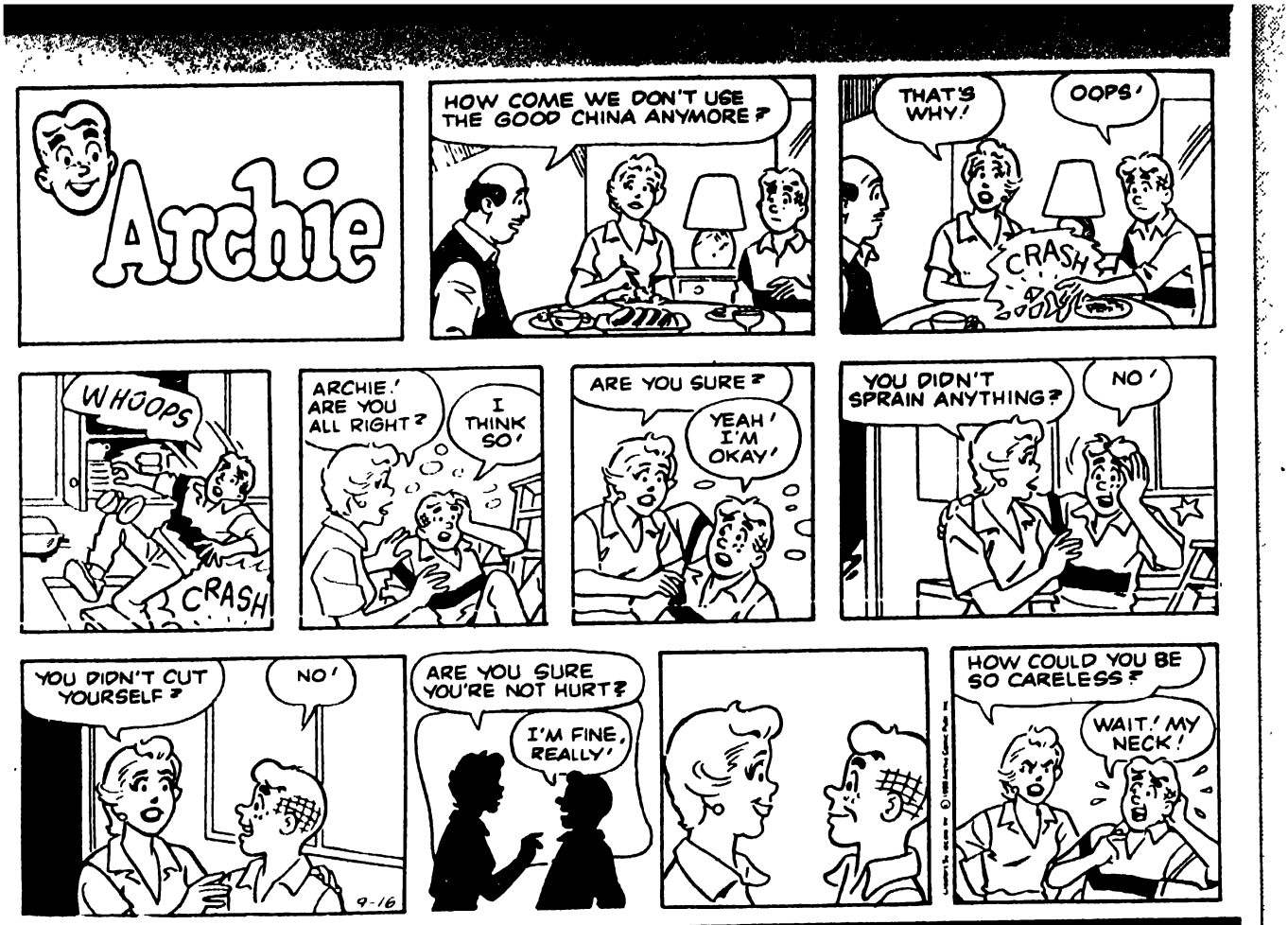


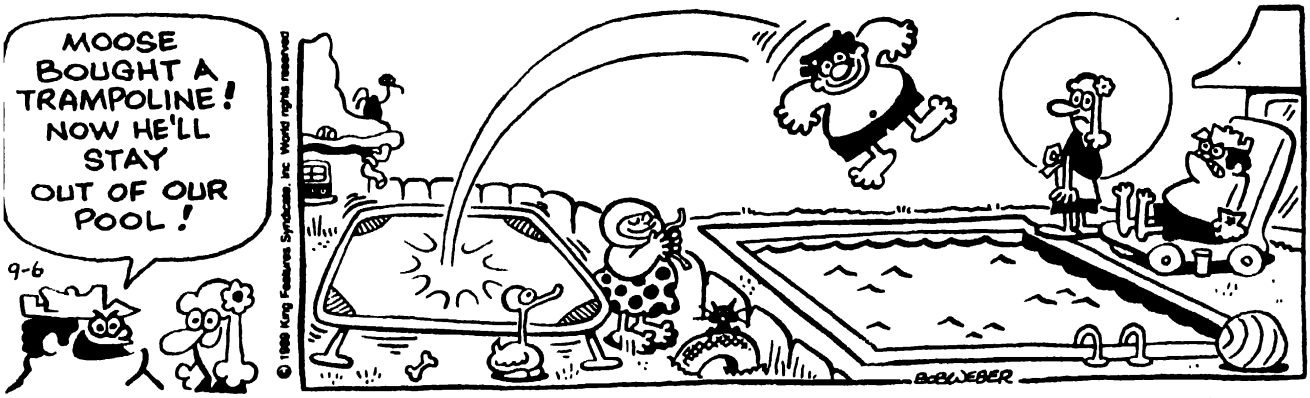


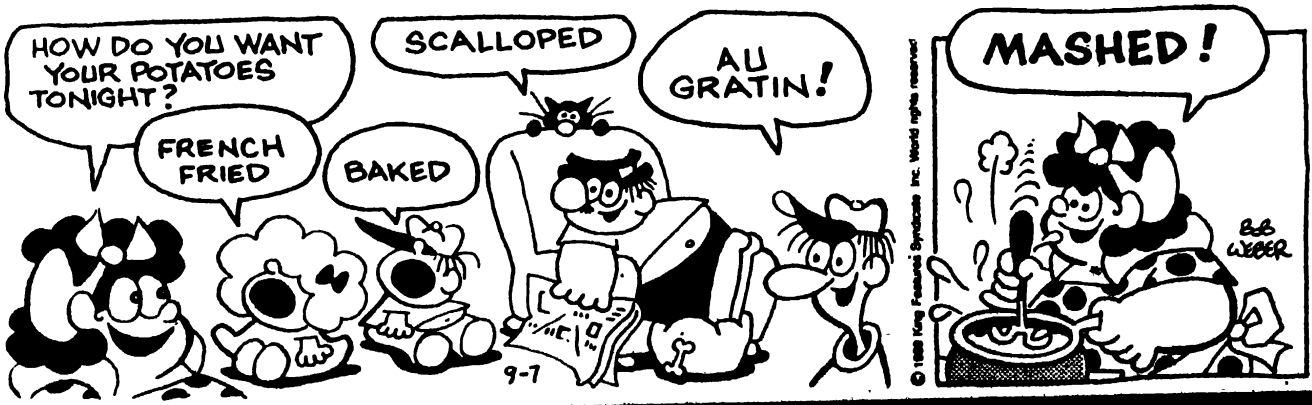


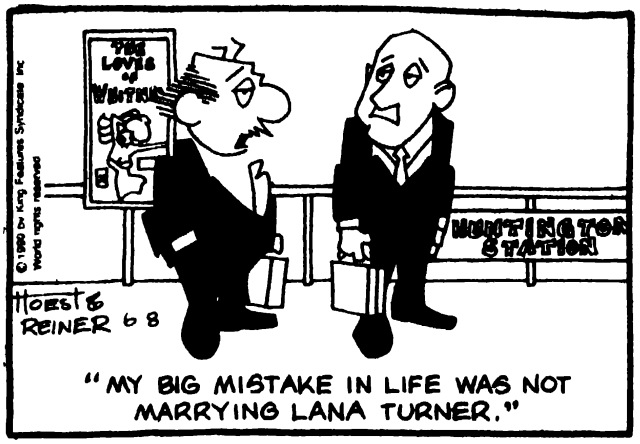
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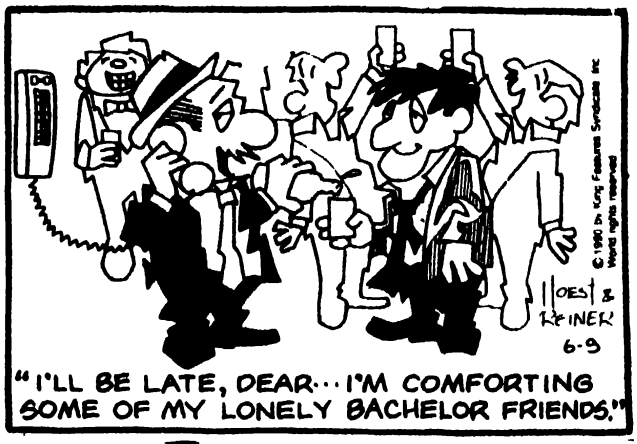


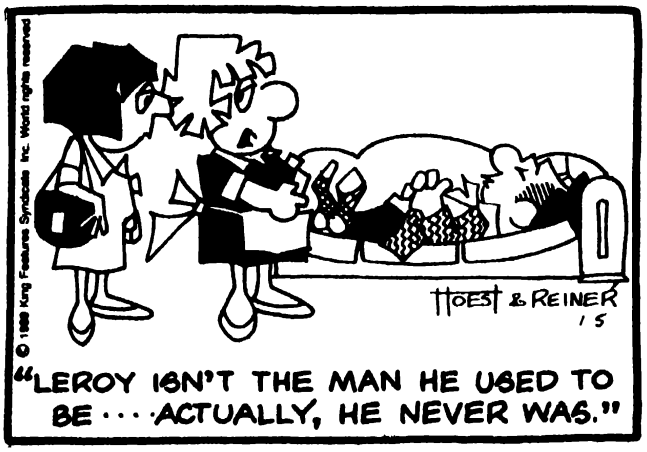

Archie
HOW COME WE DON'T UGE THE GOOD CHINA ANYMORE?
THAT'S WHY!
OOPS!
CRASH
WHOOPS
CRASH
ARCHIE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I THINK SO!
ARE YOU SURE?
YEAH! I'M OKAY!
YOU DIDN'T SPRAIN ANYTHING?
NO!
YOU DIDN'T CUT YOURSELF?
NO!
9-16
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT HURT?
I'M FINE, REALLY!
HOW COULD YOU BE SO CARELESS?
WAIT! MY NECK!


MOOSE BOUGHT A TRAMPOLINE! NOW HE'LL STAY OUT OF OUR POOL!
9-6
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BOB WEBER


HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR POTATOES TONIGHT?
FRENCH FRIED
BAKED
SCALLOPED
AU GRATIN!
9-7
MASHED!
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BOB WEBER

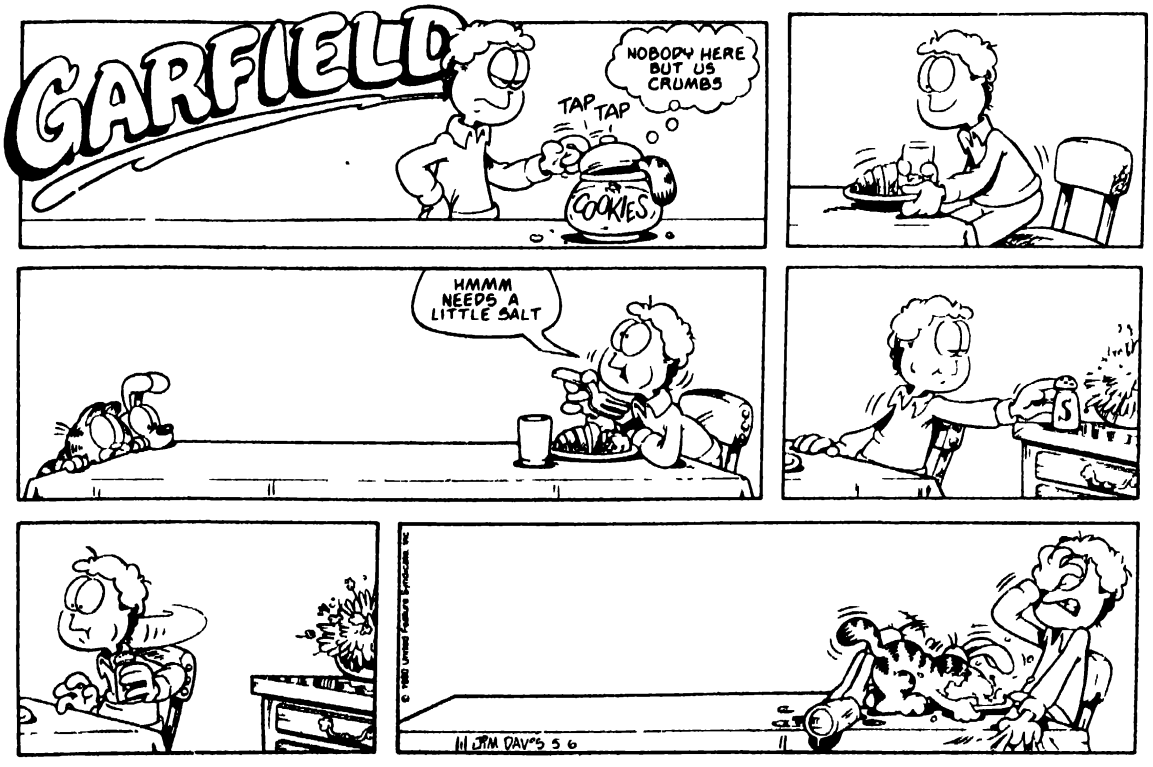








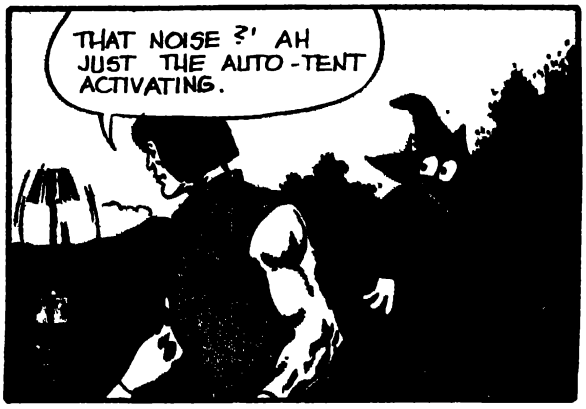
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP



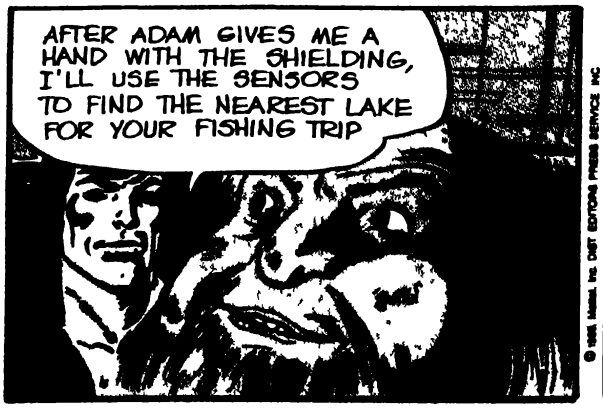






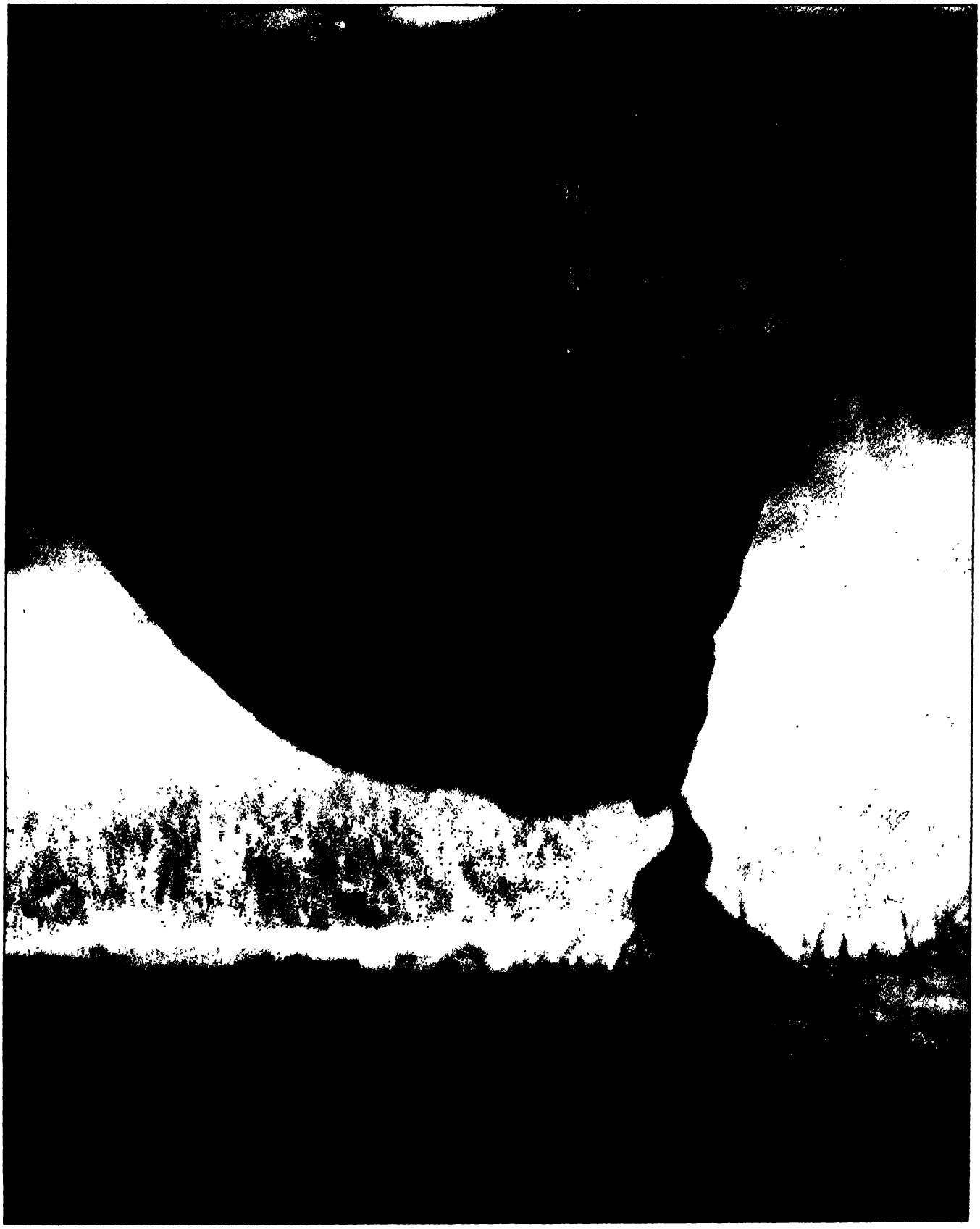




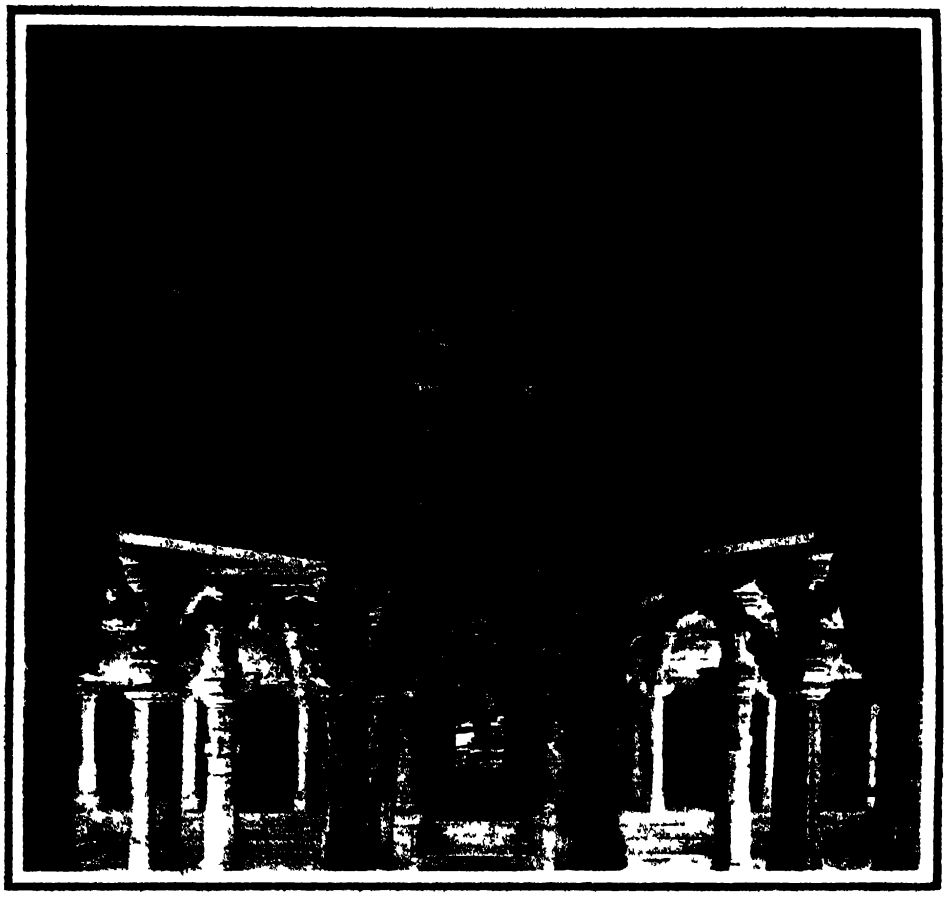


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Photograph: **Bindu Arora**



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

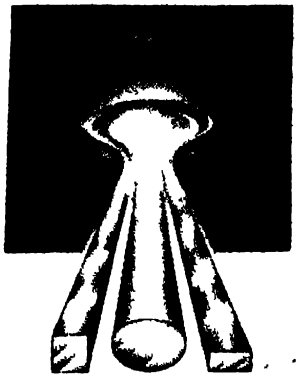
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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from Kelvinator



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Mutual 5120d

Chopper Warfare

Your cover story, 'Muscle in the Sky', by S. Srinivasan (August 12) was superb and the photographs are worth collecting. However, there were a few discrepancies in the article.

Mi-24 'Hind' helicopter gunships used by the Soviet Union in the Afghan war faced a serious threat from shoulder launched heat seeking Stinger missiles which largely rendered them ineffective against the Mujahideen. Medium range Scud missiles had to be used by the Afghan government to offset the disadvantage.

Pakistan has at least two squadrons of Bell AH-1S Huey Cobra attack helicopters armed with TOW anti-tank missiles. They also possess Alouette III, Puma, and Lama helicopters which can be modified to the attack/gunship modes as well as the ubiquitous (though ageing) UH-1 helicopter that was the workhorse of the Vietnam war.



Attack helicopter: In vogue

The first widespread use of helicopters was during the Korean War by the USA. Large numbers of Sikorsky S-55 and S-52s were used during the war mainly as ambulances or commando carriers. Towards the closing stages of World War II the US and British forces used a few Sikorsky R-4 and Hoverfly helicopters. The Germans also used a few Focke Angelis FW-61 helicopters. In World War II helicopters were used only for liaison duties though the Germans did attempt to manufacture in quantity Flettner helicopters for shipboard anti-submarine patrols. But they could not be used due to the factories being destroyed in Allied bombing.

Reza Sami,
Patna

■ With the pressing into service of more and more sophisticated radar systems, the helicopters are poised to play a significant role in modern warfare.

The Siachen episode in which Group captain T.P.S. Chhatwal had as many as 48 sorties in the face of heavy enemy fire is a clear indication that we, too, are using them to great effect.

The distinguished services of Chhatwal deserve the whole-hearted appreciation of a grateful nation.

Julian Sunil Martin Roy, Calcutta

Dream Project

It was surprising to see that not a single leading citizen of Calcutta could dream up a situation where there would be no power cuts ('Not Too Old for Gift', August 5).

The time has come when we should not entertain elitist dreams of art museums, state-of-the-art theatres, India International Centres, etc. Instead let us have a city with uninterrupted power supply, good roads and proper transport facilities. That would be a real dream project.

Manisha Choubey,
Calcutta

■ If someone had asked me about my dream project for Calcutta on its tercentenary, I would have unhesitatingly dedicated the Agri-Horticultural Society of India to the people. Why cannot it be converted into a garden like Wisely, or even better?

The sprawling garden on Alipore Road which was founded in 1820 by Rev. William Carey was embellished with many rare and exotic plant species and brought to limelight by the Society's two most illustrious secretaries, Percy J. Lancaster and his son, Sidney Percy-Lancaster.

It was perhaps beyond their imagination that one day this 21-acre of open space would come in handy for jogging and sweating out by the obese rich of Alipore.

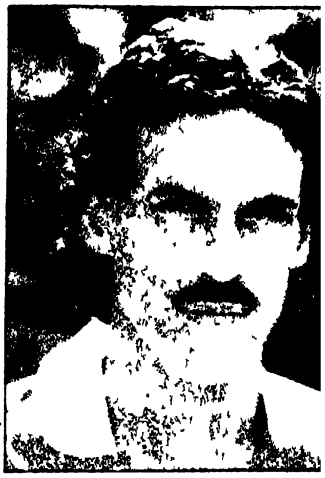
P. Das Gupta,
Calcutta

Sunil Gavaskar

I was very glad to see the picture of our old school, Mutty Loll Seal's Free College in Heritage (August 26). I may inform you that the eminent linguist Suniti Kumar Chatterjee whose birth centenary was observed recently was a student of this school and passed the Entrance examination from here.

P. Sinha,
Calcutta

The Telegraph
23 SEPTEMBER 1990



Subhajit Pal

Having played for 18 years, one would have thought that Subrata Bhattacharya was over the hill. But he has been doing a Roger Milla on the Maidan all over again.

Window watching can be an aesthetic exercise as well. A photofeature on some of the snazziest showrooms in town.

It is a sorry spectacle when you find some of the historic ships of the world rotting in neglect. A report

SECTIONS

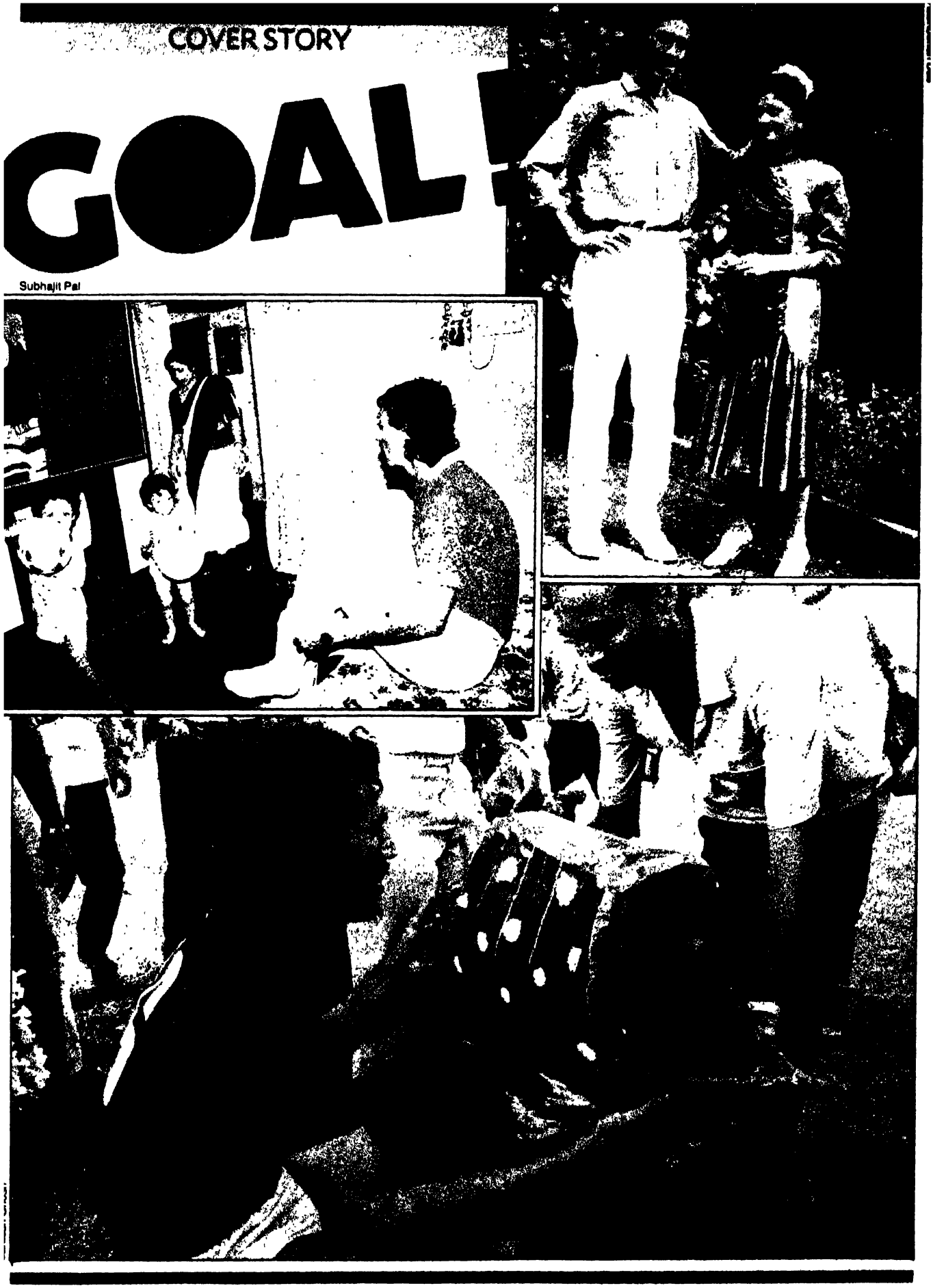
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25 Comics
30 Candid Camera

Cover Santosh Ghosh

COVER STORY

GOAL!

Subhajit Pal



It was a party fit for a king. They had come in thousands, long before the show was to begin. Even after every inch of space in the galleries had been occupied, there were still thousands more clamouring for tickets Over 10,000 resigned themselves to a view from the Fort William ramparts. Others were on nearby trees or on the stands of Eden Gardens across the road In short, they were everywhere

The celebrations began early The sea of waving flags, of bobbing heads, of posters and cutouts The deafening roar as a hundred different slogans rent the air The sound of bursting crackers, the smell of cordite It all made for a throwback to the heady days of the Seventies

Mohun Bagan were poised to end a three-year drought in the Calcutta League but the fans had assembled in such huge numbers to also witness another very important happening. Subrata Bhattacharya, or Bablu as he is known, was playing his last league match

As the afternoon wore on, nobody was quite sure which of the two events was more important Nobody really bothered For the two were inseparable. Subrata and Mohun Bagan Subrata and the 1990 Calcutta League title Under an autumn sky on this Saturday afternoon, they merged and the synthesis produced an atmosphere the Maidan had rarely seen

"I can't remember anyone getting such a farewell," commented Chuni Goswami, arguably the most charismatic footballer the Maidan has ever produced Gosto Pal, Ahmed Khan, Rahim, 'PK' Banerjee, Appa Rao, Venkatesh, Saleh. Calcutta's list of legendary footballers is never-ending, but none of them got the sort of send-off that Subrata can now boast of Yet, in terms of football skills, Subrata has never been in the same class as these players His international career never took off like it did for some of his predecessors, he was essentially the Maidan man, the Mohun Bagan man But, on the Maidan where reputations are made and destroyed overnight, he was part of a rare breed of survivors

Twenty-two years is a long time Especially if it has been spent mired in shattering controversies even as the struggle to meet the exacting demands of Calcutta football's big league continued Long after his contemporaries had left the rough and tumble of competitive football for relatively sedentary pursuits like coaching and club administration, Subrata had stayed back

Opposite page: With co-star Sumita of *Bhalobasha* (top); in his Golf Green flat with wife Lata, daughter Mem and son Saheb (centre); and receiving the Mohun Bagan Club symbol after his last league match



Santosh Ghosh

Their hero, Bablu

Subrata Bhattacharya has never known how to stay out of the news. After two action-packed decades on the Maidan, most of them with Mohun Bagan, he is going out in a blaze of glory. ARUP CHATTERJEE looks at the man behind the player

Defying age, the lanky stopper-back fought for a berth in the first XI, coming into direct conflict with several coaches and teammates Things reached a head during the last couple of years when a coach resigned describing him as a "cancerous growth on Mohun Bagan " He got into frequent tiffs with junior players in the team and was even involved in an assault on a referee during a league match last year

"They were the darkest days of my career," says Subrata between sips of tea in his well-maintained apartment in Golf Green "There were a number of people in the club eager to see the end of my career I was under tremendous mental strain " But Subrata emerged from the gloom to stage a most spectacular comeback this year.

The battle-scarred 38-year-old carried

SHOOT! SHOT

1968: East Bengal (debut at Maidan)

1969, 1970: Bally Pragati (first division)

1971 to 1973: BNR

1974 to 1990: Mohun Bagan

First division I match: Bally Pragati vs BNR (1969)

First match for Mohun Bagan: versus Police AC (Calcutta League, 1974)

First goal for Mohun Bagan: versus Bandhu Memorial (now Railway XI), 16.6.75 from penalty.

Total goals for Mohun Bagan: 58, including 11 from tie-breaker shoot-outs.

Five or more goals in a season: 6 (1979), 6 (1981), 8 (1990, till 30.9.90).

Most scoring in Calcutta League: 8 (1990, second best scorer for Mohun Bagan behind Sishir Ghosh). Subrata has scored in the League every season except 1974 and 1985.

Mohun Bagan's success during Subrata's stay: Calcutta League champions: 7 times, runners-up: 3, IFA Shield champions: 8, runners-up: 4, Federation Cup champions: 6, runners-up: 3, Durand Cup champions: 8, runners-up: 4, Federation Cup champions: 6, runners-up: 3, Durand Cup champions: 8, runners-up: 4, Rovers Cup champions: 5, runners-up: 2. Mohun Bagan won the "triple crown" of Indian football (IFA Shield, Durand Cup and Rovers Cup) for the only time under Subrata's captaincy in 1977.

First Mohun Bagan-East Bengal match: Durand Cup semi-final, 1974. Mohun Bagan won 1-0.

Compiled by Hariprasad Chattopadhyay

Mohun Bagan almost single-handedly to the coveted Calcutta league title, scoring six goals in the process. Three of these goals came against the other giants of Calcutta football, East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting—a unique feat for someone who has earned his reputation as a stopper-back.

Under contract to play till the end of the season sometime early next year, it is already turning out to be a fairytale end to a career that had its modest beginnings in the bustling suburban town of Shyamnagar.

The Maidan will not be quite the same once Subrata hangs up his boots. He has, in turns, been despised and worshipped but never, never has he been far from the minds of thousands of football buffs of this city. With him one of the last of the cult figures of Calcutta football will have left.

The retirement of a 38-year-old from a game as demanding as football can hardly come as a surprise but with Subrata nothing could ever be taken for granted. He not only kept his opponents on the field guessing but also had club officials, fans and the Press running in circles trying to fathom his every next move. Now a hero, now a villain, he never looked uncomfortable in either role, seemingly unperturbed by what people thought of his achievements or actions. He had his own style.

During his chequered career, Subrata had almost regular brushes with the establishment. He was reported against by the manager after a tour with the Indian team and also earned the dubious distinction of facing a disciplinary board during his first camp with the India probables. But, if Subrata earned notoriety through his various on and off-the-field actions, he had another side to match.

He has been a friend in need to his teammates, rallying behind them as they fought for their dues or helping them in times of personal crisis. He has found jobs for needy persons, donated or raised money to help people he had never met before tide over a major operation or a daughter's marriage. In an age when the lure of a few extra bucks have footballers switching clubs every so often Subrata has stayed with Mohun Bagan ever since he joined the club 16 years ago. And, almost always, the club has turned to the veteran whenever the chips have been down on the football field. Subrata has delivered the goods on most occasions but even when he failed, the sincerity of his efforts was never in doubt.

Talk of Subrata's retirement is not new. Suggestions that have often turned into strident demands have reared their heads every now and then during the past five or six years. Maidan stalwarts, a section of the supporters, club officials and the Press have all jumped onto the *Subrata hatao* bandwagon from time to time. Over the last three years he has found himself on the sidelines quite often, the coaches saying they were eager to try out younger players. Adding fuel to the speculation have been Subrata's periodic utterances that he had had enough and was contemplating retirement. But he kept coming back like a bad penny.

"It's different this time," he says "I had a point to prove. I have done that now." Then, with the jaws tightening, he adds: "I've been through hell during these last couple of years and the fear of failure gnawed at me. I knew if I slipped the vultures would be over me. It affected my spontaneity on the field and thus my game. But I was never going to give up, I never lost faith in myself and now I've been vindicated."

Though some of the legacy of his fiery outbursts still remain (he has to present himself in court regularly to answer charges filed by Pradip Nag, the referee of that violence-marred match of July 15 last year), his amazing resurgence has helped take a great burden off his shoulders. The bitterness towards those he thinks have wronged him has lost its intensity, replaced instead by almost a



Subhajit Pal

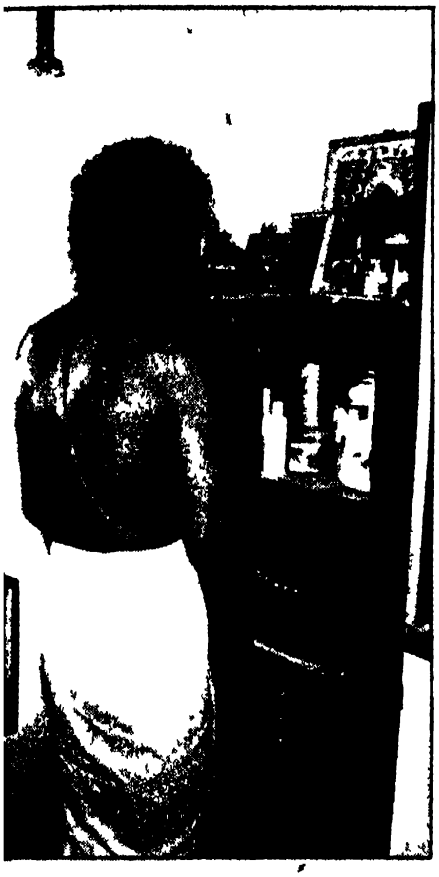
Thanking the Lord

sympathetic understanding of how circumstances force people to behave. There is even the hint of remorse in him. "I've never shied away from protesting against a wrong and I'll never do so," he says, "but, yes, I agree, the way I've gone about it at times was not right. I wish such incidents had never happened."

The urge to prove himself has been one of the main driving forces, but Subrata's longivity can also be explained by the tremendous joy he derives from just playing the game. "No, that has never left me, even in the worst of times." Thus, it has never been a problem to remain one of the most regular at the morning practice sessions, and the intensity with which he goes through the daily menu puts players years junior to him to shame. "I actually enjoy the practice sessions—a couple of dribbles, a few good passes, a goal, and I

could be flushed for hours."

It is this passion for football that drove the gangling young man from the early confines to become an all-time big name on the Maidan. His mother, who has been Subrata's main inspiration, bought him his first pair of boots after pawning her necklace when he graduated to a district affiliated club in 1966. Subrata now moves around in a Maruti, smokes expensive



brands of cigarettes.. the contrast is staggering but he insists he is still that boy from Shyamnagar

The small suburban towns have always been a lifeline to Calcutta football, maintaining a steady supply of players and sending supporters by the thousands to help keep the turnstiles busy. Shyamnagar, an hour's ride by train from Sealdah was no different, only it already had some big names to boast of. Mahavir Prasad, Kesto Pal, Ashokelal Banerjee, Prasanta Mitra had planted this bustling town on India's football map. But, for young Subrata, there was the added advantage of being born into a family of footballers. His uncles and elder brothers were turning out regularly in district tournaments.

"Olympian Kesto Pal was a friend of one of my uncles and a frequent visitor to our

Subrata Pal



Milla on the Maidan

home," says Subrata, explaining the ambience into which he was thrown straightaway "He was then playing for Mohun Bagan and his visits were tremendous occasions for us Then my brothers and uncles would come home with trophies and these added to my enthusiasm, I've wanted to be a footballer ever since I can remember "

Football has always been the obvious choice for the multitude of youngsters in the districts, mainly because it is economically the most viable Subrata was soon to join the thousands of other budding footballers, kicking a rubber ball around 'for the sheer joy of playing " Under height tournaments (for those below four feet 10 inches) were being organised everywhere and Subrata became a highly sought-after player He recalls how, as a nine-year-old, he was thrilled to receive the "best player" award at one of these tournaments from P K Banerjee, who had just returned



from the Asian Games where India had picked up the gold in football.

In 1966, Subrata joined Juger Pratik, a local district affiliated club for which some of his brothers and uncles were still playing. Within two years he was turning out for 24-Parganas in the IFA Shield and also playing power league for East Bengal.

"In those days, spotters from the clubs in Calcutta used to go hunting for talent in the districts and it was Usha Chowdhury who brought me to East Bengal," remembers Subrata. "My father came to see me off at the station and, though I was already a 15-year-old and quite capable of taking care of myself, he made it a point to repeat all the instructions he had already drilled into me. One was that I should not talk to strangers and board nothing but the No. 12 tram from Sealdah.

"The morning haze had not quite cleared when I found myself in front of the East Bengal gate. I stood gawking at the big names of Calcutta football as they made their way for practice till someone—I think it was Nileshwar Roy—asked me if I had any business."

Subrata's performances in the IFA Shield drew the attention of several clubs on the Maidan. Bally Protiva's Rana Chakraborty, younger brother of international referee Protul, was the first to react. Subrata turned out for Bally Protiva in 1969 and 1970, the club making the super league (the top five teams of the first division league qualified for the super league stage in those days and the title was decided between them) in 1969 and just failing to repeat the feat the next year.

Subrata had by then also managed to get a job with the BSF and was posted at Barrackpore. In 1970, his second year in Barrackpore, Mohun Bagan played an exhibition match against BSF at Lal Bagan and then BNR came for a match in preparation for the all-India Railway tournament. "We drew 2-2 with Mohun Bagan and 1-1 with BNR," recalls Subrata. "It was Debu Ghosh who asked me if I'd like to play for BNR and I was soon making my way to the railway office in Garden Reach."

On February 5, 1971, Subrata signed for BNR and on May 5 he was given a job there. "The salary was a big jump from what I was picking up in Barrackpore and it was a boost to our very large family (Subrata has three brothers and two sisters)."

Subrata made his debut in the Santosh Trophy in 1973 (for Railways) where he did enough to earn a call to the preparatory camp for the Mardeka tournament. The lanky stopper-back, conspicuous by his clean-shaven head (he had just had his sacred thread ceremony), was also creating quite an impression on the Maidan that same year as he stood out in almost every game for BNR. Both East Bengal and Mohun Bagan officials had taken note. Satu Chakraborty, the former hockey player and then an official of Mohun Bagan took Subrata to Dhiren Dey after the IFA Shield in October for preliminary talks.

"But I almost joined East Bengal," says Subrata, recounting the drama before the 1974 inter-club transfers. "I was then being held at one of the East Bengal hideouts. I had made up my mind to sign for the club. I told the officials a day before the transfers were to begin that I wanted to go home before I signed the next day. I was allowed to leave and went to my aunt's place in Beliaghata on my way home. I was then that Chuni Goswami and Gaju Bose were tipped off by a friend of mine and the two came and accompanied me to Shyamnagar. My parents were just too overawed by the presence of Chunida and it was soon decided that I should join Mohun Bagan.



Subhajit Pal

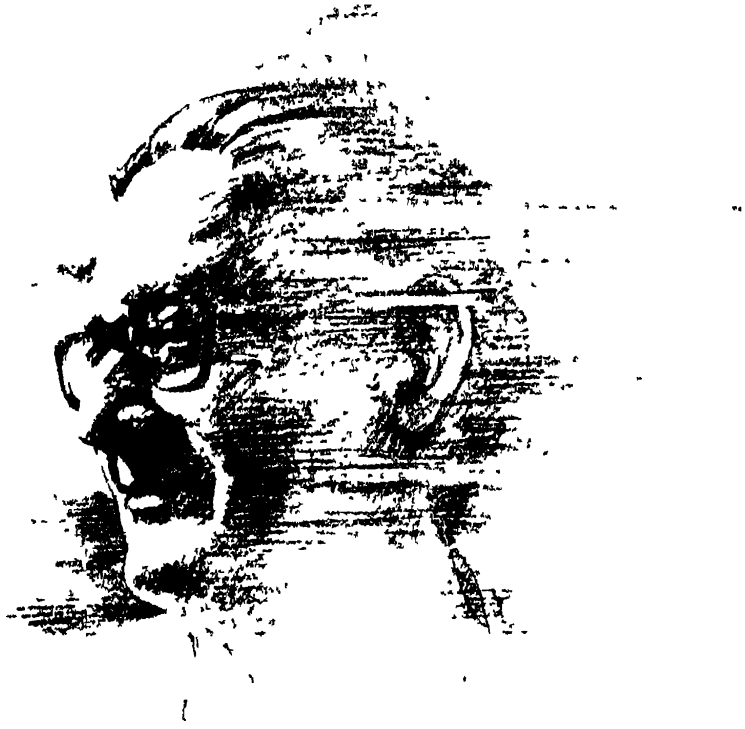
Looking back in triumph

"The next day, a horde of toughs from East Bengal were swarming around the IFA office but they were misdirected by that friend of mine and, in the little time they found, Mohun Bagan officials had me sign in their favour before whisking me away." It was to be the beginning of a long, and sometimes, torrid association.

If, after the ups and downs, Subrata is signing off in style, it is thanks to a "change in the attitudes of Mohun Bagan officials" and the presence of P.K. Banerjee in their ranks. "Pradipda understands me more than any other coach," he insists. "He has worked with me and I have always been benefitted by the encouragement. The shackles are off me once again." In the absence of the main striker Sishir Ghosh, now serving a ban for on-field violence, 'PK' has utilised Subrata's height and hunger for goals to telling effect.

Interestingly, Subrata started as a forward and it was only in early 1969 that circumstances forced him to become a defender. Ashokelal Banerjee failed to turn up for a match one day and Juger Pratik coach Murari Sur asked Subrata to fill the slot in the three-man defence line. "I discovered I was very comfortable in that position," says Subrata. There was no looking back.

Subrata's ability to hold the attention of the football-loving Calcuttans has been exploited by Tollygunge and he has already acted in five feature films. But his real life image has always been larger than any character he has portrayed on-screen. Long after the final kick is taken and the crowds melt away, people are sure to say: "This was a man." ■



Autumn Sonata

Three days from now is Saptami. The auspicious day also marks **Hemant Kumar**'s first death anniversary. Just two of his classic Hindi numbers to remember him by

Ya dil ki suno duniyawalon...

(Film: *Anupama*; music Hemant Kumar; lyric: Kaifi Azmi)

Let my heart cry out, my fellowmen,
Or, then, let me keep silent,
How can I dub my grief, happiness;
Those who can, let them do so.
Let my heart cry out, my fellowmen...

'Tis a wonder how this flower bloomed
When there was no love in the gardener's eyes.
I have seen so much with a smile,
Now the tears run; so let them run,
Let my heart cry out, my fellowmen...

Not a single joyous dream have I seen,
If ever I have, I remember it not.
You couldn't give me what I desired,
What you've given me, now let me bear.
Let my heart cry out, my fellowmen...

Who can suffer another's pain?
Who has that depth in him?
The running tears are in full flow,
Now, let me seek comfort in them.
Let my heart cry out, my fellowmen...

Na yeh chand hoga...

(Film: *Shart*; music: Hemant Kumar; lyric: S.H. Bihari)

This moon will no longer be,
Nor will these stars;
But I will, forever,
Remain yours.

If I'm torn away from you or vanish,
Deem not that I don't love you;
Wherever I remain, I will be yours,
This moon will no longer be...

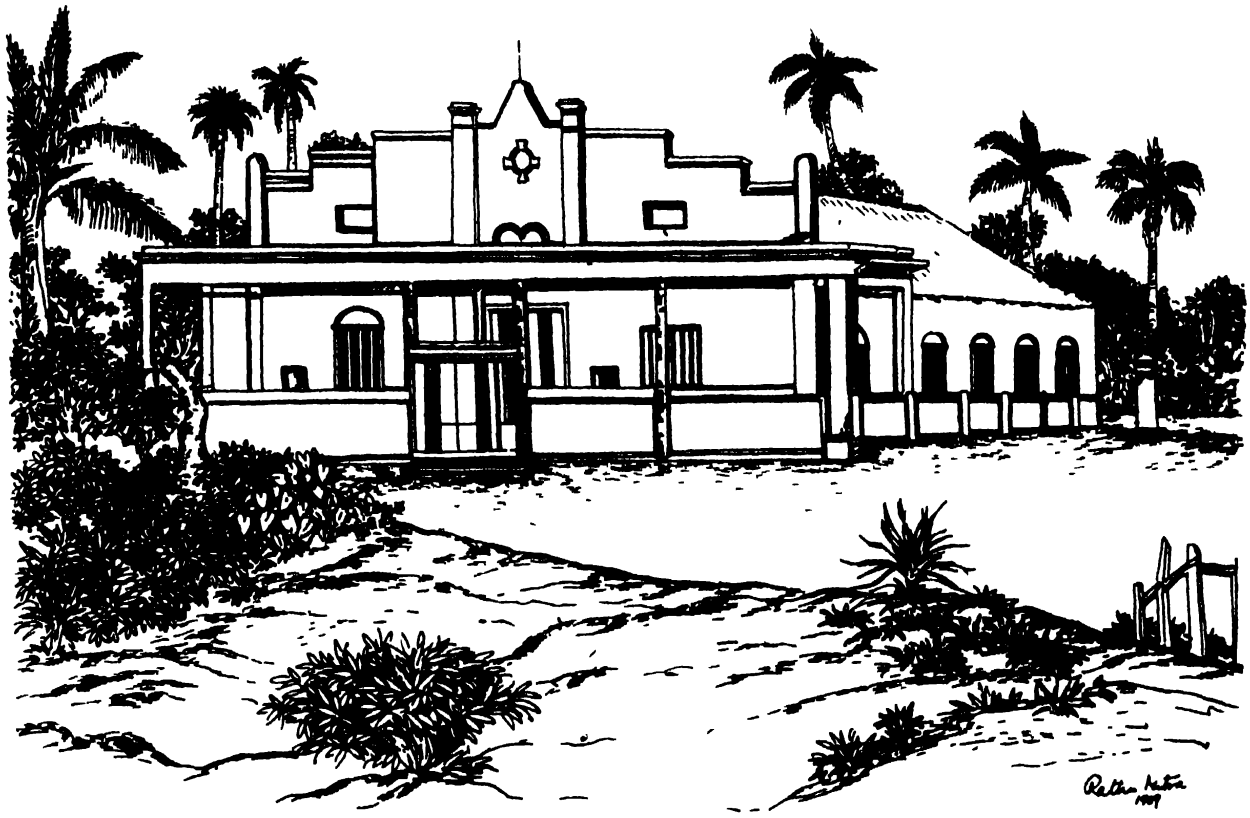
Let the world say anything, it matters not;
But you don't believe that I'm unfaithful.
I have been yours, and will remain yours,
This moon will no longer be...

That this would be my lot, I never dreamt,
My nest was scarce completed that it was razed.
Oh, where will the lovelorn seek shelter now?
This moon will no longer be...

Translated by Anil Grover



RAJ NARAIN BOSE (1826-99)



Born into the well-known Bose family of Boral (24 Parganas), West Bengal, on September 7, 1826, renowned educationist Raj Narain Bose had his primary education at the village *pathsala*. At the age of 8, he joined Hare School. He had the unique distinction of having his answer papers at various school examinations published in some of the leading newspapers.

After passing out from Hindu College with a thorough mastery over English language and literature, Bose worked as well-known litterateur Akshay Kumar Dutt's assistant in editing the vernacular magazine, *Tattwabodhini Patrika*. Here he came in close contact with the Brahmo Samaj and began to preach Brahmoism.

From May 1848 till February 1851 he worked as Second Teacher of the Hindu College. Later he was appointed headmaster of Midnapore H.E. School. Besides sermons and preachings at the Midnapore Brahmo Samaj, Bose is remembered for his active participation in the widow remarriage movement at Midnapore.

Bose has authored a number of books of which *Past and Present* and *Essays on the Bengalee Language* deserve mention in the field of Bengali literature; the former is enlivened throughout with harmless humour. Owing to various work pressures he fell a prey to cerebral complaints that necessitated his retirement in 1869. Since then he lived mostly in Deoghur where he died on September 19, 1899.

The sketch above shows Bose's ancestral home at Boral which now houses a primary school.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

Partnerships at all levels and a dose of hard work are the main trends of the week Watch your health specially the last three days of the week Despite frustration romance plays a positive part in your life There is a definite chance to bag a contract, make money, hurdle over obstacles and work overtime Around the 24th, news, views and messages could lead to a journey

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Journey, ceremony loans, funds and investments are the week s highlights Children give joy Research leads to recognition You will have your fill of romance New projects ventures and undertakings are favourably signified It is time to move or at least finalise plans for doing so Back, kidney and breathing posers are likely

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Romance hobby property and a pleasure event await you The home will clamour for your time and attention The financial graph shows an upward trend Investments are foretold Romance promises an excellent going Your health will be just a case of mind over matter, so learn to do away with worries

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Once again it is time to reach out to people and places by all possible media of transport and communication Home conditions improve In romance, you will come close to your loved one despite a few misunderstandings The financial picture is rosy Slight problems with the stomach and chest are possible

LEO

July 21—August 21

Finances have an upward graph, investments are in order, home and property are highlighted and the week will be exceptionally newsy Romance is your destiny so you will have to fulfil it Health improves, thus allowing you to work and enjoy However, constant pressure could tell upon your health during the last three days of the week



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The new moon helps you to be creative in novative and enterprising Money and familywise a good week Buying and selling are emphasised It is a good time to love, share and cherish No major health problem is foreseen so go right ahead and do what you like Travel will be an affair to remember

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

The main trends are expenses, religious impulses and pilgrimages, travel and tour research and invention Conditions are favourable in romance You could be a wee bit under the weather during the last three days, otherwise your health remains perfect The time is ideal for picnics, outings get-togethers, making the house clean as a new pin, renovation and alteration

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Friendship, fraternity, expenses, a home away from home, religious and spiritual urges, and looking after the ill and needy will keep you busy Your love arrows will play the cupid and hit the heart! Plenty of opportunities in business, profession and job will be available, but you will be spending a great deal too You may have to go for a medical checkup

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Your heart will throb in sympathy for a loved one and the response will be warm In your work you make inroads and poach upon the territory of others Camaraderie and socialising make you happy despite a strong difference of opinion Romance will be warm Get your travel kit ready A slight danger of accident/operation is likely

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

The week calls for hectic communication, collaborations, partnerships, joint finances and team work, and you will be all set to succeed The time is ripe for romance Hard work and ambition could make you feel run down unless you cultivate a hobby or learn to relax

AQUARIUS

Jan 21—Feb 18

Once again loans, funds, shopping, transfers, moves joint finances, insurance, mortgage, secret love and plenty of excitement are highlighted Passion and ecstasy comprise your romance Wait a week for your financial graph to move upwards Minor health ailments are probable, but nothing serious to throw you off your stride

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Romance, wedlock, rapid financial transactions, new partnerships and possibility of a shift or transfer are favourably signified Finances promise a good going Loans and capital will be available Romance will be uneven, but torrid and exciting Nothing much to worry about your health except chronic complaints A major shift is on the cards

BIRTHDAYS

September 23

Moon conjunction Pluto Choices and decisions will have to be made and these could be painful as well as difficult You might have to change your style of working if you want to rake in more money, in short, you will progress if you are prepared to change and adapt

September 24

Moon sextile Sun In your personal as well as professional pursuits you find success and happiness. The home and family come under happy stars. A home away from home is also probable. A lucky birthday.

September 25

Moon-Mars opposition: There will be a few changes, in fact these have begun already and you might have to cope accordingly Be positive but tolerant of views and opin which are diametrically different from yours

September 26

Moon square Venus Your emotional life can stand improvement. Expenses will multiply. Those in the arts and creative pursuits will prove their worth. The trick is to plan on a long-range basis.

September 27

Moon's first quarter: This quarter makes you dynamic, children, home, property and parents will usurp your time and money, and you must do your duty with a smile. You will have to take additional responsibilities.

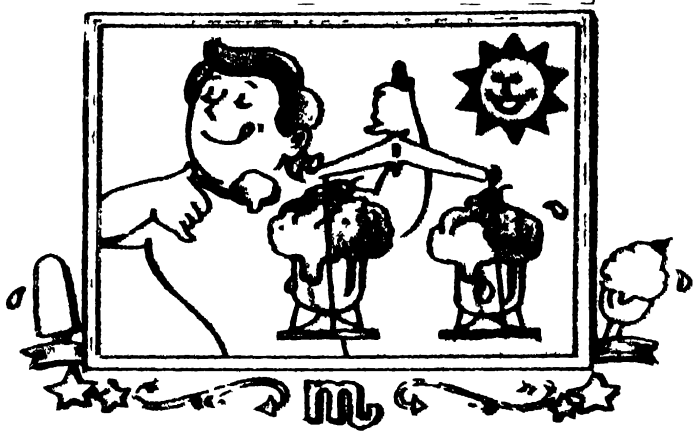
September 28

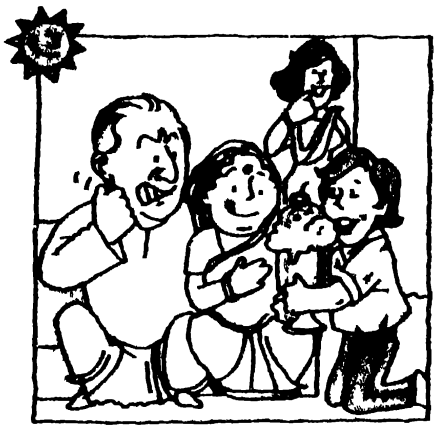
Mercury trine Saturn: You will have the best of both the worlds: the material and the spiritual. A birthyear of wish fulfilment for some of you. Journey, and collaborations are A parting of the ways probable

September 29

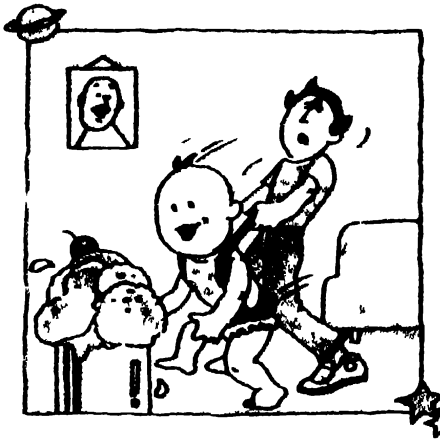
Moon trine Sun: A step at a leads to triumph. Expenses irritations could drain you as the squares Uranus Paradoxically enough, your popularity and fame hit a new high. A birthyear of great contradictions and contrariness. Exciting times ahead.

THE Positive Kwality OF LIBRA





He sweetly smoothens nerves and tempers



His perseverance tests your cool



He keeps our refined pleasures



She has a taste for works of art

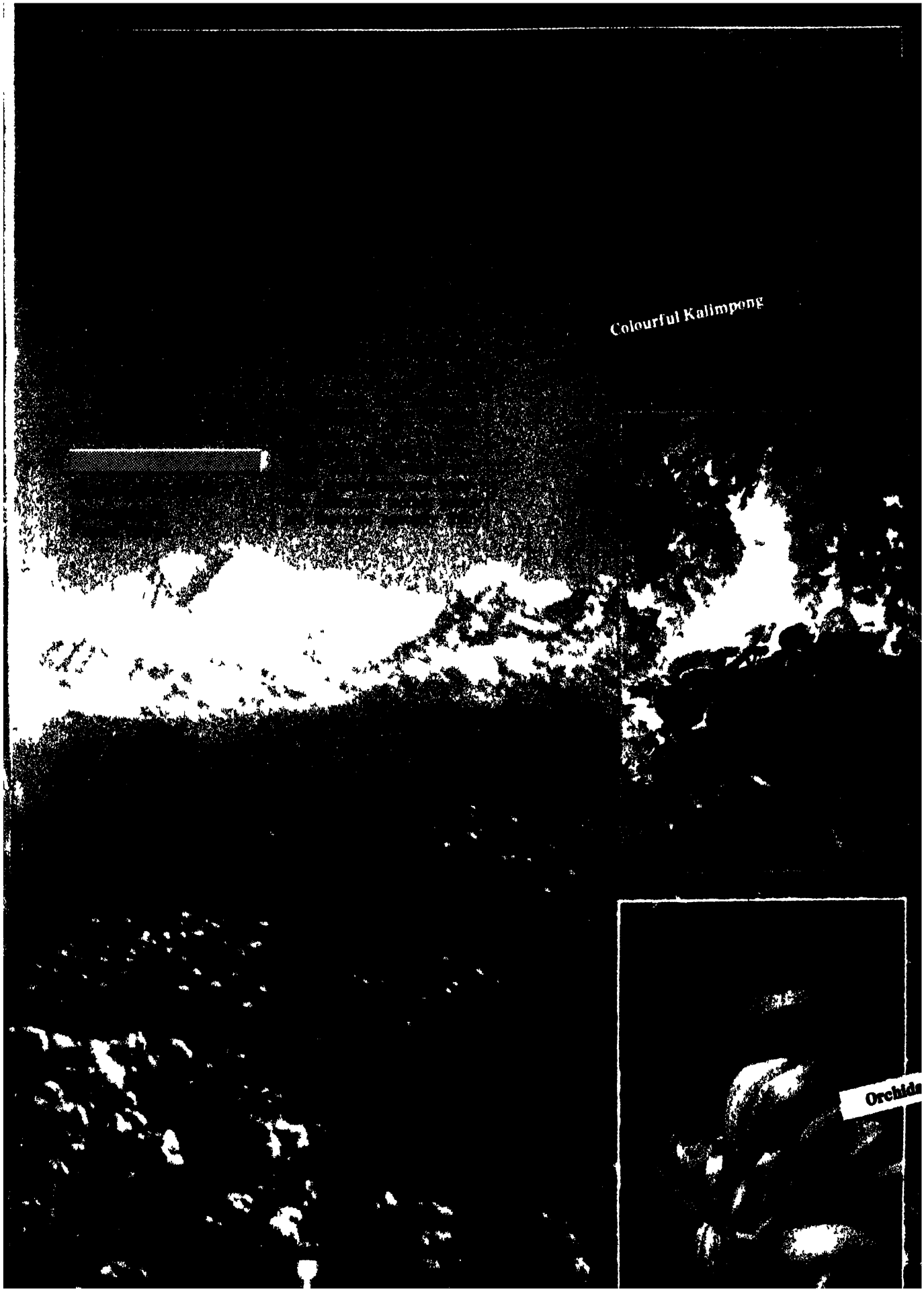


Temptations don't disturb his balance

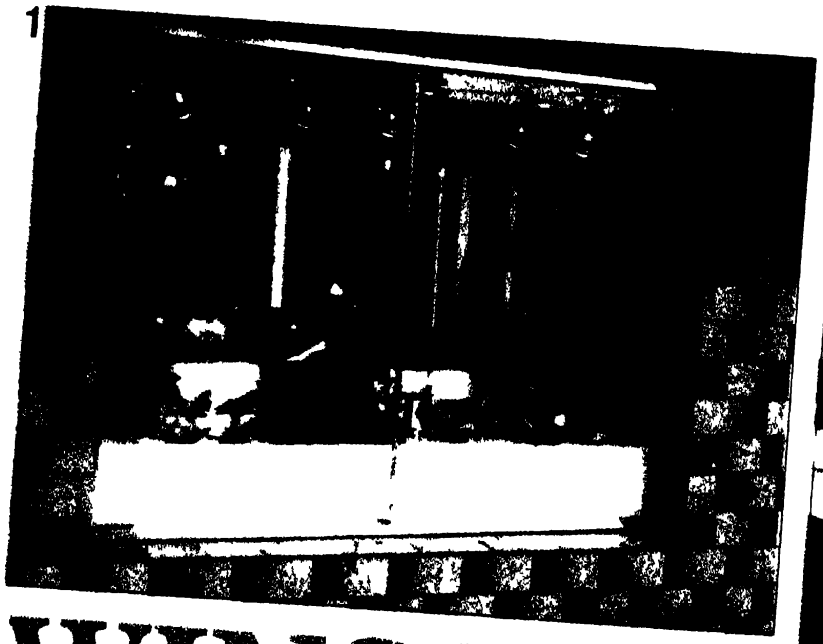


We've all the quality of a real Libran

HTA 4013


Colourful Kalimpong
Orchids

1



WINSOME WINDOWS



1 Bata for ladies near Gol Park

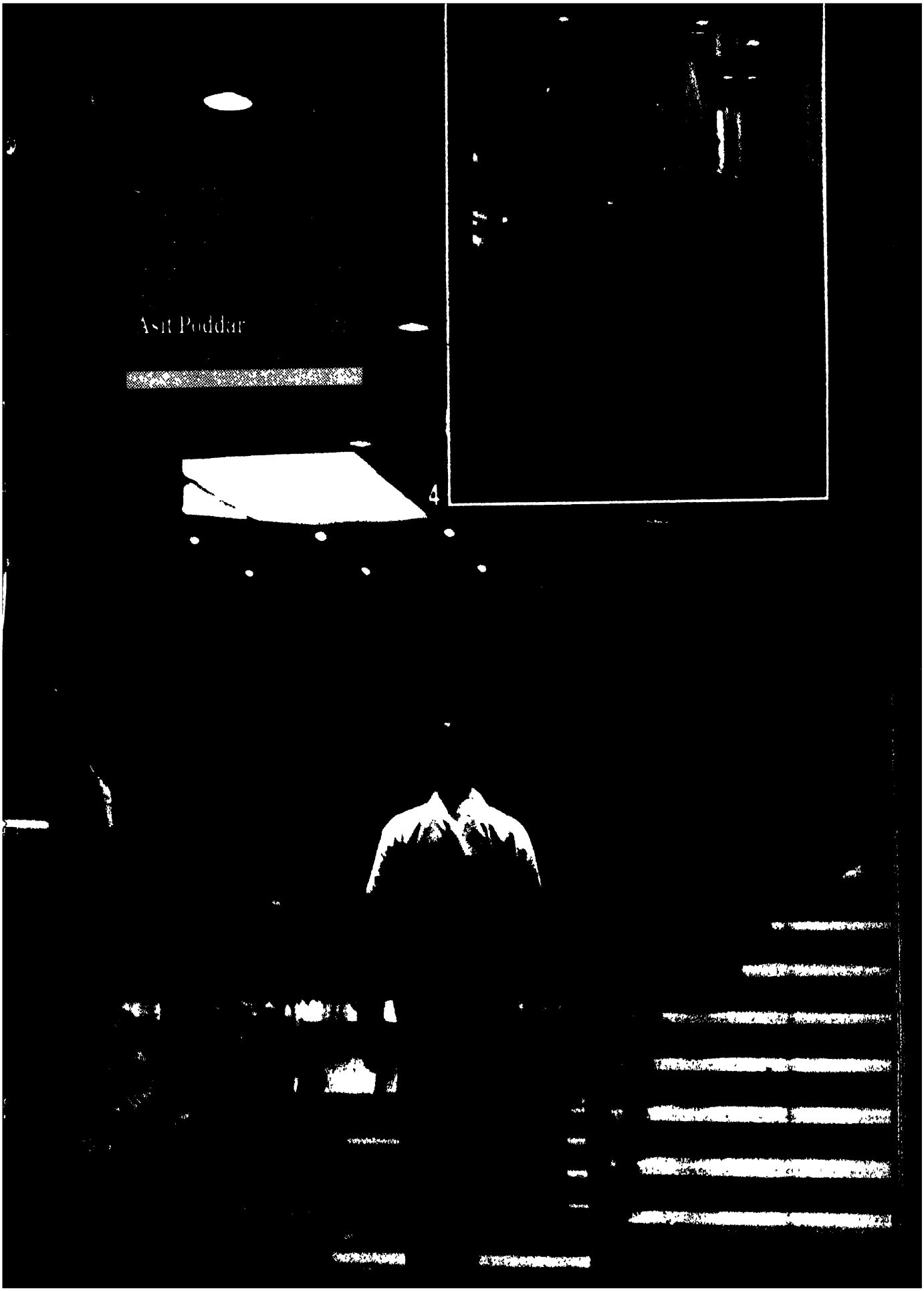
2 Park Avenue of Raymond's on Chowringhee

3 The Cliff showroom at Lindsay Street

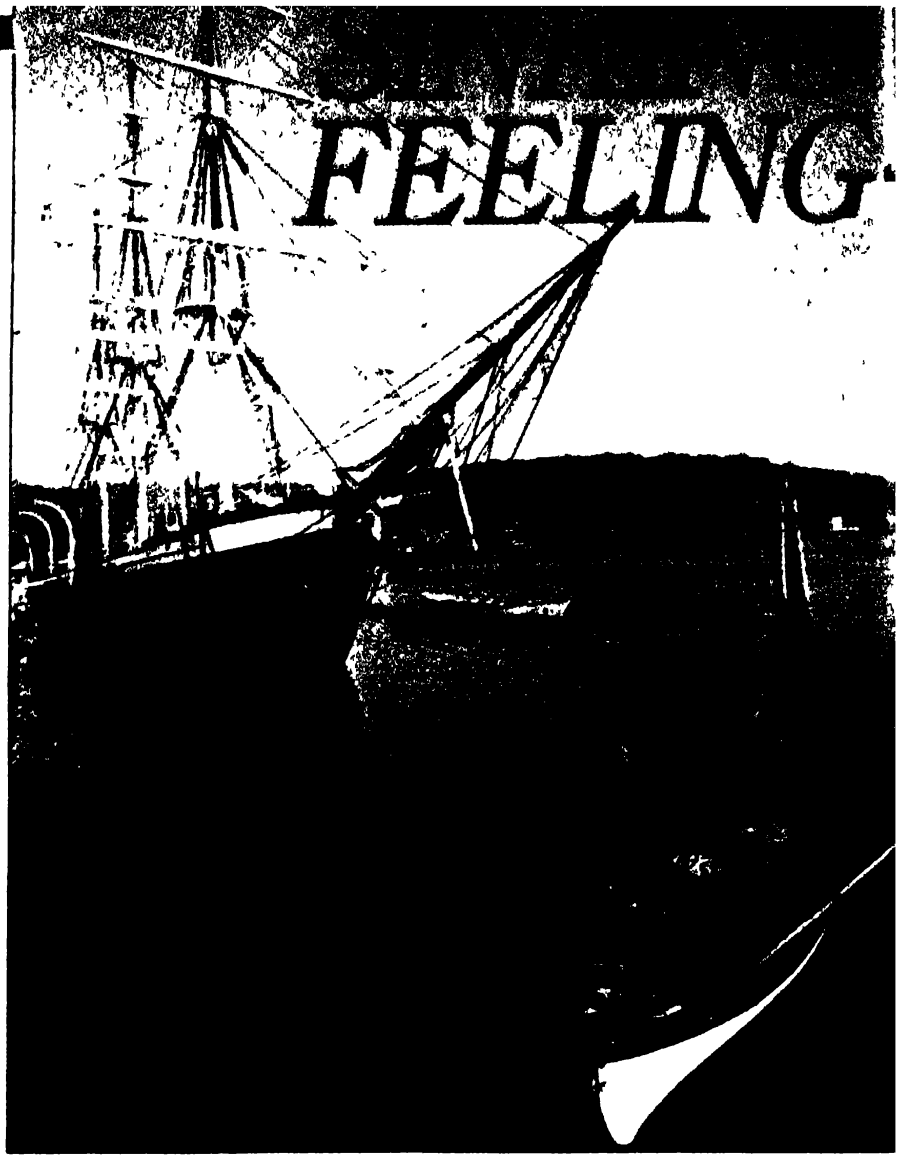
4 B.C. Sen

3




Asit Poddar
4

FEELING



Flagship of the fleet at the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is the Balclutha, a square-rigged sailing ship built by the British in 1886

Her name is Wapama. For a 75-year-old lady who has had a rough life at sea, she could be doing a lot worse.

Wapama, built in Oregon in 1915, is the last survivor of 225 wooden-hulled steam schooners. She spent her early years carrying lumber and passengers on the Pacific Coast. By 1937, under a new owner and a new name, Tongass, she was carrying mail, freight and passengers between Seattle and Alaska.

The state of California saved the decrepit vessel from being scrapped in 1958, restored her former name and turned her over to what was then the San Francisco Maritime State Historic Park.

In 1977 the National Park Service acquired Wapama and other ships in the state park, which became the National Maritime Museum. In 1988 it became the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

Staffworkers at Connecticut's Mystic Seaport make repairs on the bowsprit of the fishing schooner L.A. Dunton



Wapama, meanwhile, continued to suffer the ravages of rush and dry rot. She was placed on a barge and hauled across the bay to the Army Corps of Engineers dock in Sausalito.

Wapama is symptomatic of the plight of the world's historic ships. They are in grave danger of rotting away. Only enormous amounts of money and time will save a select few.

Preservationists everywhere believe—with some reservations—that it is an effort worth making. So do the legions of volunteers whose spare-time labours are essential to every ship-saving project.

"It's not just a job, it's a passion," says James P. Delgado, maritime historian for the National Park Service. "The love for it is contagious."

Delgado, who doubles as head of the National Maritime Initiative, a federal programme to survey the country's maritime resources and recommend appropriate action to save them, probably has looked at more historic ships than anyone else in the United States.

At the latest count, the initiative lists 330 historic American ships, of which 89 have been designated national historic landmarks. Since the initiative began six years ago, 25 potential historic ships have been abandoned or destroyed. Thirty-two others are being restored. Another 24 are laid-up or abandoned, in danger of dying.

"The big problem is money," Delgado says. "We need about $150 million to bring those 330 ships up to tiptop condition and, conservatively, about $7.5 million a year to keep them in that condition." The annual budget for Delgado and his small staff is now about $160,000.

Michael Naab, director of maritime preservation for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, says, "I know of no maritime museum that has a surfeit of good things coming to it right now."

Naab, who drafted the federal standards for historic ships, adopted in 1989, oversaw the Wapama project before joining the trust last year. Of the seven ships in the San Francisco park, six are national landmarks.

Most successful restoration projects succeed as a result of the dedication of one person or a small group, Naab says, combined with four essential elements: public relations, financial know-how, technical expertise and a sense of mission.

In San Francisco, the guiding force behind its fleet is Karl Kortum, chief curator of the park, a blunt-spoken maritime enthusiast now in his 70s. "The federal gov-



The [illegible] Council, docked at Mystic Seaport, was built in Copenhagen in 1882 as [illegible] During World War II she was a US training ship

ernment is the only agency on the face of the Earth that can meet the cost of maintaining this fleet of ships," he says

Even with federal support, however, San Francisco's slowly deteriorating ships are "a case where the magic combinations have not occurred," Naab says

But Kortum's tenacious preservationism has had global impact In 1954, his first acquisition for the San Francisco museum was the Balclutha, an 1886 British-built square-rigger, now the immaculately restored centrepiece of the museum's fleet

Among his other achievements, he has been instrumental in bringing the 1878 Glasgow bark Falls of Clyde to the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, the 1843 Great Britain, the world's first large iron ship, to her home birth in Bristol, England, and the 1885 Wavertree, a British-built full-rigged iron ship, to the South Street Seaport Museum in New York City

Norman J Brouwer, maritime historian and curator of ship restoration at South Street, says that restoration on the Wavertree continues and probably will continue for decades, even with the work of large numbers of weekend volunteers "It's always a race against deterioration "

Brouwer's complaints are underscored by Donald Robinson, vice president for planning at Mystic Seaport in Connecticut, one of the nation's premier maritime museums New England's economic downturn, he says, has reduced visitors to the 61-year-old facility, forcing staff cuts and delaying preservation projects The museum is extending visiting hours and adding entertainment programmes designed to bring in more business

John Carter, director of the Philadelphia Maritime Museum and president of the Council of American Maritime Museums, looks with some envy on the government financial support that many countries, such as Britain, the Scandinavian nations and the Netherlands, give their maritime museums Most preservation money in the United States comes from private sources

Robert Wall of Britain's Maritime Trust put it more emphatically in 1986 before the International Congress of Maritime Museums

"There is no need to continue to pour money—vast sums of money—into whole-ship preservation For those genuinely interested, there exists a rich fund of information about them all over the world They must look to the maritime museums with their archives, paintings, drawings, plans, scale models, and a mass of literature, ancient and modern "

Some of the world's historic ships are foundering from neglect, says **Mercer Cross**

Mystic's Robinson differs Worldwide, 'there are always efforts to find ships and restore them," he says "I think people are more aware of the importance of saving ships To put a ship in a building destroys its significance "

To be sure, many historic ships are so far gone that they must be displayed in museums This is true of Norway's ancient Viking ships and of Vasa, the Swedish naval vessel that sank on her maiden voyage in 1628 She now resides in a special museum in Stockholm

Where will all those old ships be in 100 years? Michael Naab says that he is confident about only one "Old Ironsides," the USS Constitution, a national icon on a par with Plymouth Rock and the Liberty Bell The Constitution, a 1797 frigate berthed at Boston Navy Yard, is a fastidiously maintained vessel still on active naval duty

Peter Stanford, president of the National Maritime Historical Society in Croton-on Hudson, N Y , and the first director of the South Street museum, has devoted much of his life to saving old ships He still has not given up

"Seafaring has always been a mystery to non seafarers," he says "We haven't really dug the channels that will let that interest run the way it should "

"American maritime preservation is at least 20 years behind the times," says Delgado "Ships have been the illegitimate child of historic preservation. It would be a tremendous shame and a great loss for those ships to go beyond the pale, to exist only as photographs or drawings "

(National Geographic News Service)

7 DAYS

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

•**Aaj Ka Arjun** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road 242266) 4 shows

A film by K C Bokadia starring megastar Amitabh Bachchan along with Jaya Prada and Radhika The music is by Bappi Lahiri

•**Aashiqui** Orient (Bentinck Street 281917)

A film by Mahesh Bhatt starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy The music is by Nadeem Shravan

•**Dil** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280111) 4 shows

One of the recent big hits the film stars Aamir Khan Madhuri Dixit and Anupam Kher It is directed by Indra Kumar and the music is by Anand Milind

•**Doodh Ka Karz** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285142) Gem (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road 249828) Krishna (J C Dutta Street 250437) Priya (Rashbehari Avenue 461440) Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515)

Directed by Ashok Gaikwad and with music by Annu Malik the chief attractions are Jackie Shroff Neelam Varsha Usgaonkar and Amrish Puri

•**Jawani Zindabad** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani 241132) 4 shows

Aamir Khan and Farha are the lead pair in this film directed by Arun Bhatt The music is by Anand Milind

•**Paap Ki Kamaee** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383)

Mithun Chakraborty Kumar Goswami Sangeeta Bijlani Shilpa Shirodkar Prem Chopra and Kulbhushan Kharbanda are the main attractions in this film directed by Kewal Sharma The music is by Annu Malik

•**Sailaab** Roxy (Chowringhee Place 284138)

Directed by Deepak Balraj Vij and with music by Bappi Lahiri the film stars Madhuri Dixit along with Aditya Pancholi Suresh Oberoi and Shah Israndar

•**Sherdil** Opera (Lenin Sarani 281849) Lotus (S N Banerjee Road 242664) Moonlight (J C Dutta Street 254956) Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554033) Bina (Bidhan Sarani 311522) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road 484808) 4 shows Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue 410417) noon

Directed by Jagdish Sidana and



Kimi Katkar in *Sherdil*

with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal the film stars Dharmendra Rishi Kapoor Amita Raj Kimi Katkar and Kader Khan

Bengali Films

• **Balidaan** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani 552200) Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road 350680) Ujjala (Russa Road 478666) Malancha (Regent Park) Jaya (Lake Town 573936)— 3 shows

Anil Ganguly's first Bengali directorial venture starring Raakhee Subhendu Chatterjee Nirmal Kumar Papiya Adhikari Shakuntala Barua Biplab Chatterjee debutante Rupali and Tapas Paul The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Chakranta** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue 272473) Darpana (Bidhan Sarani 559080) Purna (S P Mukherjee Road 474567)

Ranjit Mullick and Moon Moon Sen are the lead pair in this film directed by Amal Sur Others co starring are Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury Biplab Chatterjee Abhijit Sen Rabi Ghosh Ruma Guhathakurta and Sumanta The music is by Shantimoy Mukherjee

•**Debata (A)** Minar (Bidhan Sarani 552753) Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road 753162) Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road 352740) 2 15 5 30 8 15

Victor Banerjee Debashree Roy Dilip Roy Anup Kumar Kali Banerjee Indrani Halder Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R D Burman

•**Jeeban Sangee** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani 553413) Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road 359561) Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road 754686)—1 4 7

Tapas Paul and Archana Joglekar are the lead pair Others co starring are Deepankar De Shakuntala Barua Kali Banerjee Gita Dey and Soumitra Chatterjee The film is directed by Ravi Kinagi and the music is by Mrinal Banerjee

• **Raja Badsha:** Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street,

552270), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108), Alochhaya (Beliaghata Main Road; 355059).

Swarup, Mrinal, Debika, Manmatha, Arjun, Anuradha, Master Abhi, Master Papan, Rana Mukherjee, Payel Bhattacharya and a pair of elephants comprise the cast of this film, directed by Palash Banerjee. The music is by Arun Robin.

• **Manmayuri:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515), Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282), Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440).

Directed by Biresh Chatterjee and with music by Swapan Chakraborty, the film stars Moushumi Chatterjee, Tapas Paul, Deepankar De, Sreela Majumder, Subhendu Chatterjee, Lily Chakraborty and Master Rintu.

• **Shesh Aaghaat:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045), Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664), Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757).

Special Events

23 September: 9.30 am

Raag Pancham College of music presents the dance-drama, *Somdatta*, based on Nazrul's works.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

23 & 24 September: 3 pm-8 pm

Durlabh Kishore Arnab will hold an exhibition of paintings in the South Gallery.

24 & 25 September: 3 pm-8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Dipika Khetawat in the New South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

25 September: 6 pm

Udasi's 10th anniversary function features the dance-drama, *Gunai Bibir Pala*, based on Barisal's well-known folk tales. Dramatised by Dinendra Chowdhury, the dances are composed by Asit Chatterjee. Lights: Kanishka Sen.

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road; 289978).

30 September: 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

Padatik Repertory presents the Hindi play, *Baarish Wala*—a translation of Richard Nash's romantic comedy, *The Rain Maker*. Directed by Rodney Marriott and designed by Christopher Barreca, the cast includes Raja Ram Yagnik, Shakil Khan, B.M. Hada, Sanchayita Bhattacharya, Vinay Sharma, Mahmud Alam and Arun Sharma.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

TRAVEL

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep. (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725.

Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0830.

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep. (2) : SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep. (7) : SQ-413 at 1530.

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr. (2) : SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5) : SQ-414 at 0920.

Calcutta-Bangkok: Arr. (2, 4, 7). IC-232 at 1640. Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240; Dep. (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1050, Dep. (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355.

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115. Dep (6): IC 844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1255; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1155.

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-223 at 1640, Dep. (2, 3, 5, 6): BG-092 at 1050, Dep. (4): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (2, 3, 6): BG-094 at 1620 and BG-096 at 1940, Dep. (5): BG-098 at 1820.

Printed here is the *regular* Indian Airlines schedule. But the schedule has been curtailed due to the grounding of its Airbus A320 fleet. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-224 at 1840, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6): BG-091 at 1010, Arr. (2, 3, 6): BG-093 at 1540 and BG-095 at 1910, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740.

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (2,5). BG-698 at 1415, Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330.

Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330, Arr. (6): IC-226 at 1550.

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900; Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800.

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (7): AI-1651 at 0500.

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1). AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7) AI-1122 at 0340.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.

Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily). IC-265 at 1700; Arr (daily): IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2,3,4,5,6,7): IC-272 at 2025,.

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1,2,4,6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. '(1)': IC-541 at 0945, Arr. (2,4,6): IC-541 at 1310

Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily): IC-229 at 1250; Arr (daily) : IC-230 at 1550.

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep. (1,2,3,4,5,6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1,3,5,6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr. (2,4): IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta - Tezpur - Jorhat Guwahati - Calcutta: Dep. (3,5,7) IC 213 at 1030 Arr. (3,5,7) IC 21. at 1540

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur: Dep. (1,3,5,6): IC-219 at 1120: Arr.(1,3,5,6): IC-220 at 1600.

Calcutta - Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-221 at 1100; Arr. (daily): IC-222 at 1320.

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (daily): IC-241 at 0700. Dep. (2,4): IC-243 at 1400. Dep. (3,5,6,7): IC-243 at 0600. Dep. (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily). IC-242 at 0900. Arr. (2,4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3,5, 6,7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.

Calcutta- Silchar- Imphal: Dep. (daily): IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.

Calcutta - Bhubaneswar Nagpur - Hyderabad: Dep. (3,5,6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3,5,6): IC-270 at 2040.

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1,2,7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1,2,7): IC-278 at 2215.

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2,4): IC-285 at 0545 ; Arr. (2,4): IC-286 at 1015.

Calcutta - Port Blair - Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC-287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.

Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna Lucknow - Delhi: Dep. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-410 at 0830; Arr. (1,3,4,5,6,7): IC-409 at 1510.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-727 at 0530; Arr. (1,3,5): PF-728 at 1120.

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (7) PF-730A at 1050.

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (1,3,5,7): PF-701 at 1140; Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-702 at 1615.

Calcutta - Agartala - Kamalpur - Kailashar - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2,4,6): PF-730 at 1040.

Calcutta - Silchar - Shillong - Guwahati - Silchar - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-701 at 1100; Arr. (2,4,6): PF-702 at 1715.

Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (2,6): PF-709 at 0815; Arr. (2,6): PF-710 at 1840.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh: Dep. (4) PF-709 at 0815; Arr. (4): PF-710 at 1750.

Calcutta - Guwahati - Dimapur - Jorhat - Lilabari - Dibrugarh - Tezu: Dep. (7): PF-709 at 0600; Arr. (7): PF-710 at 1705.

Calcutta - Agartala: Dep. (1,3,5): PF-729A at 1130 Arr.

(1,3,5): PF-730A at 1410.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Agartala - Calcutta: Dep. (2,4,6): PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310; Arr. (2,4,6)): PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655.
Calcutta - Jamshedpur -Ranchi - Patna: Dep (1,3,5): PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (1,3,5): PF-726 at 1115.
Calcutta - Jamshedpur: Dep. (2,4,6) PF-717 at 0550; Arr. (2,4,6): PF-718 at 0745.
Calcutta - Cooch Behar: Dep. (2,4,6,7): PF-707 at 0600; Arr. (2,4,6, 7) PF-708 at 0855.
Calcutta - Aizawl - Silchar - Guwahati: Dep. (1,3,5,7): PF-705 at 0915; Arr. (1,3,5,7): PF-706 at 1620.

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya Varanasi Dep— Tues Thurs & Sat Arr —Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9 15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6 10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs ,& Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050

Sealdah

3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



HAIR WAYS! Her mother has a notion about Sue's long hair, but... Draw connecting lines from dot 1 to 2, 3, and so on.

• TALL STORY! Jimmy stands four feet tall, John stands five The sum of their heights times five is 15 more than their father s age How old is he?

Their father is thirty

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1					D	
2					O	
3					L	
4					L	
5	D	O	L	L	A	R
6					R	

PUT MONEY TO WORK

Let's see if a couple of dollars (see 5 across and 5 down, in the diagram above) spur you on with this word square poser

Definitions:

1. Puts money into the economy.
2. Rack and - steering.
3. Make possible.
4. Mouse-like bite.
5. DOLLAR(already inserted, two ways).
6. Contemptuous smiles.

Just remember, word square words read alike both across and down.

Time limit 2 min

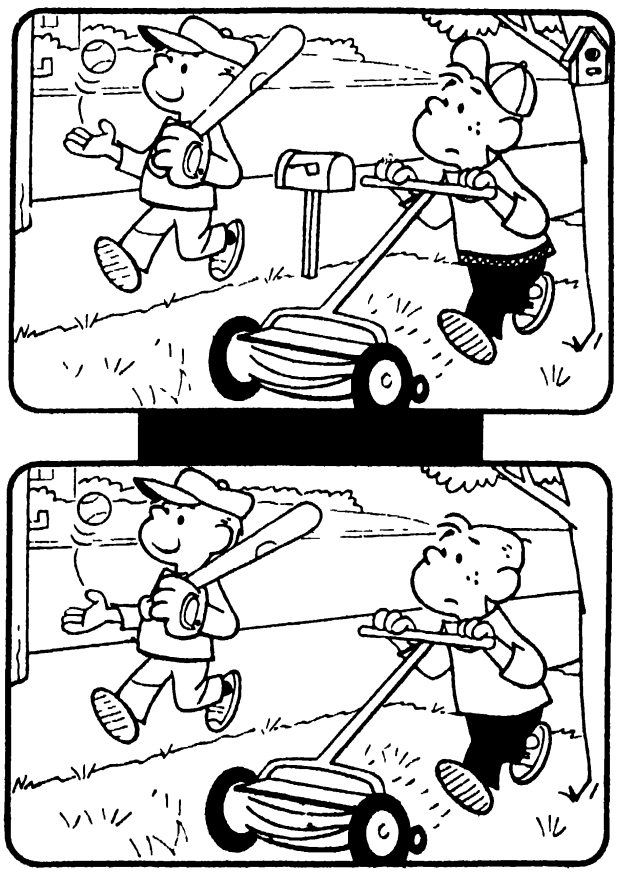
1 Spends 2 Pinion 3 Enable 4 Nibble 5 Dollar 6 Sneers

• **X-RAY EYES!** Have someone place a coin, date side up, in a bowl of soapy water. Now, demonstrate how it's possible to read the date on the coin through the suds without moving the coin or emptying the water.

Here's how: Place a glass tumbler over the coin and read through the bottom of the glass.



HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Arm is moved 2 Ball is moved 3 Mailbox is missing 4 Cap is missing 5 Bird house is missing 6 Sweater edging is missing

FUNSPOT



SLIP SLIDE! "Way to go!" cries Junior, slipping down the water slide Add these colors 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Lt purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

PRESTIGE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible anagram Peer gist



QUIZ CONTROBIEN

R P. Chatterjee reports on the inter-school Quiz of the Year "Cued up students all below class VIII Colourful balloons to signal the 'start' A quiz master coolly in control A 'live round' thrown in for good measure Along with music and video clips Enthusiasm and exuberance A 1000 strong audience

"Put all these together Churn it around And what do you have? The grand final of the ever-popular Maggi Wiz Quiz Contest,by far the biggest annual quiz event for schools in the country

"There were five regional finals in Calcutta where over 120 schools participated Maggi quizzes were also held in Howrah, Chandannagore, Durgapur, Siliguri and 10 other venues Back to the afternoon that held centre stage the grand final

"The standard (by any standard!) was excellent The casual visitor would never have imagined that children below the age of 14 could know the difference between 'audience and 'spectator' Or, better still, 'murder' and 'manslaughter' (Check your dictionary for the answers) The young quizzards knew it all extracts from *Julius Caesar*, *Gremlins II*, Pooja Bhatt amazing!

"There were a few dampeners, however A thundershower, loadshedding and a lightman who always misinterpreted the instruction 'lights off' as 'lights on' during the video round

"It was a close contest With two rounds to go there were at least seven teams in with a chance And even quiz master Derek O Brien admitted it was 'one-of the most exciting finishes I've witnessed' St James, St Xavier's, South Point, Don Bosco, Loreto House, St Mary's Dum Dum and La Martiniere Boys were just a few points apart

"St James moved into top gear at this stage opening up a gap of over five points With two questions to go South Point and St Xavier's were going hammer and tongs for second place St Xavier's, answering a bonus, levelled with South Point (Who are the Calcutta inter-school rugby champions? Ans Armenian College) It was only the last question of the evening which saw South Point beating St Xavier's to second spot with St James' winning the Maggi Wiz Quiz trophy for the second time in three years "

"Who were the Chicago Eight?" This question comes from Debrath Shah, Calcutta 6

In 1969, eight antiwar activists went on trial in Chicago as leaders of the 1968 Democratic National Convention demonstrations It was the first case tried under the anti-riot section of the 1968 Civil Rights Act Although only five of the defendants actually had been involved in planning the demonstrations, conspiracy charges were based on the proposition that all eight men (some of whom had never met each other) had in mind a "similar intent" to provoke a riot when they came to Chicago Animosity between the defendants and presiding justice Julius Hoffman surfaced immediately when attorney William Kunstler asked for a mistrial because of the incriminating way Hoffman read the charges More than 20 other motions for mistrial were to follow During the course of the trial, Black Panther defendant Bobby Seale s comments so enraged Judge Hoffman that to silence Seale, he was imprisoned for contempt of court At the end of the five-month trial, all defendants were cleared of conspiracy charges but five were found guilty of crossing state lines to incite a riot In addition, Hoffman meted out contempt of court charges to all, including a four-year sentence for Kunstler The convictions were over-turned in 1972 by the US Court of Appeals

Postscript: Entries for the Argus Close-Up Quiz, 1990, close on October 15 Entry forms available at Dalhousie Institute, Ashok Book Centre, Ganahat, Modern Book Stores, Dover Lane and Deep Enterprise, Ekdalia

CBS

11th Question: **In family planning terminology, what is "Cafeteria Choice"? (Shuvomoy Ghatak, Room No. 53, N.R.S. Medical College, Boy's Hostel, Calcutta 700 014)**

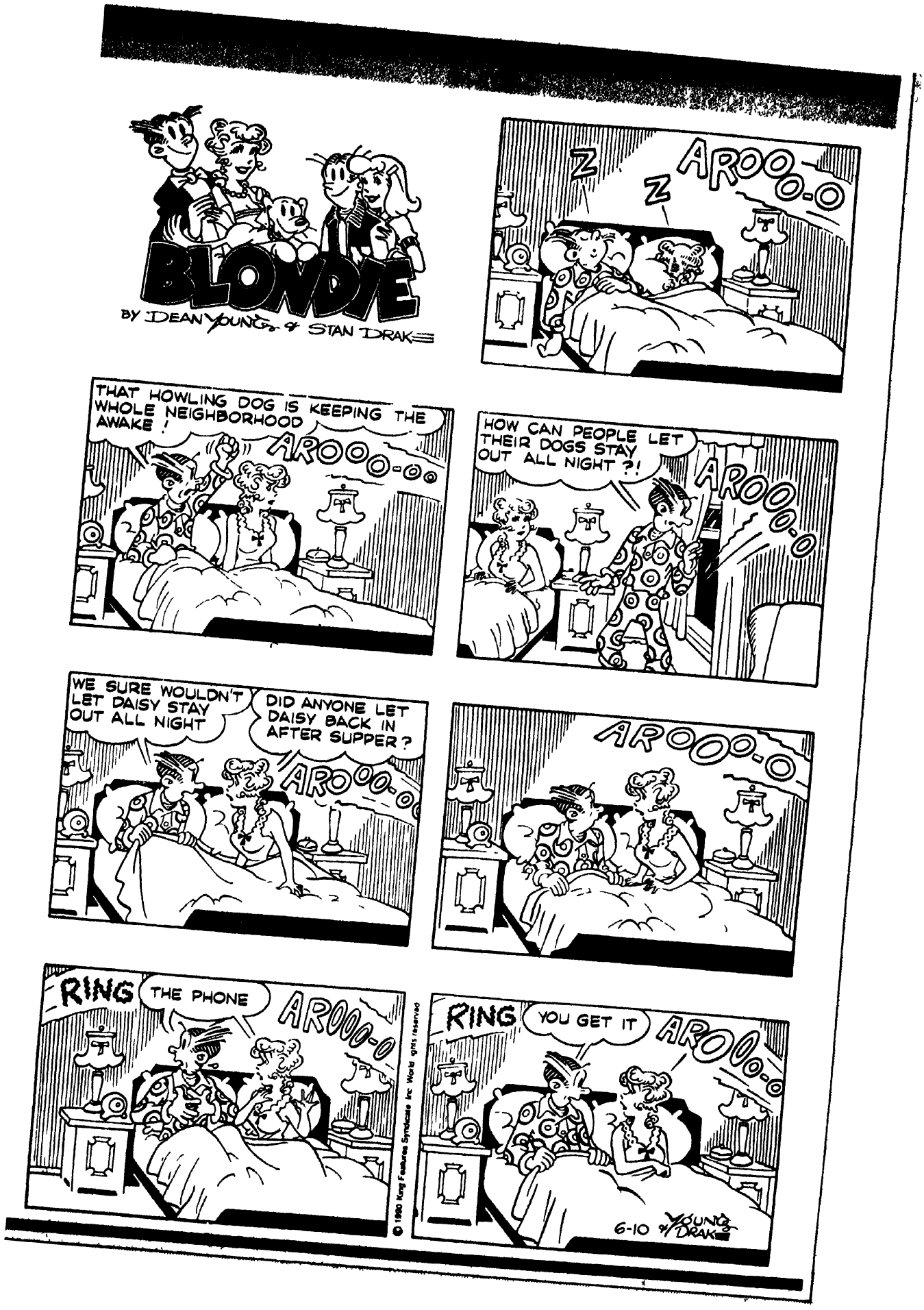
Ans: **To offer all methods of contraception to newly married couples, from which individuals can choose according to their needs and wishes and to promote family planning.**

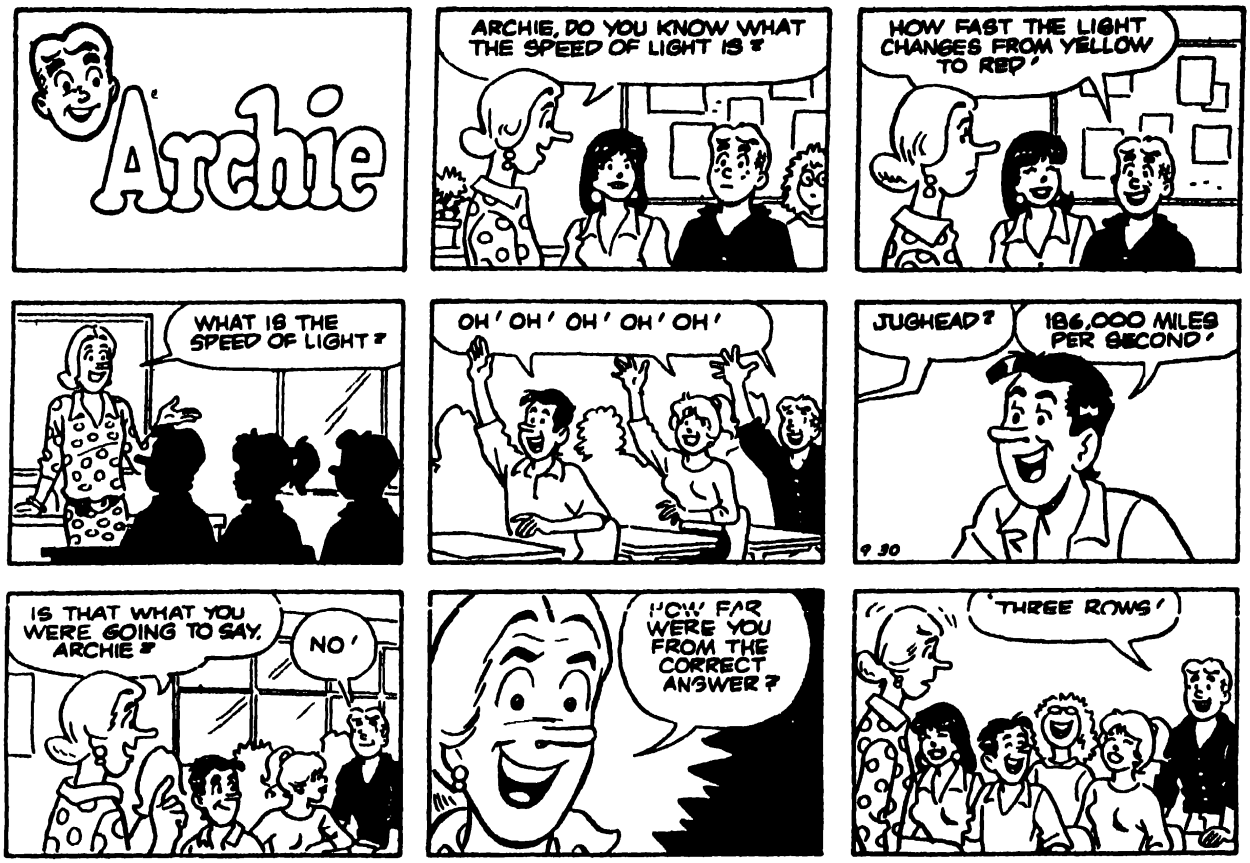
QUESTIONS

1. A new term was postulated for the first time in the journal *Electrical Communication* as follows—"If common logarithms are used, the reproduction is obtained in—." Fill in the missing word. (G. Rajeev Pillai, Calcutta 25)
2. Where was India's first automatic telephone exchange installed? (Jaydeep Guha Thakurta, Calcutta 59)
3. Under what pseudonym did co-authors Frederick Dannay and Manfred B Lee write? (Amiya Pathak, Guwahati 21)
4. After whom is the library of the UNO named? (Subrata Haldar, Tribeni 3)
5. In which film did Madhuri Dixit make her debut? (Manohar Mandal, Nabadwip 2)
6. What is electroencephalography (EEG)? (Chander Raj Mohhot, Calcutta 54)
7. According to official maps which is the lowest hill on Earth? (Javed Nishat, Calcutta 46)
8. Michelle Vermillio has some significance in medical history. What is it? (Niraj Kumar, BIT Sindri)
9. What is the difference between pressure groups and lobbies? (Sanjay Dayal, Ranchi 2)
10. What is the Lamaze technique? (Othello Mazoomdar, Boral 5)

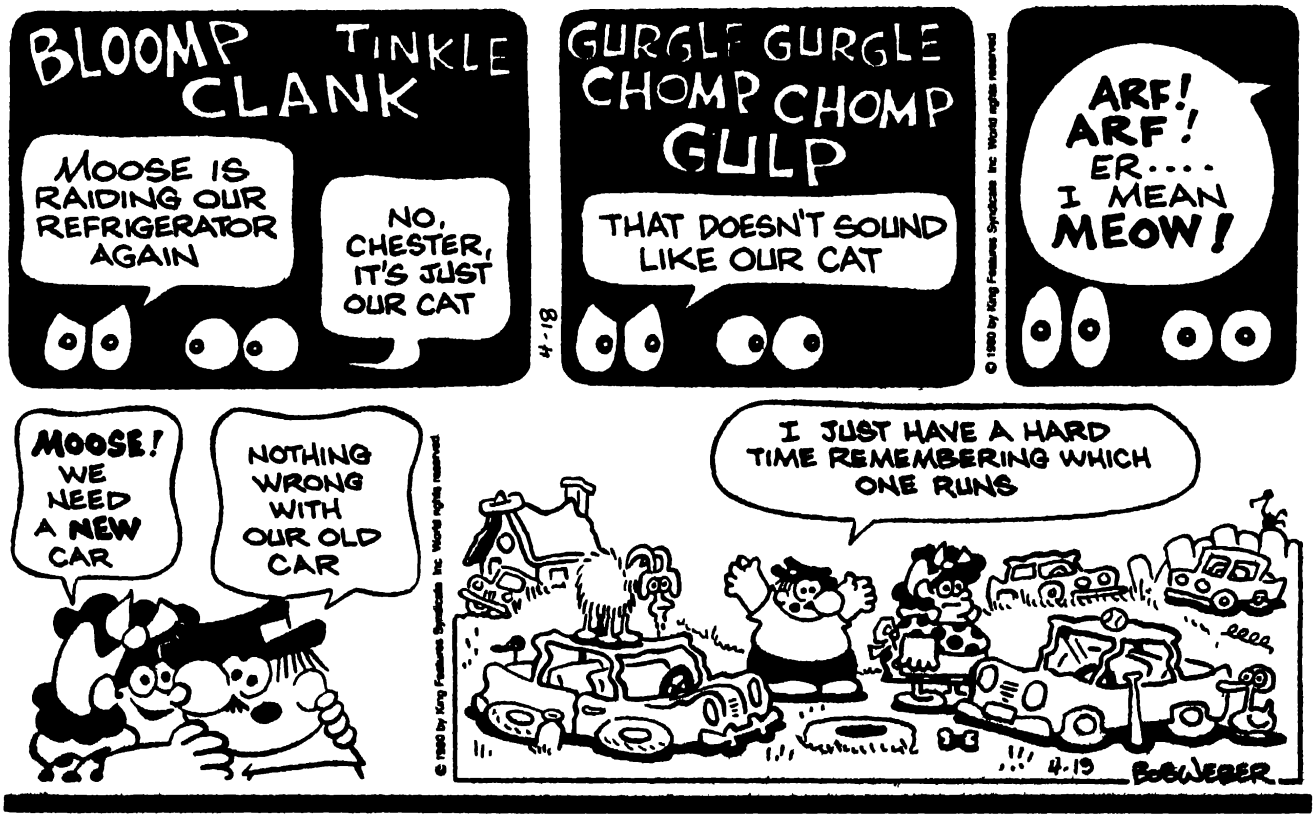
ANSWERS

1. Decibel
2. At Simla in 1913
3. Ellery Queen
4. Dag Hammarskjold
5. Tezaab
6. This is a technology which measures electrical activity of the brain. It is usually done by electrodes placed on the scalp. It is done to know whether brain is functional or normal or not.
7. It is a hillock named Bukit Timpson at Sarla, Brunei, which is just 15 feet high.
8. She was the first baby on whom a successful operation to unblock a heart valve was performed while she was still in her mother's womb.
9. Pressure groups are interested in influencing both the legislature and public opinion, while lobbies concentrate chiefly on the legislature, where it is in session and are concerned with the passage or defeat of particular bills.
10. A method by which an expectant mother is prepared for childbirth by psychological and physical conditioning.

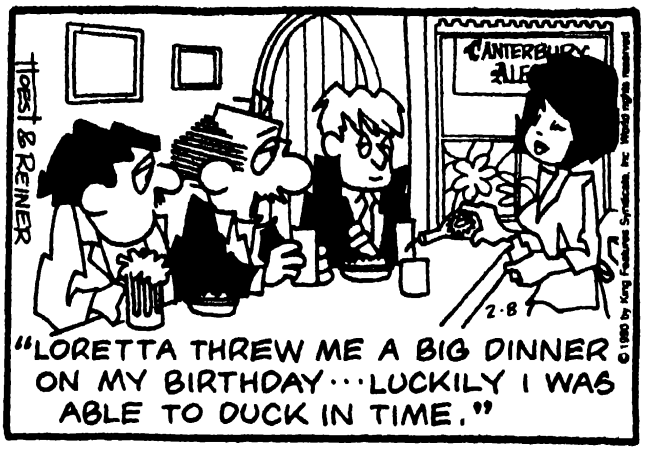

BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG & STAN DRAKE
Z Z AROOO-O
THAT HOWLING DOG IS KEEPING THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD AWAKE!
AROOO-O
HOW CAN PEOPLE LET THEIR DOGS STAY OUT ALL NIGHT?!
AROOO-O
WE SURE WOULDN'T LET DAISY STAY OUT ALL NIGHT
DID ANYONE LET DAISY BACK IN AFTER SUPPER?
AROOO-O
AROOO-O
RING
THE PHONE
AROOO-O
© 1980 King Features Syndicate Inc World rights reserved
RING
YOU GET IT
AROOO-O
6-10
YOUNG & DRAKE

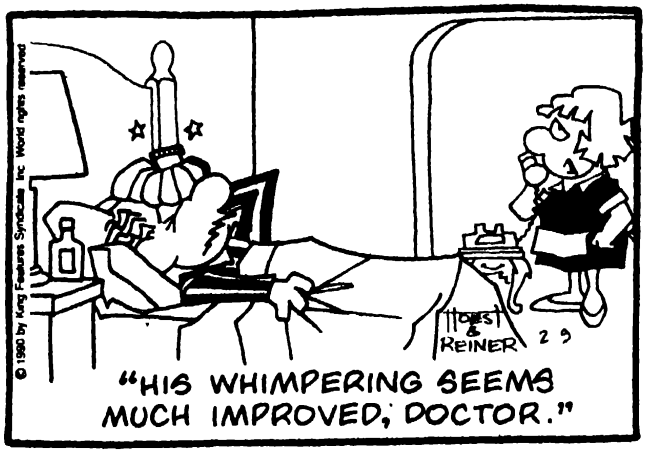


MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber



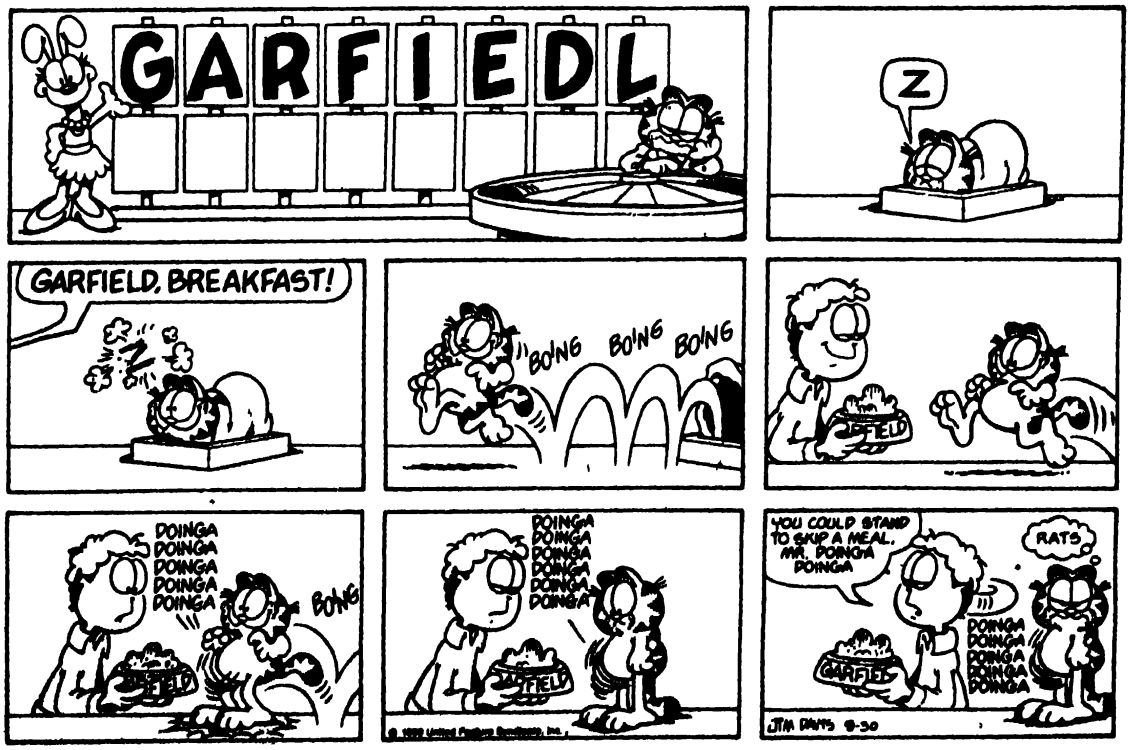






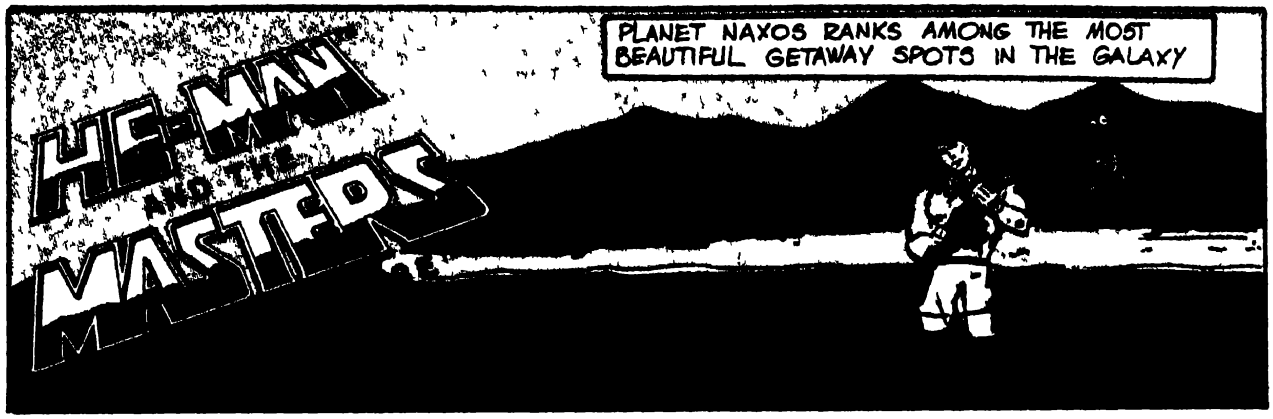


GARFIELD By Jim Davis

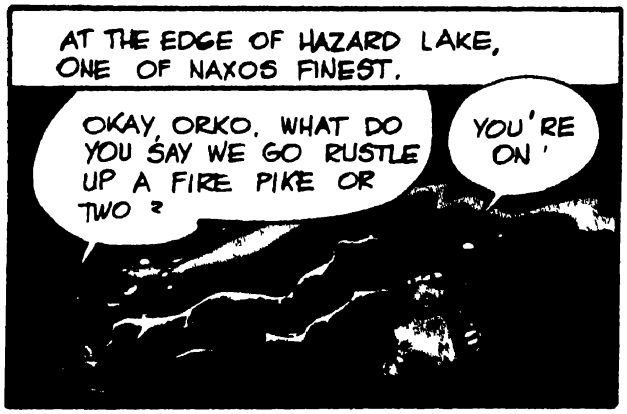


THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP




HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE
PLANET NAXOS RANKS AMONG THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GETAWAY SPOTS IN THE GALAXY


YOU DOUBLE CHECKED EVERYTHING?
YOU BET! AFTER THE FLIGHT HERE, I'M NOT TAKING ANY MORE CHANCES!


AT THE EDGE OF HAZARD LAKE, ONE OF NAXOS FINEST.
OKAY, ORKO. WHAT DO YOU SAY WE GO RUSTLE UP A FIRE PIKE OR TWO?
YOU'RE ON!

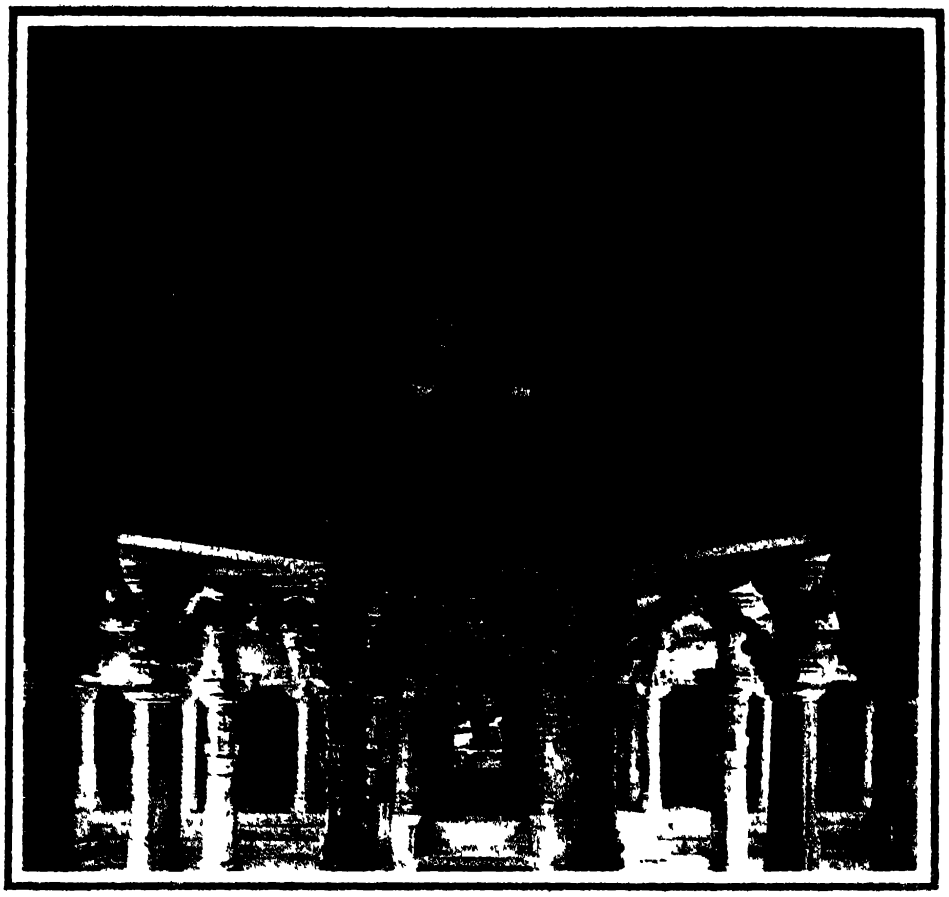

WOW!
THIS SCENERY JUST MADE UP FOR THAT HEART-ATTACK LANDING TO GET HERE!
9/17


ADAM, I'M READY! FIRE THE NET... FIRE THE NET!!


OH, NO! THIS IS THE NETCASTER ORKO ACCIDENTALY FIRED! POWER PACK'S DEAD.. THERE'S NO NET!



She didn't throw in the towel as she is prone to do. This time **Gabriela Sabatini** put in some tremendous legwork in the US Open, making top-seeded Steffi Graf sweat it out plenty. And the great Graf was downed.
Photograph by NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

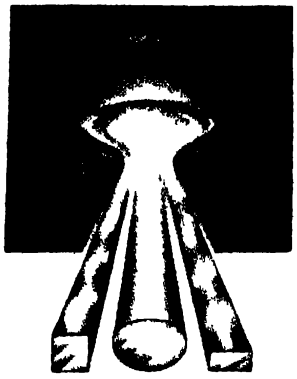
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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- Superior design for maximum storage space Removable egg tray for extra storage – a special feature for vegetarians
- A large Chill Tray with a unique Drip Tray for easy removal of defrosted water

from Kelvinator "It's the coolest one."

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Refrigerators
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Engineered in America

- All steel construction and tough ABS liner
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- Withstands wide voltage fluctuations

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- Automatic defrost (push button)

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Beware, Calcutta

The cover story on AIDS (August 19) was alarming and may create a fear psychosis among readers. All those who have HIV virus do not contract AIDS. Victims of the dreaded disease have been treated as lepers in our country and doctors and nurses refuse to treat them for fear of catching the disease themselves.

The government or some welfare organisation should set up hospitals exclusively for the treatment of AIDS patients.

S.K. Moorthy,
Calcutta

Novosti



An electronic picture of an AIDS affected cell

■ Statistics say that there could be one haemophiliac in every 10,000 male children born. Going by this, the number of haemophiliacs should be around 1,000 if we suppose the population of Calcutta, including its suburbs, to be around a crore.

Further, it appears from your article that haemophilia comprises thalasaemia and leukemia. It is unfortunate that such an important investigative report has been printed without verification by a haematologist.

Neither thalassaemia nor leukemia is related to haemophilia in any way. Transfusion of blood or any blood product does not necessarily imply that it is haemophilia.

Subhajit Banerjee,
Durgapur (W.B.)

■ The article purports to give us data, the sources of which have not been specified. One such example is that Calcutta alone has one lakh haemophiliacs. I am sure there cannot be any source which can feed such information to the reporters.

Incidentally, in India, the population of haemophiliacs has not even been estimated. On a standard assumption accepted by the World Federation of Haemophilia, the number is a maximum of 7,000 for the whole of West Bengal!

One expected more diligence and care from a newspaper of your standing.

Malay Shanker Bhattacharya,
Hooghly (W.B.)

■ It was incorrectly stated that AIDS is not yet in the medical curriculum. However, your sincerity in highlighting the magnitude of the problem was commendable.

The state government should take serious note of this, otherwise Calcutta may be devastated beyond imagination.

S.S. Mitra, Calcutta

Monimoy Dasgupta and Amit Ukil reply:

Yes, Mr Bhattacharya you are right—"the population of haemophiliacs in India has not even been estimated." And that is precisely the reason why we 'diligently' contacted as many doctors as we could, including top haematologists, pathologists and blood bank medical officers, to arrive at a figure on our own. After exercising a lot of 'care' and caution we estimated the number of haemophiliacs in Calcutta as one lakh.

Like all crime is not reported to the police, similarly all haemophiliacs need not necessarily report their case to the World Federation of Haemophilia. Do you expect a haemophiliac tucked away in one remote village of India to be aware of the existence of such an organisation and report his case to them?

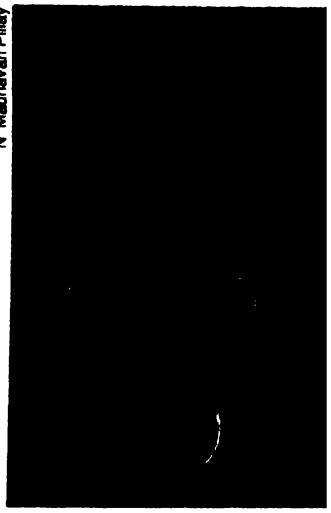
Mr Banerjee, we believe more in our findings than in statistics, which are mostly lies. Nowhere have we said that haemophilia, thalasaemia and leukemia are the same. What we have said is all suffering from these diseases need blood transfusion and blood product injections from time to time, and demarcated them as high-risk groups. The blood taken for transfusion is often from professional blood donors, the majority of whom have been found to be HIV (AIDS virus) positive, and the blood products are also manufactured from the plasma taken from their blood.

Mr Mitra, do you think just a sketchy mention of AIDS, among other sexually transmitted diseases, in the five-year MBBS curriculum is sufficient. Let us be more rational in our thinking. After all, all of us first go to a general practitioner—an MBBS—and then to a specialist.

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The Telegraph
7 OCTOBER 1990

N Madhavan Pillay



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Broadway is where dreams and nightmares are strange bedfellows

Objects of decay can also become subjects of great beauty. An exciting photofeature.

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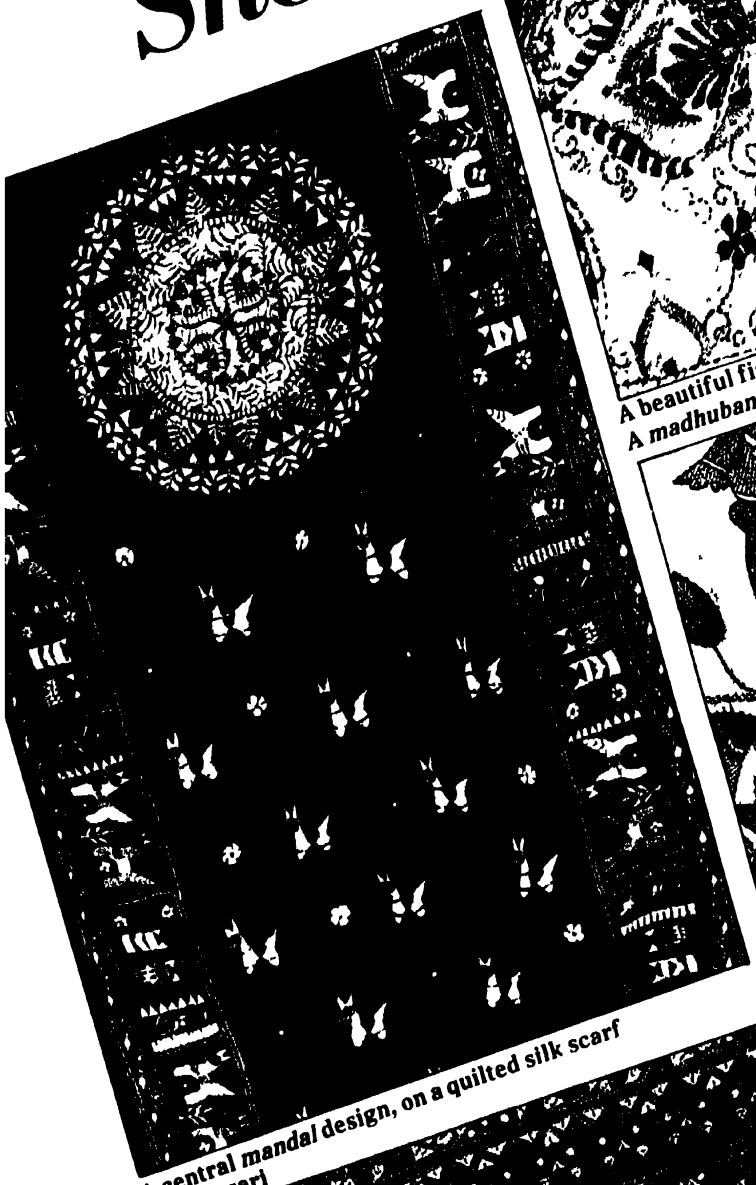
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Cover N Madhavan Pillay

A Stitch To Show



A beautiful fish border and an intricate free-hand *jaal* on a silk *odhni*



A central *mandal* design, on a quilted silk scarf



A *madhubani* design, in *kantha* and mirror work



A *palloo* of a silk sari

Kantha embroidery, an age-old art of Bengal, is coming into vogue. A report

Text and photographs by Shamlu Dudeja

Kantha embroidery, in its ancient traditional form of all-over quilting on untailored layers of fabric, needs no introduction in Calcutta. But, the concept of using this common-o'-garden running stitch, to embellish a single layer of fabric for saris and modern, tailored outfits, is comparatively recent.

In the days of yore, each *kantha* made was a work of art, created with the labour and love of several women in a family. The rich cultural heritage with which every woman of Bengal is endowed was, perhaps, at its natural best in the ancient *sujni kanthas*. The needle and the thread formed the paint and the brush, the fabrics, the canvas, and each woman behind it became a veritable artist. The nimble fingers of the 'artist' led the needle and thread in any direction desired, taking millions of immaculate, correctly placed stitches, weaving the most intricate webs of embroidery in myriad colours. They would incorporate human and divine forms, the flora and fauna of Bengal, and often entire scenes from the epics. Each artist dipped into the individual experiences of her everyday life, and often an inner world of fantasy, and spread it across the multilayered fabric, producing an original piece of great beauty, everytime. There are several instances of ancient Bengali poets singing praises of these gorgeous *kanthas*. And, for obvious reasons, each *kantha* remained in the house as an heirloom, or was gifted to the dearly beloved.

Now, *kantha* embroidery is being done in every village home for commercial purposes. The credit for this must go to the untiring efforts of some women's organisations in Shantiniketan and Calcutta. A couple of decades ago, they started with embroidered shawls and saris, and sold them initially in urban Bengal and, then, through various emporiums, in Delhi and Bombay. This form of embellishment was well received by those who saw it, and soon the popularity of the *kantha* stitch increased. Some enterprising young designers in Calcutta began using this stitch not only on saris and shawls, but on tailored Indian outfits, as well.

Not a day too early, *kantha* embroidery has spread like wildfire. It has found its way into the wardrobes of the most elite women (and men) in India, and it is expected that soon there will be an increasing demand from across the seas as well.

Not surprisingly, then, the concepts of colour and design have undergone a sea change, guided by some of the leading designers of the country. The motifs are often being styled for urban tastes, and the colours are not used at random, but are grouped together for tonal harmony. To make it more affordable, sometimes only traces of the stitch are strategically placed on the garment, for a most bewitching effect. However, there are also some groups of women who are retaining the original designs and colours, and the fineness of embroidery being done is unmatched. Each piece produced by these groups is more stunning than the other; every piece is a masterpiece, as good as the one hanging in a museum.

Many designers of repute from Bombay and Delhi are flocking to Calcutta in search of good *kanthar kaaj*. As a result, hundreds of *kantha* boutiques have mushroomed in the city. Has this resulted in unhealthy rivalry between the various groups?

The answer is a definite "No" from a leading *kantha* designer of Calcutta. "There is no such thing as competition in this field. The talent and the artistry of the women of Bengal form an inexhaustible resource. The more demand there is for *kantha* embroidery, the greater will be the number of women at work, and the greater will be the ingenuity and a creativity which goes into this art form. Each group merely works towards a fuller utilisation of this resource."

It gladdens one's heart to see so many women, young and old alike, focussing their attention on this art form, which is actually a craft, but requires no training and no tools. Their effort has resulted not only in the revival of this tradition, but has also given an increasing number of village women an opportunity to utilise their leisure hours fruitfully, producing a mind-boggling variety of *kantha* creations. ■

BARTER BANK

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PUZZLE RAZZLE

Manish Jain on the evolution and popularity of crosswords

On the face of it, life was a mixture of the quaint and the archaic. Every year the Office virtually closed to attend the Lord's Test Match, where M15 had an unofficial patch in the Lord's Tavern. And every morning senior officers, almost without exception, spent the first half hour of the day on The Times *crossword. The scrambled telephones, which normally hummed with the most highly classified secrets in the Western world, relayed a series of bizarre, coded questions from office to office.*

"My left rump is giving me trouble," meaning "I can't make head or tail of seven down in the bottom left-hand corner," or "My right breast is vacant," meaning "What the hell is twelve across in the middle?" Courtney Young, who ran the Soviet Counterespionage Section (D1) in the 1950s, was the undisputed Security Service crossword king. He always claimed that it was too easy to do the crossword with a pencil. He claimed to do it in his head instead. For a year I watched him do this, until finally I could resist the temptation no longer. I challenged him, whereupon he immediately wrote in each answer without hesitation. Every night for a week I had to stand drinks for a gleeful Courtney in the local pub.—From *Spycatcher* by Peter Wright

Paul Sherman might well have had to return to England without striking success in Amsterdam had he not known how to crack cryptic clues. His meeting with the drug-pedlars at the harbour would have never materialised, nor would have Alistair Maclean's best-seller success with *Puppet on a Chain.*

That the drug-pedlars had chosen to conduct correspondence in cryptic clues was their only singular oversight. Perhaps they had themselves fallen addicts to the not-so-recent class of brain-teasers called crossword puzzles. Future organisations will hopefully keep in mind that crossword solvers now number upwards of 20 million in Europe and 30 million in the USA. In America, the crossword outstrips chess, bridge and checkers to rank as the nation's most popular pastime.

The popularity is unprecedented. Of the thousands of newspapers and magazines that enter the publication pipeline every day and week, more than 92 per cent carry a regular crossword. Omission of the feature, rare as it is, is only greeted with howls and scowls from readers. During the World War II, British newspapers slimmed down to a mere four pages but the crossword had to be continued. Then there was Ronald Knox in a BBC TV soap opera who asks his wife to spend time over crosswords instead of sitting there and dreaming of her lover!

To be sure, crosswords are fun and much more than that. They are exhilarating, thrilling, dejecting, exciting and frustrating. Addiction to the armchair exercise has prompted such bizarre comparisons as with drinking coffee and watching movies. Some perfectly balanced gentlemen in the past have gone to the extent of depriving themselves of their daily crossword as a form of dour self-punishment.

What an everlasting lollipop his idea would become, Arthur Wynne could never have guessed. He created the first crossword puzzle in 1913 while working upon the following acrostic puzzle:

P H A S E
H O V E L
A V O I D
S E I N E
E L D E R

Such puzzles had been in existence for a long time. Wynne's minor change and major revolution was to make the words going across different from the words going down. His brainwave was first published in New York's *World* in December, 1913.

It has been more than three quarters of a century since, and the Word-Cross—as the *World* had christened it, has come a long, long way indeed. The present crossword is not only structurally different from Wynne's original creation, but in some aspects fundamentally too. Today's puzzles consist of a grid of black and white squares in vertical and horizontal series. The white squares are for writing the answers in, while the black squares for separating the white ones. Though there exist no puritanical ordinances on this, a standard puzzle like that of *The Times* or *The Guardian* can be expected to have not more than around a quarter of its squares black. Clues to the answers are provided separately with the number of letters in each answer stated parenthetically. Clues normally appear in the form of simple sentences or phrases. Variations do occur. While some crosswords give clues in the form of a conversation or rhymed couplets, others may skip the puzzle diagram altogether.

Just after its birth, Wynne's brainchild apparently had quite a roughshod ride, being confined to the 'non-U class' society of America. Among men of import, its popularity remained modest enough and it was looked upon as demeaning by the supposed intellectuals. For a full decade, the crossword remained within its mother-nation, USA.

In 1924 however the crossword snapped out of limbo. It crossed the Atlantic to hit the pages of London's *Times,* while on the other side of the ocean, the *World* made the crossword puzzle a daily feature. Simultaneously, Max Schuster and Richard Simon compiled the first book on crosswords which, aided and abetted by the skyrocketing sales of Roget's *Thesaurus,* crossed the 400,000 mark before one could utter jackanapes. It was the London *Times* which provided the crossword its final ordeal. When the newspaper, Britain's premier tabloid, made the crossword a regular feature, a fairly knotty situation arose. The earls and barons began shouting their throats hoarse, and even others accused the newspaper of compromising its dignity by publishing such frivolous material.

There are moments which will live forever in history for the sheer fate of issues they have decided. In hobby annals, this was doubtlessly one such juncture. The publishers of *Times* must be congratulated for their ingenious thinking to save the newspaper as well as Wynne's creation. In a tremendous attempt to make crosswords look respectable, they swiftly published more of them in Greek and Latin! The newspaper stayed, and along with it the crossword.

The crossword, in fact more than stayed. Starting with French (in which it came to be called *les mots croises*), it invaded other languages like a most welcome virus. Today, puzzles are printed in almost every language excepting those like Chinese which do not lend themselves to across-and-down manipulations. A bilingual version in Canada provides English and French clues for the same cross-

word grid and can be solved in either language.

Major credit goes to the *New York Times* for introducing such novelties as using popular phrases in place of just words for the answers, quotations with missing words, and proper names Together with the *Times* of London, it revolutionised the word-game The contribution of these two was phenomenal in ousting morbid, obsolete words (for example ecru, artus, apse) and in developing the more involved crossword with cleverly designed clues.

That about sums up the direction of the crossword's evolution Answers, in general, have become less obscure and the clues leading upto them more shrewdly disguised "The compiler's job, we think", said Elizabeth and Derek Jewell of the *Sunday Times*, "is to wrap up reasonably ordinary words in clues which are ultimately seen to be fair by the solver, but which till the moment of breakthrough disguise the answer in the wittiest possible way" This is especially true of the cryptic crossword where the compiler makes life difficult with a wide variety of word play techniques—anagrams, inversions, contained words, word-division, puns, subtle references to literature, sports, arts and so on In the other type of crossword, the quick one, clues are provided by way of synonyms or direct references. That makes the brainwrecking ability of this crossword far less than the cryptic one's

With their raving charm and challenge therefore cryptic crosswords reign supreme For that and also for the interested reader's sake, we need to have a closer look at them

Essentially, a cryptic clue is an undemarcated marriage of two sub-clues one sub-clue defining the answer-word or phrase—this is placed at one end of the clue, and the other, the structural or the constructive part, showing how to construct the answer In conjunction, the two sub clues furnish a unique, crosschecked answer For example, in the clue 'Yielding to famous actress who receives a wing (6)', the answer 'bowing' is defined by 'yielding', while the construction comes this way Bo (from Bo Derek, the famous actress) + wing = bowing [The plus operation is carried out in response to 'receives']

This is only one of the many ways of specifying the construction The technique most popular with compilers is, yes, the anagram In cryptic clues, anagrams are indicated by words like new, badly and random To illustrate this, consider the clue

'Is it edible in the absence of tea, say'
No, no, it is badly prepared (5)'

The reader should note that 'tea' can be pronounced (or 'said') simply as 't' which is to be absent The construction, therefore, is: (no + no + it — t) badly = onion, which is an edible The reader should also note how the compiler, the perpetual sadist that he is, does not hesitate to take liberties with punctuation

Other words that indicate an anagrammatic construction include chaos, disguised, aimless; storm, damaged, mad, out, perhaps; variety; altered, woolly, turned, loose; embarrassed, make, find; build, broken, etc

Another widely used trick is word-division in which the answer-word splits into two parts which are themselves words The Bo Derek clue is an example of this sort In a second variety of the word-division technique, the two words do not link up end to end Instead, one is contained in the other, like in 'In charge outside the camp with some motive (9)?'

'Charge' is often represented by 'ion', while 'camp' stands for 'tent' Therefore, 'in-ion' surrounds ('outside') 'tent' to give 'intention' (or motive)

Just the reverse is the technique of contained words, perhaps the simplest of all Instead of joining words, one now has to pick out a part of the clue which gives the answer For instance, in 'Roam in Berlin, Germany (6)', the word 'in' indicates that a part of 'b-e-r l i n-g e r-m-a-n-y' meaning 'roam' is the answer This obviously is 'linger'

Somewhat more difficult than contained words is the method of inversion 'Full of back-fire, one end to the other end (4)', is the example we take up By now, the reader must have got sufficient hang not to be sent off searching for names of guns and cars famous for their backfire The answer, in fact, is the 'back' or reverse 'f-i-r-e', that is 'erif' with 'e' (one end of 'erif') transported to the other end This gives us 'rife' which means 'full of' You can also expect 'raise', 'climb', 'upset' and 'retrograde' for inversion

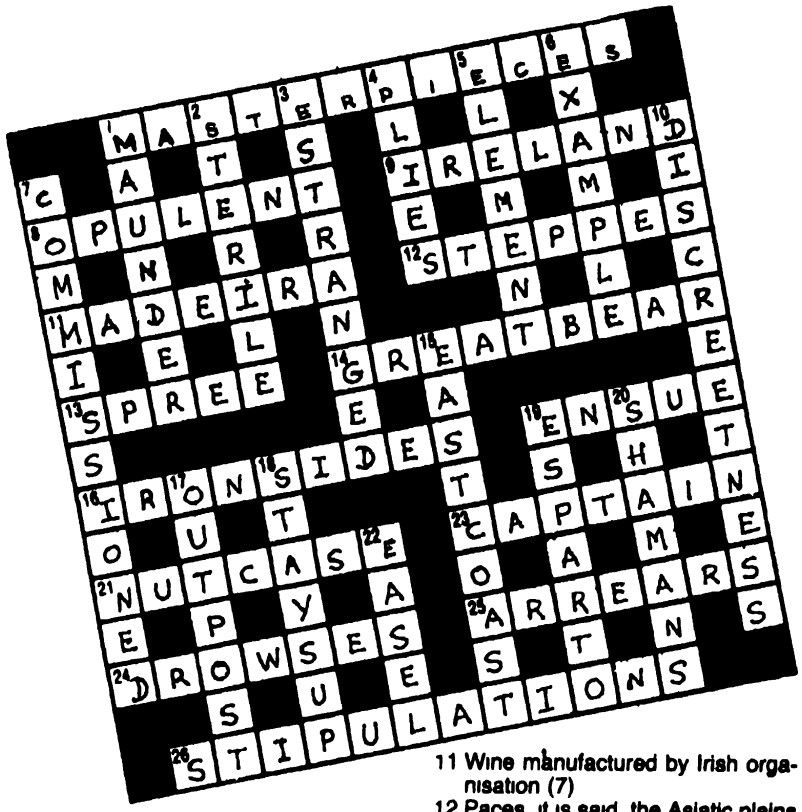
The most brutal clues, however, are derived by none of the above techniques More often than not, they are parented by double meanings and puns You might possibly twist every grey cell you have and still land up on the losing side with the clue 'rainfall indicator (6)' The answer is surprisingly simple shower (to indicate is to show!)

The problem with such clues is that they do not have a construction format The solution, therefore, depends entirely on the solver's agility in recognising the pun Similarly, for the clue 'Slide on a piece of paper (4)', one has to know that a common word for 'slide' and 'a piece of paper' is 'slip', exactly what we want

In addition to all these, one has to know certain standard abbreviations and conventions widely used in cryptic crosswords.

CRACKING CRYPTIC CLUES

1. Tree with reactionary name in brigade (7).
   Fire-man. ('tree' is 'fir'; 'reactionary name' is anagrammatic 'name'. Hence, FIR + (anag.) NAME = FIRE-MAN, whom you shall find in the brigade.
2. Unrealistic Women's Institute with embarrassed flush (7).
   Wishful. (Women's Institute = WI; embarrassed flush = anagrammatic 'flush'; hence WI + (anag.) FLUSH = WISHFUL, which means 'unrealistic').
3. Boss who keeps one straight (5).
   Ruler. (Your ruler is your boss and a ruler (scale) also helps you draw straight lines).
4. Wore frock made by more than one hand (4, 5).
   Work force. ('Hands' often refers to men or soldiers. More than one hand therefore is a 'work force' derived by anagrammatising 'wore frock').
5. After morning, one endless region [illegible] river (6).
   Amazon. (morning = am, one = a; endless region = zone - e = zon; hence, AM-A-ZON, the long river).
6. Baby clothes still coming in after hours (7).
   Layette (still = yet; after hours = late; 'yet' in 'late' = 'layette' or baby clothes)
7. Bacchus' personality caught in moving air (4, 3).
   Wine god. (moving air = wind; personality = ego; 'ego' in 'wind' gives 'wine god' or Bacchus).
8. Want hatred to crumble (6).
   Dearth. (Anagrammatise 'hatred' to get 'dearth' which is shortage or want).
9. Not quite a fifty majority (5).
   Almost. (fifty = L; majority = most; a fifty majority = a-l-most, which means not quite).
10. He loves to make cane like eggs (9).
    Cassanova. (like = as; eggs = ova; anagrammatise 'cans as ova' to get Cassanova, the lover).



ACROSS

1 Gain thorough knowledge of parts and produce supreme works of art (12)
8 Not let-up for the wealthy? (7)
9 One about to come down to Paddy's place (7)
11 Wine manufactured by Irish organisation (7)
12 Paces, it is said, the Asiatic plains (7)
13 Revellers go out on this German river (5)
14 Constellation of high significance to pessimistic share-dealer (5, 4).
16 Club teams who got cavalier treatment? (9)
19 Seen to perform about-turn and follow (5).
21 Argument put to teachers by crank (7).
23 Officer has a point about murderer (7).
24 Has forty winks in rearward rows especially (7).
25 What is owed to auditors on arrival (7).
26 Possibly is put on a list of conditions (12).

DOWN

1 Grumble at being one degree below (7)
2 Set out to annoy but with barren result (7)
3 Foreign journalist going out and getting cut off (9)
4 Works diligently to cover untruth with afterthought (5).
5 Essential part of earth for example (7)
6 Specimen palm perhaps in flower (7).
7 What officer may be given as a duty (12)
10 Diplomacy shown by tactful head (12)
15 Cost at sea of a boundary for Yorkshire? (4, 5)
17 Letters leaving office for isolated station (7)
18 Doesn't go to bed in more expensive corsets? (5, 2)
19 Grass constitutes part of content (7)
20 Wizard-priests' fake solution (7)
22 Support for board from teasellers (5)

We list the important ones below

Accounts—ac, Diana—di for example—eg, bachelor/degree—ba, master—ma, left—l, right—r, railway—ry/rly, doctor—dr/mb/ms/mo, point—pt, revolutionary—ira, company—co general—gen, editor or journalist—ed, street/road/way—st, father—pa, mother—ma, ancient city—ur, communist—red kiss—x, circle, love, ring—o, direction—n, s, e, or w, point—n, s, e, or w, order—obe companion of honour—ch, former or late—ex, the French—le, la, or les, Italian—il, Spanish—el, American—us Scot—ian writer—pen, painter = brush at home—in, away—out all right—ok, Edward—ted, Tom—cat, one—i/a, man—he, female—she, loud strong—f, sailor—ab, quarter—ne, se, nw or ws morning—am, record, disc—ep/lp, advertisement—ad, first class—ai, upper class—u, queen—re, king—r, publicity man—pro, soldier—gi, ship, liner—rms, engineers—re, girl—eve, navy, sailors—rn, artist, or painter—ra, bloomer—flower; soft, quiet (v soft)—p (pp), concerning—re, church—ce, hundred—c, etc ,

[Now try, 'Discounts concerning and upsetting sailor with a broken set?' (7)

Answer Rebates, Concerning = re, 'upsetting sailor is 'ab' inverted, i e ba', and 'broken set' is anagrammatic 'set', or tes' Hence, re-ba-tes or discounts]

Crosswords need patience Blasting one's brain and spleen normally does not help much Instead, following a systematic approach would The reader would be well-advised to begin his attack by first splitting any given clue into its definitive and constructive parts Start by looking for the definition usually placed at one end of the clue What makes the distinction easy is that the constructive sub-clue does not make much sense literally and so has to be what it is (In case both ends of the clue make sense, efforts should be concentrated in the direction of puns and double meanings) Once this is done, the solver could think up some substitutes for the definition and see whether they agree with the constructive part

If none do, one has to come the other way round That is, start by building upon the structural hints provided to obtain a word or phrase that matches in meaning with the definition For this, it would help greatly if one tries to fit flush the skeleton of one's answer with the interlocks, if any exist But even with all the elementary tools, it might still be a long time before the beginner acquires the fluency of say Indira Gandhi who is reputed to have cracked the *Times of India* crossword inside 10 minutes on more than one occasion Experience is vitally important—followers of *The Guardian* puzzle would instantly recognise that 'river' more likely than not would stand for 'Dee' (a river in Britain), while 'girl' for 'Eve' or 'Ann'

The above explanations and tips do not, by any means, constitute an exhaustive discourse on solving crossword puzzles. That perhaps no one can give. It is only hoped that the reader can get himself into the thing and build up on the material provided. What makes the crossword interesting is the battle of wits that it is. You try a dozen times and finally unravel the answer. You might even fail, but now there is more to your newspaper than just cricket and politics. ■



HERITAGE: Nothing More

SUNITI KUMAR CHATTERJI (1890-1977)

Renowned philologist and indologist and doyen of Indian scholars, National Professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji was a legend in his lifetime owing to his encyclopaedic knowledge, photographic memory and avid curiosity about human civilisation. Although he was the opposite of a cloistered scholar, his *Origin and Development of the Bengali Language* is a model of scrupulous and comprehensive scholarship.

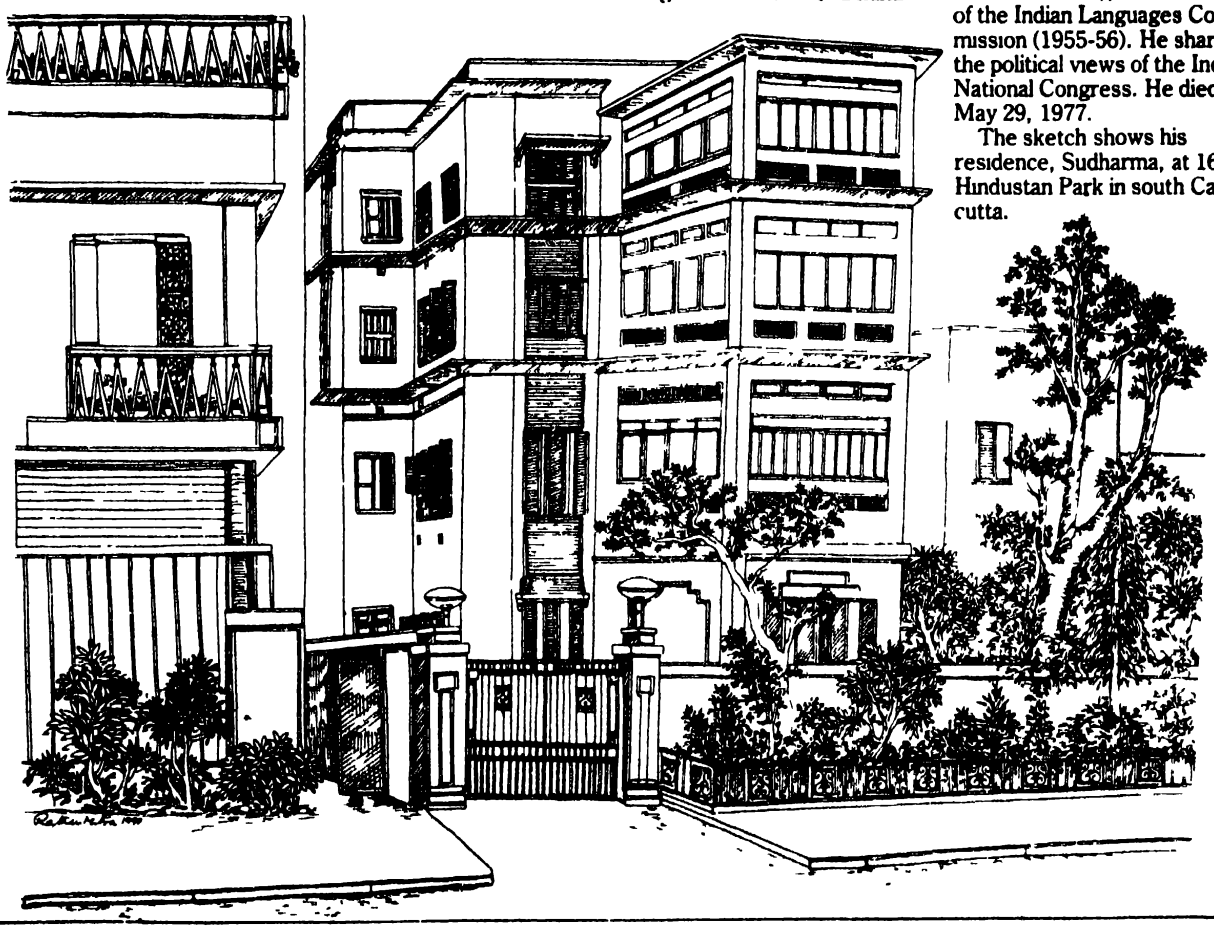
Chatterji was born on November 11, 1890 into a family which originally belonged to village Pangsa in Faridpur district (now Bangladesh). His great grandfather, Bhairab Chandra Chatterji, migrated to Calcutta in the early 19th century. Chatterji studied at the local *pathsala* and later at Calcutta Academy and Mutty Loll Seal's Free School. He stood sixth in the Entrance exams and third in First Arts from Scottish Church College. He came first class first in both the English Honours (1911) and MA (English; 1913) exams of Calcutta University and was awarded the Premchand Roychand Scholarship (1919). With a government scholarship he researched on "Indo-European Linguistics—Origin and Development of the Bengali Language" at London University under experts like Daniel Jones and Barnett. He got the D. Litt.in 1921 and then studied Indo-European, Slav and Austro-Asian linguistics in Paris.

He came back to India and joined as professor in Calcutta University's comparative philology department (1922-52). In 1927, he accompanied Tagore to the Far East and recorded his experiences of the area's great cultural heritage in *Dwipamay Bharat*.

Besides the study of linguistics, Sanskrit aesthetics, Greek philosophy, Negro art and Vaishnava Cult in Gujarat appealed to him greatly. In his *Europe 1938* (written in Bengali in 1945) and *Paschimer Yatri* he gave a brilliant survey of European culture as well as the feel of living human beings. In addition to Greek, Latin, French, German, English, Dutch, Persian, Avesta and Sanskrit, he was proficient in a dozen modern Indian languages. One of the pioneers in introducing modern research methodology in the study of linguistics, he authored 15 books in Bengali including *Bangla Bhashatattwer Bhumika, Bhashaprakash Bangali Byakaran, Jati Sanskriti O Sahitya, Bharat Sanskriti* and *Sanskritiki. World Literature and Tagore* is one of his 21 English publications while *Bharatiya Aryabhasa Aur Hindi* figures among his seven publications in Hindi. He also composed *slokas* and wrote a number of articles in Sanskrit.

Chatterji was honoured with D. Litt.by six universities including Rome, Calcutta and Delhi. Visva Bharati conferred the Desikottama in 1966 and the next year he was honoured with a Padmabibhushana by the Indian government. He was president of Bangiya Sahitya Parishad (1961), Sanskrit Commission (1956-57), International Phonetic Association in London (1969) and Sahitya Akademi (1969 onwards till death), and member of the Indian Languages Commission (1955-56). He shared the political views of the Indian National Congress. He died on May 29, 1977.

The sketch shows his residence, Sudharma, at 16 Hindustan Park in south Calcutta.





QUIZ ◻ Neil O'Brien

Saurav Sen reports on the Argus Plate Quiz 1990 :

"The Argus (Poser's) Plate Quiz was held over two days as usual at the Dalhousie Institute. This quiz has two special features, every year two quizmasters make their debut in open quizzing, the debutants this year being Joy Bhattacharya and Vimla Jagganath, the other feature being that only teams which have not won any AQUO quizzes in the past three years are eligible.

"The finals started on a bright note with all teams having scored by the end of the second round. Sanghati moved into an early lead and was placed 3.5 points ahead of LYC, their nearest rivals at half time. With the change of direction, fortunes changed and LYC ran out winners by the narrow margin of 1 point. The final scores were as follows : LYC—22, Sanghati—21, Illiterates——17.5, Argus A—17, Alekhine Chess Club—17, Magnum 12.5, Presidency College (Greens)—12 and Food for Thought—11.5. The winning team comprised Rimi Chatterjee, Arani Sinha, Anup Roy and Devraj Basu.

"Earlier, eliminations had been held on the 7th with the above teams qualifying. South Point School did very well to have four teams move into the preliminaries. However, it was the established teams, which led the charge into the finals, held the next day.

"The two quizmasters did an excellent job, so much so, that an old D.I. member was heard to remark that this was the most interesting Poser's Plate he had seen in the past four years."

CBS

11th Question: **In US politics what is a 'kangaroo ticket'? (Diptendu Pal, 6/2 Newton Avenue, Durgapur 713206.)**
Ans: **When the running mate or vice-presidential candidate is stronger or better known than the candidate for the top office, the latter is said to be on a kangaroo ticket.**

"Robin Hood was an outlaw. What exactly did this mean?" asks Deepak Verma, Calcutta.

To be outlawed is to be put outside the protection of the law as a penalty for committing a crime or for trying to escape justice. In Britain the possessions and property of an outlaw were forfeited to the Crown, and down to the 14th century anyone might kill him without penalty. According to the law, everyone's hand should be against an outlaw. In the Middle Ages Robin Hood and his followers were outlaws; but mere outlaws were not the romantic figures that these were. In early times a man was declared an outlaw in England by a lengthy process in the 'shire' court. Later, as Parliament became recognised as the supreme court in the land, a swifter method was adopted: an 'Act of Attainder' was passed against him which usually condemned him to death, confiscated his property, and generally even disinherited his heirs. This was a useful weapon against a powerful political enemy. In the 15th century, during the Wars of the Roses, Henry VI and Edward IV each obtained an Act of Attainder against the other. Henry VIII obtained one against his chief adviser Thomas Cromwell, and William III against the Old Pretender, the son of James II.

In Britain, outlawry for refusal to appear before a court of law was abolished in civil cases in 1879; in criminal case it was abolished in 1938.

Political offenders have often been declared outlaws or banished from their native land or city. In ancient Rome, exile, accompanied by loss of the rights of citizenship, was a harsh punishment, for, to a Roman to be deprived of citizenship was a great disgrace, and also made him liable to be enslaved wherever he went. In Athens, a system known as 'ostracism' could be used to remove from the city for a period of 10 years any person who, by reason of his wealth, the number of his friends, or other means of influence, was becoming over-prominent and thereby threatening the democracy. A famous Athenian outlawed in this way was Themistocles (471 BC). In the Middle Ages, Dante was outlawed from the Republic of Florence on a baseless charge of misusing his public appointment in the city.

Postscript: Entries for the Argus Close-up Quiz close on October 14.

QUESTIONS

1. Which is the first Indian newspaper to appoint an ombudsman ? (Pradip Kr Das, Calcutta 65)

2. Who is the Japanese actress with Mithun Chakraborty in Bishwanath Ghosh's production *Swarna Trishna*? (Richa Pandey, Jamshedpur 3)

3. Who are the "Afridis"? (Arunava Maity, Kharagpur 2)

4. What are vimo and gasp ? (Shahid Mehmet Siddiqui, Calcutta 16)

5. Name the first Indian Bank to start operations in the Antarctic region? (Akshaya Kr Pati, Jharsuguda 1)

6. What is alpenglow ? (Navin Khoda, Siliguri)

7. When and where were the "Winter Olympics" started first ? (Ashok Kr Mohanty, Sambalpur 4)

8. On whose short story was the award-winning film *Teesri Kasam* directed by Basu Bhattacharya based? (Jaydeep Guha Thakurta, Calcutta 59)

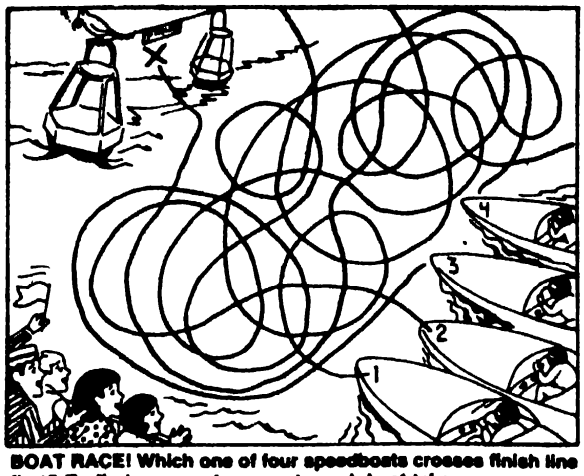
9. Who said, "The ideal love affair is one conducted by post ?" (Shahbaz Anjum, Calcutta 16)

10. In 1908 London Olympic Games N. Halswell (GBR) won a gold medal in 400 metre race with a unique record—what was that? (Firdaus Kamal, Calcutta 91)



ANSWERS

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



BOAT RACE! Which one of four speedboats crosses finish line first? To find answer, trace route each boat takes.

• ASK GRAMPS! Answer quickly, if you can: If Grandpa was two-thirds of his present age 24 years ago, how old is he now? Time limit: 30 seconds

He's seventy-two years old



STACKED DECK CARD MAGIC

Deal out 27 cards face up, left to right, into three piles. Ask someone to pick a card mentally as you deal, and to reveal which pile the card is in when you have finished dealing.

Pick up piles, seeing to it that pile containing the chosen card is placed between the other two. Deal out three more piles similarly.

Again, ask which pile the originally selected card is in. Place that pile between other two; deal three piles again

Now, ask which pile the card is in. Alakazam, it will be the 5th card down in that pile.

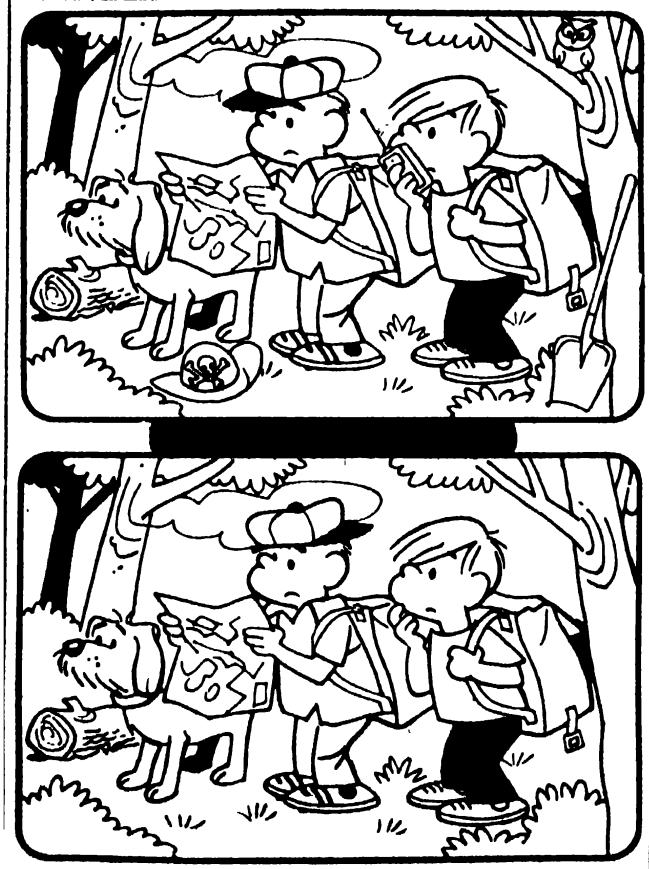


•HEAR YE! After a bitter lover's quarrel, Jerry wrote Ann the following note: "Woman without her man would be helpless." Whereupon Ann, the story goes, with two deft strokes of a pen, refuted Jerry's allegation.

Fancy yourself in Ann's shoes. How does she amend the note? P.S.: She does not change any words.

She inserts two commas, one after "woman" and the other after "her."

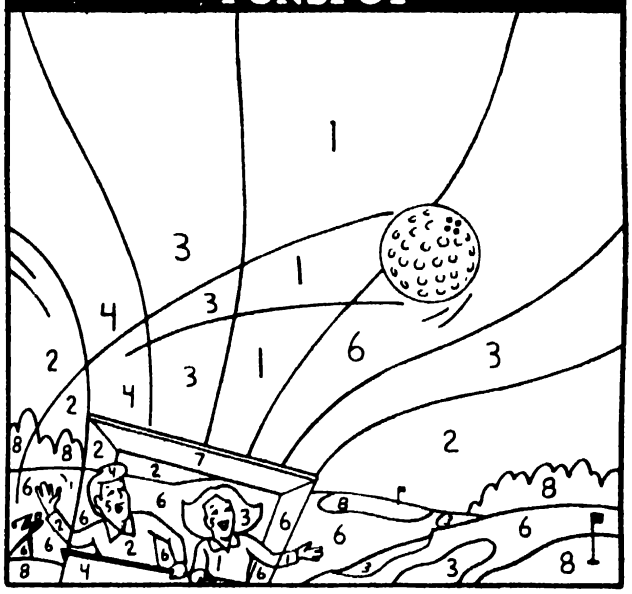
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Difference: 1. Dog's ear is shorter 2. Pirate hat is missing. 3. Cap is moved. 4. Walkie-talkie is missing. 5. Owl is missing 6. Shovel is missing.

FUNSPOT



FLY BY! Hey, watch out above...there are golfers below! Add these colors to scene: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Orange. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Dk. brown. 8—Dk. green.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

BADINAGE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible twosome: Gain, bead.



ARIES

March 21—April 20

You will have to cope with pressures and pulls in contrary directions Romance awaits you with bated breath Get set for investments, legacy and staking your claim Hustle and bustle could well lead to travel Sudden flareup of a chronic health ailment or a minor irritation is likely Children could cause problems and thus upset you Home conditions could provoke arguments and unpleasantness

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Expenses, journeys, secret work, collaborations, legal hassles, loans and funds are the week s highlights A job switch is on the astro agenda October 7 and 8 will be lucky for you Remember, first finance and then romance You may have to contend with investments, additional responsibilities and possibly resultant health factors

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

Entertain, be amiable, get out of your shell and see how friends and strangers help you It is time to step out in style, specially on October 8, 9, 12 and 13 In romance, you will bloom and flower out, let your heart be the hunter

CANCER

June 21—July 20

The accent this week is on home, house, buying/selling/shopping, travel and an extra dose of work Parents and in-laws could be demanding So will the boss In finance you do well despite the mounting bills and expenditure Spare a little time for romance, but attend to your duties/responsibilities first

LEO

July 21—August 21

Go all out for the kill Your work will be done Mid-week should be tackled diplomatically The weekend is excellent for fun and business In romance your heart will be a nest of singing birds New contracts and deals will be made A hobby would be ideal for you to relax from overwork Take a holiday and go for an outing Being together with your family will surely help Your home will be beautified

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Hard work, loans, funds, capital raising, buying, selling and shopping are the week's main trends Entertainment and bargaining are not ruled out Add a touch of class and beauty to romance Do not be nervous, fidgety and fussy, and all will be well Despite cancellations and postponement, travel is on the cards November is definitely travel time It is time for cleaning, polishing and rearranging the home

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Marriage, alliance, collaborations, journeys, import-export, publicity, sales, distribution and reaching out to people and places are signified You win the game of life and love Deeds, documents, contracts, deals, promotion and perks are indicated. In romance, you have a roaring time and must pay for it in more ways than one

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 22

Despite a feverish schedule, you will do well Colleagues and servants will have to be appeased Promotion is on its way Loans and funds will be secured In job, irritation and vexations are possible But you will pull through Extra health care is a must

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23—Dec 20

Your wishes will be fulfilled, so go all out Your wit and charm will be appreciated Children, marriage, hobbies, pastime, house moving and creativity are favourably signified In romance, passion and intimacy are the names of the game In finance, new ventures, activity, expansion are likely Tap different sources and see the money pour into your pocket

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Home gets the attention it deserves, and changes in the office or business premises are foretold It is time to work your guts and gore out Buying, selling, investing, decorating, renovating, loans and funds are highlighted Romance will be good in bits and parts Your ardour will surface occasionally

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Wine and roses, journey and communication, new beginnings and expansion are the main trends In romance, your range will be from adoring veneration to physical passion You could feel under the weather You will fan out to people and places, and accomplish much It is travel time The domestic affairs signify renovation, buying and selling

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Traders, businessmen and commission agents get more mileage this week, as buying, selling, shopping and purchasing are emphasised Also, artistes and researchers will be in their element. Romance will be enough to make you want for more next week.

BIRTHDAYS

October 7

Moon trine Saturn: Go in for long-range benefits and not quick gains and get-rich schemes. Loans and funds will be available after some delay, but your work will not suffer. One step at a time is the astro message for today.

October 8

Moon conjunction Mars: Journeys, secrecy and publicity are among the areas that will be highlighted. Those in research, chemistry, foreign collaborations, teaching and the arts are especially well. Be ready to seize the many attractive opportunities that will undoubtedly come your way. Your debts and investments

October 9

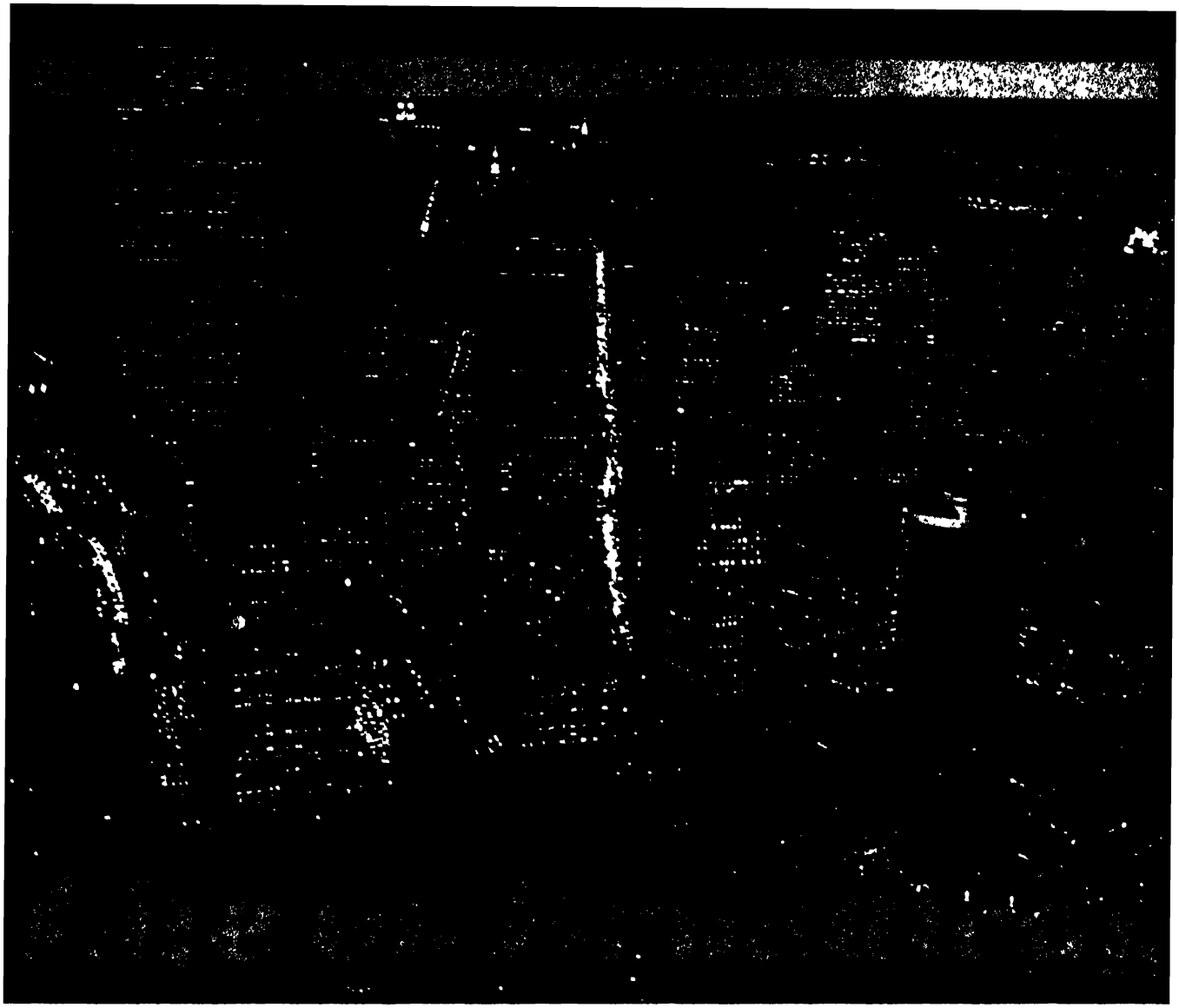
Moon opposition Saturn: Just because you are [illegible] you must not be [illegible] Neptune: The opposition means that you must be on your guard against treachery and flattery. Know what you want, make a plan and do your best to achieve it in a quiet, practical manner. Take difficulties as a challenge. It will be a tough, but not an impossible time.

October 11

Moon opposition Saturn: trine Pluto: While you succeed in your ventures and enterprises, the going may not be all that smooth and easy. The personal and professional factors in your life should be kept in distinct compartments. Money and you will be bosom friends, so cheer up.

October 12

Sun trine Mars: Peppiness and energy will be your [illegible]



Cutting a swath of lights from the tip of Manhattan, America's most famous glitter street beckons to the star-struck like a blazing theatre marquee. Intense, raucous and gaudy, it is where people aim for top billing in business, fashion and art—or dance their way to glory in hit musicals.

Rick Gore, a *National Geographic* editor, first stepped foot on Broadway when he was only 13. It was 1959 and he and his older brother Christopher were on their own and on the town with tickets to *Gypsy*.

Since that electric moment in the show when Ethel Merman bellowed "I have a dream," Broadway "has always been the Street of Dreams to me," says Gore. He recently returned to Broadway to fulfill a promise to his dying brother, who had made his career on the Street of Dreams: To revise and stage a musical Christopher had created more than a decade ago.

It's a road of no return where dreams and nightmares live next to each other

A few things are quickly learned about Broadway revisited, Gore found. "Wherever Broadway goes, it makes things big. It makes things happen," says waiter Ali Johnson.

"Broadway is energy," feels Joseph Polisi, president of the Juilliard School, the famed performing-arts academy. "Yup, it sure is a hurry-up street," says shoeshiner Charles Culler, a 25-year veteran of cacophonous Times Square. "And these days it sure seems in a hurry to change."

"Broadway is change. That's its essence," says Batia Plotch of the Young Men's Hebrew Association. "It's a microcosm of the city, never very chic but always exciting."

"It's really just a series of villages," observes theatrical agent Fifi Oscard: Wall Street, SoHo, the fashion and theatre districts, the Upper West Side, Columbia University, Harlem, Washington Heights.

Originally an Indian path to the Adirondack Mountains, Broadway now runs 17 miles from Manhattan's southern tip to the Bronx It travels four more miles before crossing over into suburban Westchester County, where it eventually becomes the Albany Post Road.

Broadway is the spine of Manhattan, intersecting all major avenues from Park Avenue West. At each intersection it creates a square—Union, Madison,

Herald, Times

Wall Street is where Gore began his journey up this rambunctious river of life At 160 Broadway, he found probably the world's most successful trader of futures "We manage about $500 million," says 35 year-old Paul Tudor Jones II 'Since 1984 we've had only one losing quarter Our returns to our customers have aver aged more than 90 per cent a year "

Jones belongs to a new breed of whiz kids who began lighting bonfires on Wall Street in the late 1970s and turned Manhattan into an island filled with young professionals earning outrageous sums of money

I m successful Jones tells Gore 'because I hate losing money with a passion He sees the world as a flow chart for capital He talks about waves of money shifting across international bor ders, seeking the best haven for the immediate future But he also is investing in the future of 109 disadvantaged Brook lyn sixth graders through a programme called I Have a Dream

Jones has agreed to pay for the college education of all those who make it through high school Each week he makes time to work individually with them

"The growth of New York followed Broadway, architectural historian Barry Lewis explains in lower Manhattan "Down here the streets wind around like those of a medieval city Broadway was the only major street to cut through the jumble " The city's first subway line ran along Broadway

Across Canal Street is SoHo (south of Houston Street) It is now known primarily for art About 20 years ago its huge abandoned lofts, mostly located off West Broadway, began attracting poor artists Art dealers began flocking to SoHo about 1980

Increasingly the art world is moving east to Broadway itself The 11 storey building at 578 Broadway has become a centre of the high-priced avant-garde Eighteen galleries under one roof thrive on daring contemporary art

A few blocks north there is a gallery of another kind, the American Indian Community House Gallery Indians on Broadway? About 15,000 Indians live in the city Fifty seven tribes are represented here," says Community House spokesman Rudy Martin a Tewa/Navajo If we were a reservation we d be the 11th largest We come here like everybody else—to get a piece of the American dream

North of Houston Street, Broadway takes a diagonal turn before creating Union Square at 14th Street Before the turn of the century, 14th Street was the beginning of a glorious stretch of Broadway known as Ladies Mile Here were the great shops where refined women selected lacework and millinery Although for years the neighbourhood has been a warehouse and small-factory district, many of the elegant storefronts remain

Ladies Mile ends at 23rd Street—Madison Square After World War I, Broadway's shopping district moved north and the streets near Madison Square became a bastion of blue-collar jobs But this part of Broadway is once again attracting young and stylish professionals such as John Bond

A 32-year-old award-winning advertising executive, Bond is a partner in one of the hottest agencies in the country No swank Madison Avenue, his offices are a converted warehouse But they bustle, Gore writes, and like many of the brasher agencies, they are on Broadway

Where Broadway intersects 6th Avenue sits dinky little Herald Square, with the big reputation for giving song writer George M Cohan s regards to Broadway

Around the turn of the century Tin Pan Alley and New York s theatre district were anchored here at 34th Street At least 85 theatres lined area streets before movies and television Their electric lights gave Broadway its nickname, the Great White Way

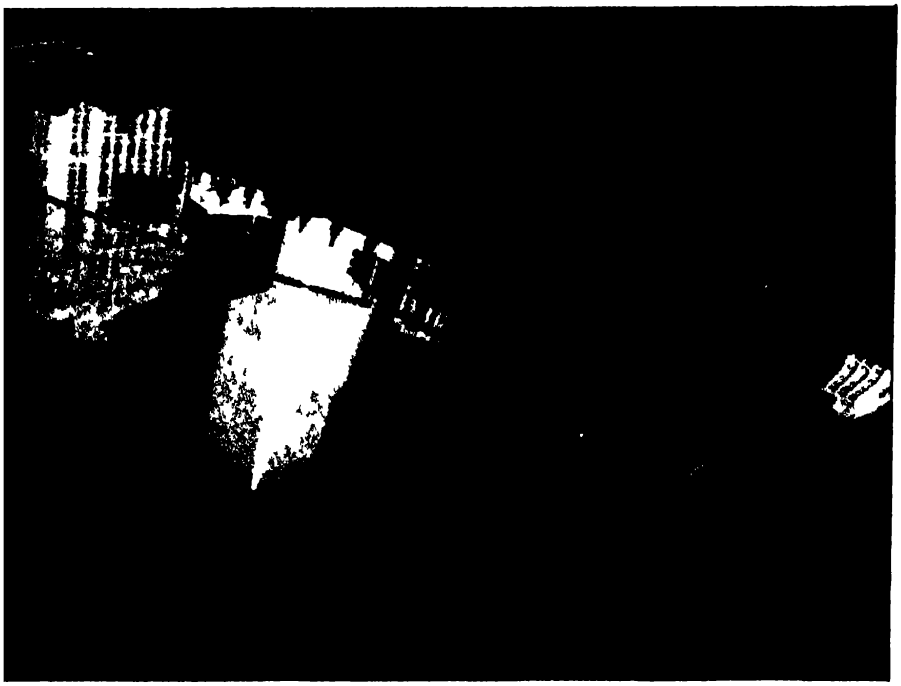
In her office overlooking Times Square fashion executive Liz Claiborne unparallelled icon of the American working woman, tells Gore We are on Broadway and not Seventh Avenue That s an important distinction Seventh Avenue means high fashion—Calvin Klein Bill Blass, Geoffrey Beane Broadway means higher volume broader appeal It s fashion as an industry as a well organised bsuiness '

Another formidable woman at Times Square has been fighting to save an old dream—her father s vision of a neon-lit Broadway Tama Starr is the powerhouse behind the sign company that made the smoking Camel Coca Cola Panasonic and for more than 90 years nearly every other sign in Times Square

In 1907 her grandfather Jacob Starr, invented the ball that drops over Times Square every New Year s Eve During the 1950s her late father, Mel, painted the square with its famous flashes of neon "My father saw these signs as pieces of music They reflect the rhythms of Broadway, she says I say their twinkling stimulates our dream neurons "

But neon fell out of fashion Then in the early 1980s Japanese manufacturers brought their unabashed love of neon back to Broadway with a spate of expensive new signs

A grass-roots movement also sprang up to keep Broadway aglow with neon Led



A Wall Street limousine adds the Midas touch to reflections of a venerable New York landmark, Trinity Church, and to the distant towers of the World Trade Center. Near Wall Street, at 160 Broadway, the company that is probably the world's most successful trader of futures manages about $500 million. Its returns to the customers have averaged more than 90 per cent a year



Intense, raucous and gaudy, New York's Broadway is the street of dreams, where people aim for the top billing in business, fashion and art. Some dance their way to glory in musicals such as *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*, a medley of the choreographer's greatest works. New York's growth has followed the fabled street

by Starr and the Municipal Art Society, the coalition won a radical redesign of proposed new office buildings. New zoning regulations require razzle-dazzle lighting on all the new hotels and office buildings sprouting between 42nd and 50th Streets. Already more than an acre of new neon or flashing signs is planned.

Change cannot come fast enough for some along 42nd Street. "This street is awful. It's filled with miscreants," says Rebecca Robertson, president of the city-state agency charged with revitalising Times Square.

"Last year there were 2,300 reported crimes—six a day—on this one block. And I don't think people here spend a lot of time reporting crime."

But 42nd Street has the remnants of some of New York's most beautiful theatres. Plans are to restore a few. "We want to break up the idea that 42nd Street is the place to go to look for prostitutes, crack and runaway kids," Robertson says. Today 15 new skyscrapers rise in the theatre district.

At the Juilliard School at Lincoln Center, Veronica Villarroel, a working girl from Chile who scarcely knew she could sing, prepares for a potentially world-class future in opera. "This really is a dream I didn't want," she says. "But so many people kept pushing me."

In a decrepit building off Broadway on 94th Street the desk clerk screams curses at a tenant. It is one of many West Side apartment structures that have been subdivided for single-room occupancy, a last housing resource for low-income people.

Upstairs another tenant, who died in a fall, is being put in a body bag. Vashti McMicheaux, who panhandles on Broadway, lies on a sheetless bed and watches television in the nearby 8-ft-by-12-ft room where she has lived for 30 years.

Recent court-ordered repairs are sloppily done. The wall behind the bed is unpainted. The bathroom has not been fixed and has been locked for a week. But McMicheaux always pays her rent, because she has nowhere else to go.

"We expose aspiring journalists relentlessly to the real world," says Stephen Isaacs of Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism at 116th Street. "Walk out that door onto Broadway and you can't help but find a story."

At the Harlem School of the Arts 15-year-old Maria Pineda, oldest of six children whose father was killed by random police fire in Honduras, is trying to make her dreams come true. "I want to be a star," she says.

The school is a refuge from her walk-up apartment on 158th Street, one of New York's most crack-infested streets. "I don't like to go outside. Even inside my building there are sometimes blood-soaked bodies," she says. Gore asks where she will be in 10 years. "In a nice house in Hollywood, California," she replies. "I'll be an actress."

At the Fort Washington Armory on 168th Street some 700 cots fill the vast drill floor. Men, many desperate, some crazed, all homeless, mingle beneath the harsh lights. A foul, institutional odour wafts up.

This is New York's most notorious homeless shelter and even its director—not knowing Gore is a journalist—describes it as "intolerable and inhumane." Gore is shaking as he steps back onto the street.

"That's the way the dreams are along Broadway," he writes. "The good ones and the bad ones all take the same train." *(National Geographic News Service)*

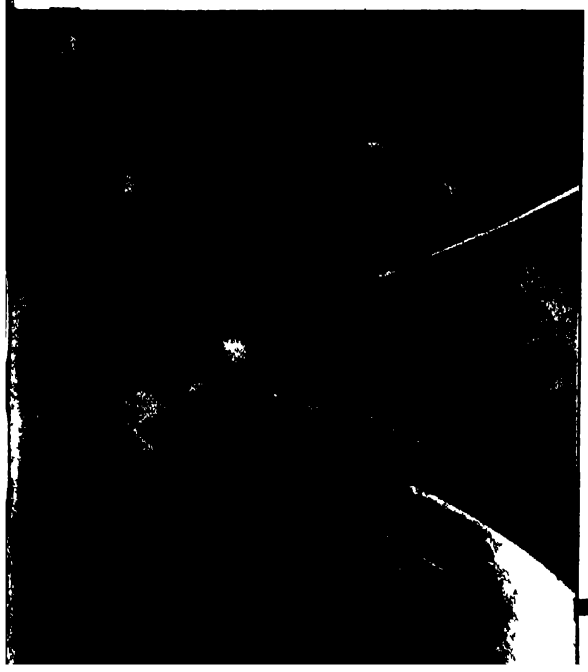
THE I

You ha
that lie



BEAUTY BEYOND

e seen all these objects of waste. But have you noticed the grace
even in decay? **D.S. Nahar** looks through the camera, fascinated





ROGUES



Tusks displayed at the forest department's exhibition in Tiruvananthapuram

The poachers' relentless drive for highly-prized ivory have had tuskers in the southern states on the run for a long time. With their numbers rapidly dwindling while the ban on ivory remains only on paper, this majestic animal—once so much a part of India—is now in danger of becoming extinct. An on-the-spot report from G.C. Shekhar

If ever the three southern states of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu decide to shoot a joint venture film they have one readymade title—*They Shoot Elephants, Don't They?* For, if there is one common problem that is worrying wildlife authorities in these three states, it is elephant poaching. Particularly the systematic hunting down of the male elephants for their highly valued tusks.

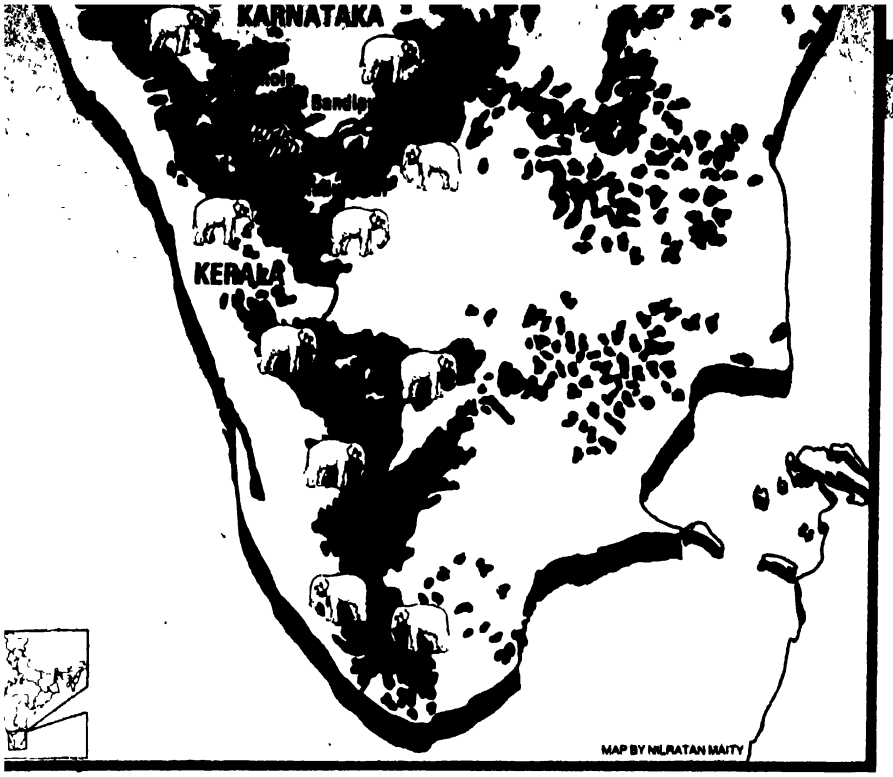
With an estimated 100 tuskers killed annually since 1980, the tusker, with its smooth, snowy-white tusks has become a rarity in the forests of Periyar, Idukki, Wynad, Mudumalai, Nagarhole and Bandipur. The only places where visitors are assured of a view of these majestic animals are in the temples of Kerala. The wild tusker is fast becoming an endangered species.

Though government figures on elephant poaching provided by the forest departments of these three states tend to underplay the actual numbers of bulls killed by poachers, the harsh reality remains that

The same sto



Photographs: N. Madhavan Pillay



the sex ratio of one male to every two female elephants in 1978 has widened to one male to every four females today, placing a big question mark over the survival of the elephant race.

This alarming decline in the number of tuskers is directly linked to the activities of professional gangs that hunt down the tuskers and sell the chopped tusks for hefty amounts. Despite a series of bans on trading in ivory articles, there remains a substantial illicit market in ivory carvings which in turn keeps up the demand for the tusks.

While trading in ivory of Indian tuskers has been banned since 1972 the import of ivory of African elephants was permitted till January this year. Though there was a sizeable import of the African ivory through merchants based in Bombay and later in Delhi, Indian ivory was still the preferred raw material for the artisans, especially those located in Trichur, Cochin and Trivandrum.

Unlike the other Indian species, the tuskers from south India sport a pair of tusks distinguished by their snowy white colour and high density. With traders willing to pay as much as Rs 2,000 to Rs 3,000 per kg. for the tusks, a pair of full grown tusks can easily fetch anything between Rs 30,000 to Rs 40,000.

This has attracted gangs of poachers to scour the forests, especially in the Periyar-Idukki belt of Kerala, for the tuskers. With very few bulls with full grown tusks to be found, poachers are now gunning down even younger males whose tusks weigh less than 10 kgs. Normally the tribals are paid measly amounts or just a pouch of tobacco or some hooch to scout and spot the bulls.

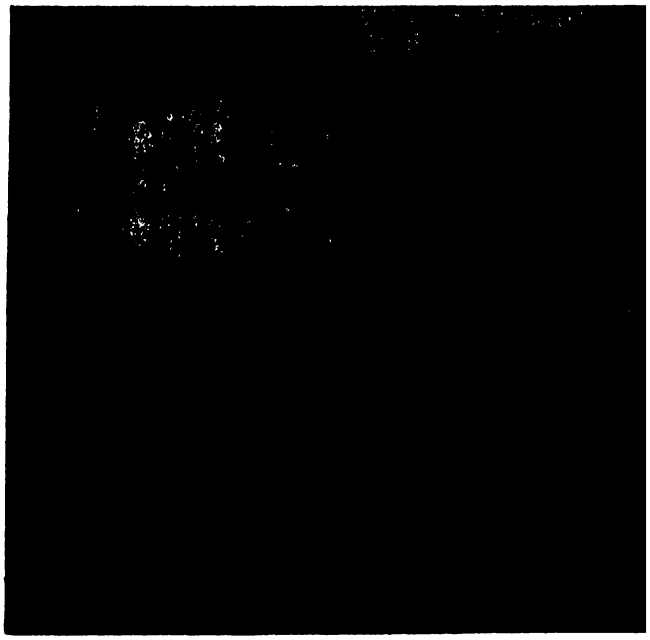
Once a bull is spotted the killer gang, carrying high velocity rifles (bought from Sri Lankan militants), track the bull and gun it down. Normally the elephant runs wild with the bullet injuries for about two days before falling dead. The killers depart, leaving the job of extracting the tusks to the tribals under the supervision of one of the poachers. If the corpse is allowed to lie for two or three days *rigor mortis* sets in. The tribals pour kerosene over the face to burn it. This makes extraction easier. The common axe is used to chop away the tusks. With little damage to the ivory the tusks are normally buried in a nearby place and are taken out of the forest when there is no threat of capture by the forest rangers.

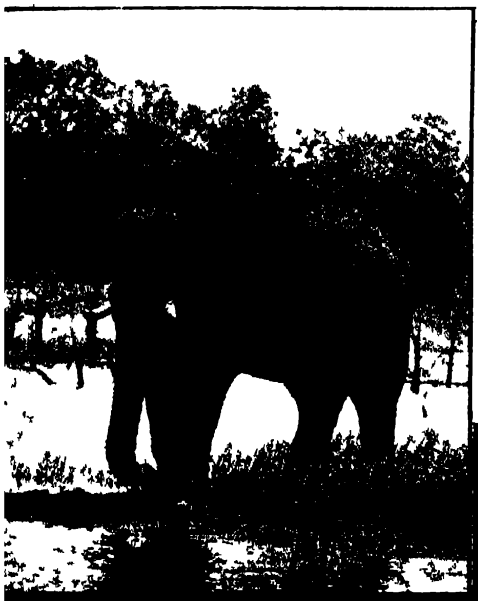
The main gangs that operate in the Kerala forests abutting the Tamil Nadu border normally escape through villages on the Tamil Nadu side. "Most of the poachers often camp in these villages for weeks together till a tusker is spotted. Many residents of these villages and nearby towns safe-keep the tusks, charging a fee, before the poachers decide to smuggle them to other destinations", says a forest officer of Tamil Nadu.

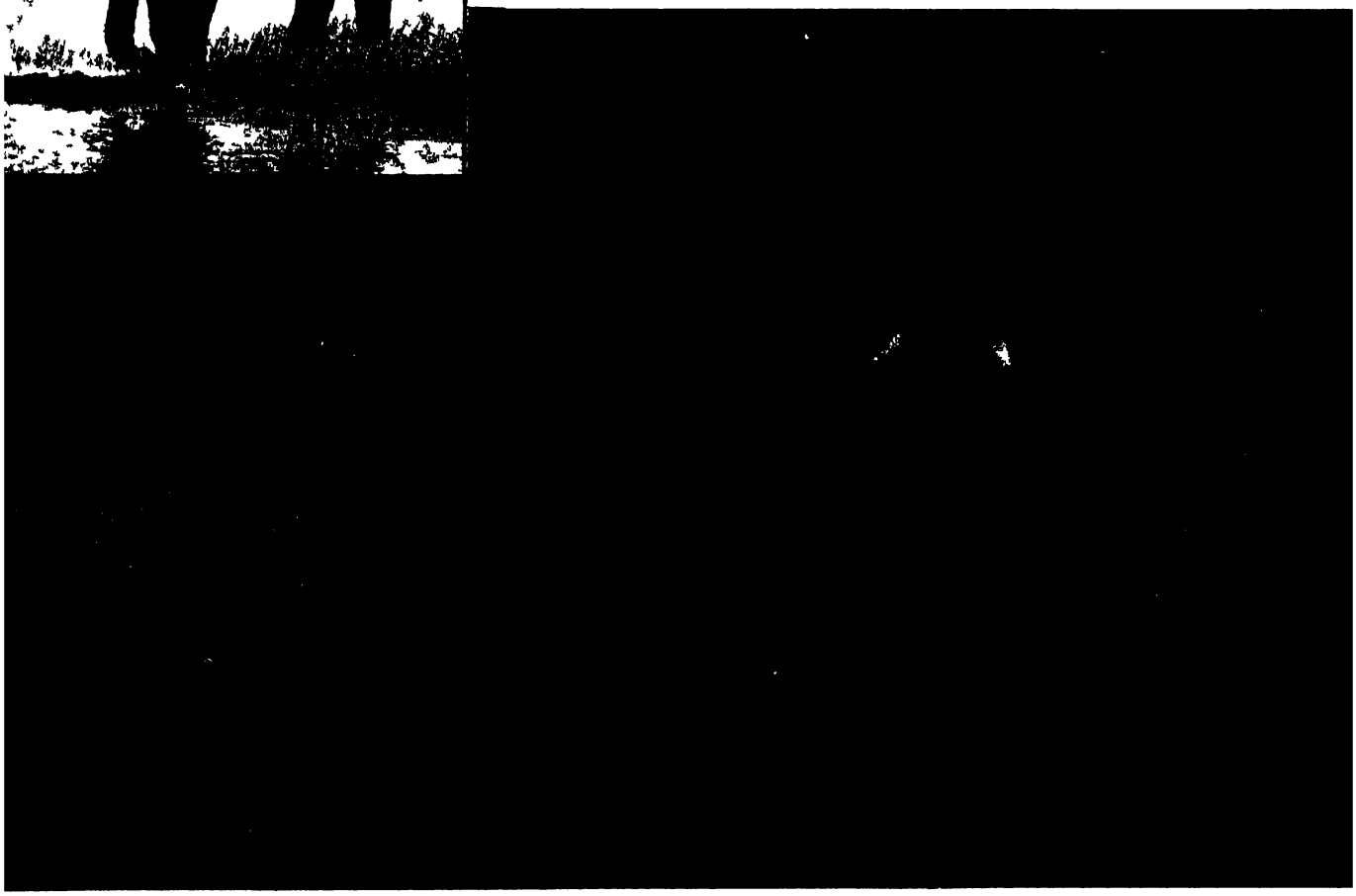
Since the elephants normally live in the

ıe tusk of a dead bull being chopped off....the tusks being carried off....and the forest guards arriving too late









Endangered: A tusker in the Idukki forests and (inset) in Thekadi Lake

that the success rate in apprehending poachers has gone up considerably in the past few years The formation of watch squads using villagers has proved to be a great success, since it is the villager who knows if a poacher has entered the forest or not "

Probably not satisfied with the protection offered by the law, the hunted pachyderms have started evolving their own protection system Many tuskers hole up deep in the forests, often in the most inaccessible areas, making it difficult for the poachers to hunt them down

More interestingly, the south Indian bull has developed a genetic safeguard against extinction In the last one decade many bulls have been found not to develop any tusks at all even after they are 15 to 20 years old These tuskless males, called 'Makhnas' were first found in Sri Lanka, but now even the south Indian males are adapting the policy of 'No tusks, long life '

Madhavan Pillay, who has spent a lifetime studying the south Indian elephants, feels that this genetic adaptation is one of nature's wonders to protect her children and calls for deeper research since genetic adaptation in large animals is normally very slow The dinosaurs of the past became extinct as they were too large to adapt, while the smaller animals did so at a rapid pace

And it is these 'Makhnas' that may save the south Indian elephants from extinction Meanwhile, the Indian Government is also planning a Rs 135-crore Project Elephant on the lines of Project Tiger, to save the south Indian elephants who number about 3,000 in Kerala and 3,500 in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu

But wildlife experts argue that the punishments for poaching and trading in banned wildlife articles ought to be made more stringent to really put the fear in poachers The Kerala government is preparing a plan to rehabilitate the ivory craftsmen, whose families number 1,500, in other trades like wood carving so that ivory carving can be totally rooted out

The inability of the customs authorities to distinguish between ivory and plastic carvings encourages foreign tourists to smuggle out these small pieces of handicraft without much difficulty People should also be discouraged from buying ivory carvings As Pillay quipped, "Next time somebody says ivory, you should say "I worry "

jungles of the Western Ghats that fall under all the three states, the poachers can easily get away through one of the borders Realising that the poachers were taking advantage of the poor coordination between the wildlife agencies of the three states, forest officials have evolved a system which allows for greater interaction among the three states Also special Central funds are being made available to the three states to purchase more wireless sets, vehicles and arms

Claims Madhavan Pillay, chief conservator of forests, Kerala "It is not known

TRAPPED!

Just about a year ago, 191 pieces of leopard cat skins, leopard skins and tiger skins worth several lakh rupees were seized by the wildlife department in Calcutta. The skins had come in two separate parcels to the Chittaranjan Avenue post office in the city from Goalpara in Assam. Both the name and the address of the person to whom the parcels had been sent were ficticious. The leopard skins were worth around Rs 25,000 apiece and the leopard cat skins about Rs 2,000 each.

The Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 has done little to stop the indiscriminate slaughter of animals, many of them rare and endangered. Ivory, feathers, reptile skins, cat skins, etc. still continue to pour into illegal markets, dodging the law enforcing authorities with impunity.

It is not the traditional methods of hunting and trapping of animals that have affected the animal population as much as the development of roads, specially in rural India. The interiors have become accessible and poachers are taking full advantage of this. The north-east, for instance, is now an unending source of supply.

The hunters who live there are *shikaris* by tradition and used to collect animals primarily for food. Now with the increasing demand for skin and horns they have resorted to killing animals beyond their personal needs.

It is usually this brand of people who produce poachers. In many cases, the people who kill and sell animal products do not even know that trade in them is banned. Tribals and villagers often come to the cities and sell their animal products openly in the markets. It is not unusual to find musk , reptile skins, oil extractions from lizards, snakes, horse-shoe and king crabs on the pavements.

Poaching today is an organised crime all over the world and India is no exception. Huge sums of money are spent by financers who consider this as an investment just like any other though the risk factor is greater. A great deal of modern machinery is used in this business. The poachers who hunt down big game today use heavy automatic rifles, some even fitted with silencers. For lesser animals the traditional method of using bow and arrow, poisons in the form of pesticides, and traps serve the purpose. These methods are sure and the yield is much greater. Also shooting runs the risk of attracting the notice of the forest guards and giving away the poacher's position.

The poachers today form a unique band of killers who have perfected the technique of ensuring a 100 per cent success rate. They are highly efficient in jungle craft and as hunting is their only source of income they usually take it seriously. It is difficult to match their skills in tracking and detecting the presence and hideout of animals. Most of them roam the forests at night. This not only enables them to avoid detection by the law enforcing authorities but also to take advantage of the fact that most animals are active during the night.

Bows and arrows, usually preferred as they are silent, are used on small animals like deer, wild boar, smaller cats, civets, hares, squirrels and birds. To kill tuskers or rhinos a heavy automatic rifle is necessary though a new method of electrocuting is gaining popularity. Animals which burrow or live in holes or crevices—like civets, otters, snakes and monitor lizards—are dug up or smoked out and then clubbed or speared to death. Small animals, including a vast number of cats are mostly trapped or snared. The 'funda' as it is locally called comes in various shapes and sizes. These are mostly made of nylon strings these days and are much stronger than the traditional ropes. Traps are specially devised with a pair of toothed jaws mostly made of iron which catches hold of the animal's body firmly, biting into it with every struggle. Most of the time when the animals are retrieved, they are either dead or badly multilated and the skin is unsaleable.

Noose and snares are made of thin but strong iron wires and nylon ropes. These are devised to catch animals such as pan-



Freshly killed civets being hawked in Betanagar

golins, porcupines, large monitor lizards, rodents, and even small deer. Here too, there is a lot of 'waste' because a line of snares also catches animals other than what the poacher wants.

There are other methods as well. Small birds are usually caught by placing branches or twigs with adhesive on them, or with the help of nets. Large nets are used in trawling sea turtles in deep seas when they head shorewards to lay eggs. The animals or birds sold as pets are usually caught young, at times even when they are weaning. The survival rate here too is low. Most of the parrots sold are either caught in the nest holes or as young birds who have barely learnt to fly.

Animals that are caught to be killed for fur mostly meet a painful end poisoned. Pesticides—particularly folidol—are popular. Many a tiger in this country falls prey to this method. To stop tigers, lions, snow



e national bird for sale at Sealdah Station

leopards, clouded leopards and the common leopards from killing cattle, villagers often poison the kills. Once killed the skin is collected by a poacher or a middleman to be smuggled out of the territory. Big cats fall to crack shots who sit up the night in front of water holes. Another gadget is the self-triggered gun. This gun is placed in the path normally used by a large cat. The animal shoots itself when it releases a spring to which the trigger is attached. This method enables the poacher to be away from the scene so that he can avoid detection.

Once killed the animals are skinned quickly and the remains are buried deep and fast. The carcass is never left in the open to decompose as they attract vultures very fast. Skinned, it becomes easy to carry the poached items in larger numbers and virtually without detection.

It is not only for skins which go into making bags and garments that animals are killed. Rhino horns are supposed to have aphrodisiac values, which till now no one has proved. Bones and claws of tigers and other big cats become pendants and lockets for necklaces. The fat of a tiger is valued as aphrodisiac and for being a cure for rheumatism; the collar bone and whiskers are used as love charms or pounded to make poison; liver extracts soothe eye ailments. There is a belief that the eyes of a live slender loris are potential charms to win the love a desired person. The eyeballs are pulled out of the poor animal alive and then it is left to bleed to death. On the other hand the extremely rare marbled cat is killed for its fur.

In certain areas of the north-east all cats including tigers are prized for their meat. Even bears are not left out of this list. Palm civets, toddy cats, small Indian and the large Indian civets are also killed for the same reason. Tribal migratory labourers who work at the brick klins on the outskirts of the metropolis of Calcutta, systematically seek out smaller animals. This has virtually wiped out a large number of small animals such as otters, civets, mongoose, hares, squirrels and monitor lizards. Even the red fox and the Indian fox have not been spared. To kill them dogs are used, or poisoned baits are placed. But the more popular method is to place explosives in baits to blow off the head of the animal.

The method of killing is determined by the end use of the animal and no effort whatsoever is taken to reduce brutality. The kills are made with one thing in mind, that is to make sure that the animal dies. This is evident from the methods used in capturing fresh water and marine turtles by fishermen. Hooks are used to catch fresh water varieties, curved ones for the soft shelled and needle shaped ones for pond varieties. Another novel method is by using remoras or 'sucker fish'. The fishermen tie a strong cord onto the fish's tail and when a turtle is sighted a number of these tied fishes are thrown into the water. The fish manages to latch on to the turtle's body and the animal has no chance of escaping at all. Marine turtles fall easy prey to the modern trawlers' nets and are sold in the open market, despite a ban on their trade as meat or as pets. Till not very long ago the pet shops in Calcutta sold river turtles to be kept in aquariums. The ones that are killed for meat meet a bloody end. Slices of meat are cut away from the animal's body when it is still alive.

Every year hundreds of turtles are caught and sold to be had as protein diet. All the large cities have markets where trade goes on, either under cover or openly. Turtles are easily available in the Gariahat and Ultadanga markets in Calcutta. Birds are also sold as pets at Hatibagan. A family in north Calcutta had a stock of chilled duck meat in their fridge for sale even last year. Most of the meat were from endangered migratory ducks.

There are organised markets in other metropolises as well. Bombay's Crawford market sells a wide variety of animals as pets, while Goalpara in Assam and Shikarpatty in Patna caters to a diverse variety of animals to be sold as pets. This market has the notoriety of selling caged clouded leopards to private collectors in the west. Ivory tusks can be purchased at different collection centres which are mostly near forests.

Usually, large consignments, such as the one intercepted in Calcutta a year ago, are collected by middlemen from different sources before they are packed. They are not the work of one poacher. Snakes and lizard skins are tanned in the cities before being packed to be sent abroad. West Asia and Europe are good for skins and furs. On the other hand, bones, claws, horns and ivory sell well in China and Japan. Bulk purchases of ivory by Japan has virtually driven the elephant population in India as well as Africa to the brink of extinction.

Trade in animal skins and products thrive despite the ban imposed by CITES, the worldwide enforcement organisation. The simple reason is the huge amount of money involved. For example, tiger skins fetch more than a lakh of rupees in the international market while a full grown crocodile skin would fetch around Rs 40,000 to Rs 50,000. The price of the rhino horn is astronomical.

The utter poverty of the people who live around the forests has led them to become hardened animal slaughterers. A mere note of Rs 100 can lure a tribal or a villager to track and eventually kill animals, and in most cases he is not aware of the crime. To him the Rs 135-crore Elephant Project to be launched soon hardly matters as his survival becomes easy once he becomes an elephant tracker. Need has also driven many a fisherman to enter the core area of the Sunderban Tiger Reserve without a permit in search of timber and deer skins.

Poaching will carry on until there is very strict enforcement of the ban in the trade of animal products. Laws and rules have to be stricter and merely punishing the offender with a petty fine will not help. In most cases the kingpin among poachers has government connections, which enables them to keep clear of the law. The poachers also operate in organised groups and are better armed than the forest guards.

The time has come for us to realise the importance of saving our wildlife. The magnificent cheeta which once roamed the Indian forests is now extinct. So are many other species. But poachers are keeping alive a trade without which we can definitely survive.

Indra Mukherjee

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentick Street; 281917)—4 shws; Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270) & Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417)—noon.

Mahesh Bhatt's tribute to young love, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy. The music is by Nadeem Shravan.

• **Doodh Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442)—11.30, 2.30, 5.45, 9.

Directed by Ashok Gaikwad and with music by Annu Malik, the chief attractions in this film are Jackie Shroff, Neelam, Varsha Usgaonkar and Amrish Puri.

• **Nyay Anyay:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Roxy (Chowringhee Place; 284138), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street; 250437), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road; 474403).

A film by Lawrence D'Souza starring Jeetendra, Jaya Prada, Sumeet Saigal, Shilpa Shirodkar and Anupam Kher. The music is by Anand Milind.

• **Pratibandh:** Metro (Chowringhee Road; 280141), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141)—regular shows; Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—noon.

A new film, starring Chiranjeevi and Juhi Chawla. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Shesh Naag:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue; 390762), Basusree (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 484808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani; 311522), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street; 554033)—4 shows; Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road; 363264)—3 shows; Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—noon.

Directed by K.R. Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Mandakini, Madhavi and Danny.

• **Zakhmi Zameen:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani; 241132), Nasz (Lower Chitpur Road; 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 552932), Madhuban (Regent Park).

Aditya Pancholi and Jaya Prada are the lead pair. Also starring are Paresh Rawal and Ranjeet. The film is directed by Mahendra Shah and the music is by Anand Milind.

Foreign Films

• **Die Hard (A):** Globe (Lindsay Street; 298645)—12, 3, 6, 8.30.

An adventure hit, starring Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman and Bonnie Bedelia.

• **Halos (A):** Jamuna (Marquis Street; 243715)—4 shows; Navina (Prince Anwar Shah Road; 468091)—12, 3, 6; Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200). Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680) Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—all noon show.

An adult entertainer.

• **Leathal Weapon 2 (A):** New Empire (Humayun Place; 291051)—12, 3, 6, 8.30.

Directed by Richard Donner, the main cast of this film includes Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Joe Pesci, Joss Ackland, Derrick O'Connor and Patsy Kensit.

Bengali Films

• **Balidaan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani; 552200)—3, 6, 9; Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 350680)—2.30, 5.30, 8.30; Ujjala (Russa Road; 478666)—3, 6, 9, Malancha (Regent Park), Jaya (Lake Town; 573936)—3 shows.



Alan Rickman and Bonnie Bedelia in *Die Hard*



Rahul Roy and Anu Agarwal in *Aashiqui*

Anil Ganguly's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Raakhee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Papiya Adhikari, Nayana Das, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhishek Chatterjee, debutante Rupali and Tapas Paul. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Chakranta:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 274259), Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)—2, 5, 7.45; Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—2.30, 5.30, 8.

Ranjit Mullick and Moon Moon Sen are the lead pair. Others co-starring are Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhijit Sen, Rabi Ghosh, Ruma Guhathakurta and Sumanta Mukherjee. The film is directed by Amal Sur and the music is by Santimoy Mukherjee.

• **Debata (A):** Mmar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Victor Banerjee, Debashree Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, Kali Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Monmayuree:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—3 shows; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45; Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440)—2.30, 5.30, 8.

Moushumi Chatterjee, Tapas Paul, Deepankar De, Sreela Majumder, Subhendu Chatterjee, Lily Chakraborty and Master Rintu are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Biresh Chatterjee. The music is by Swapan Chakraborty.



Mel Gibson in *Lethal Weapon 2*



Indrani Dutta and Manoj Mitra in *Shesh Aaghaat*

• **Raja Badshah:** Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—3 shows

Directed by Palash Banerjee, the cast includes Swarup, Mrinal, Debika, Manmatha, Arjun, Anuradha, Master Abhi, Master Papan, Rana Mukherjee, Payal Bhattacharya and a pair of elephants. The music is by Arun Robin

• **Shesh Aaghaat:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani, 553045)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15, Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road, 242664)—3, 6, Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757)—3, 5.45, 8.30

A film by Jayanta Purkayastha, starring Tanuja, Deepankar De, Shoma Ananda, Nayana Das, Indrani Dutta, Manoj Mitra, Swarup Dutta, Biplab Chatterjee, footballer Subrata Bhattacharya and debutant Kumar Rana. The music is by Ravindra Jain.

Special Events

7 October: 6 pm

Calcutta Action Group presents two Hindi plays. *Kashmir Ki Bahon Mein* and *Bharat Mein Mahabharat*, both written by S H Ali and directed by S M Rashid

At Gyan Manch (11 Pretoria Street)

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Calcutta-Delhi. Arr (1) AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300
Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240
Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai. Dep (2) AI-101/AI-743 at 0240
Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr (5) AI-306 at 1830, Dep (5) AI-306 at 1930
Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI-309 at 1825, Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935
Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York. Dep (6) AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935
Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500
Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt. Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500
New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340
Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta. Arr (1) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300
Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4) SU-537 at 1525
Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow. Dep (4) SU-538 at 1725
Amman-Calcutta. Arr (1 4) RJ-184 at 0730
Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep (1 4) RJ 181 at 0830
Calcutta-Singapore Dep (2) SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep (7) SQ-413 at 1530
Singapore-Calcutta: Arr (2) SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr (5) SQ-414 at 0920
Calcutta-Bangkok: Dep (2, 4 7) IC-231 at 1050, Dep (1, 3 6) TG-314 at 1355, Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6) TG-313 at 1240
Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr, (6) IC-843 at 0755, Dep (6) IC-843 at 0855.
Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115, Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215
Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep (2, 4, 6, 7) IC-247 at 1600, Dep (1, 5) RA-214 at 1530, Arr (2, 4, 6, 7) IC-248 at 1915, Arr (1, 5) RA-213 at 1430
Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep (1, 7) IC-223 at 1340, Dep (2, 4, 6) IC-223 at 1640, Dep (2, 3, 5, 6) BG-092 at 1050, Dep (4) BG-092 at 1130 Dep (2, 3, 6) BG-094 at 1620 and BG-096 at 1940, Dep (5) BG-098 at 1820
Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr (1, 7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-224 at 1840, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) BG-091 at 1010 Arr (2, 3, 6) BG-093 at 1540, and BG-095 at 1910 Arr (5) BG-097 at 1740
Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (6) IC-225 at 1330, Dep (2, 5) BG-698 at 1415
Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr (6) IC-226 at 1550, Arr (2, 5) BG-697 at 1330
Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi. Dep (7) AI-1651 at 0500
Delhi-Calcutta Arr (1) AI-1320 at 1300 Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340
Calcutta-Bombay. Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240 Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935
Bombay-Calcutta: Arr (5) AI-306 at 1815

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi. Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225
Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily) IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855 Arr (daily) IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755
Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-265 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150
Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (2, 3, 4, 5, 6 7) IC-271 at 1500, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-272 at 2025
Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1, 2, 4, 6) IC-542 at 0730, Arr (1) IC-541 at 0945 and Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-541 at 1310
Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily) IC-229 at 1250 Arr (daily) IC-230 at 1550
Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) IC-201 at 1130, Arr (1, 3, 5, 6) IC-202 at 1245, Arr (2, 4) IC-202 at 1500
Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1030, Arr (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1540
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep (1, 3, 5, 6) IC-219 at 1120, Arr (1, 3 5, 6) IC-220 at 1600
Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep (daily) IC-2211 at 1100, Arr (daily) IC-222 at 1320
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-241 at 0700, Dep (2, 4) IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3, 5, 6, 7) IC-243 at 0600, Dep (1) IC-243 at 1400 Arr (daily) IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2, 4) IC 244 at 1600 Arr (3 5, 6, 7) IC-244 at 1020, Arr (1) IC-244 at 1600
Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep (daily) IC-255 at 0600, Arr (daily) IC-256 at 1030
Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep (3, 5, 6) IC-269 at 1710, Arr (3, 5, 6) IC-270 at 2040
Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep (1, 2, 7) IC-277 at 1745, Arr (1, 2, 7) IC-278 at 2215
Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep (2, 4) IC-285 at 0545, Arr (2, 4) IC-286 at 1015
Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep (1) IC- 287 at 0545, Arr (1) IC-288 at 1235
Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-410 at 0830, Arr (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-409 at 1510

Printed here is the regular Indian Airlines schedule. This is, however, subject to change. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep (1 3 5) PF-727 at 0530 Arr (1, 3 5) PF-728 at 1120
Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep (7) PF-729A at 0550 Arr (7) PF-730A at 1050
Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta. Dep (1, 3 5, 7) PF-701 at 1140, Arr (1, 3 5, 7) PF-702 at 1615
Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashahar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4 6) PF-729 at 0550 Arr (2 4, 6) PF-730 at 1040
Calcutta-Silchar-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar-Calcutta: Dep (2 4 6) PF-701 at 1100 Arr (2 4 6) PF-702 at 1715
Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep (1 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600 Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-716 at 0855
Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep (2, 6) PF-709 at 0815, Arr (2, 6) PF-710 at 1840
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep (4) PF-709 at 0815, Arr (4) PF-710 at 1750
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep (7) PF-709 at 0600, Arr (7) PF-710 at 1705
Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar-Guwahati: Dep (1, 3, 5, 7)

PF-705 at 0915, Arr (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-706 at 1620
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-729A at 1130, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-730A at 1410

Calcutta-Aizawl-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Patna: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-725 at 0550; Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF- 717 at 0550; Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-718 at 0745
Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-707 at 0600, Arr (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-708 at 0655

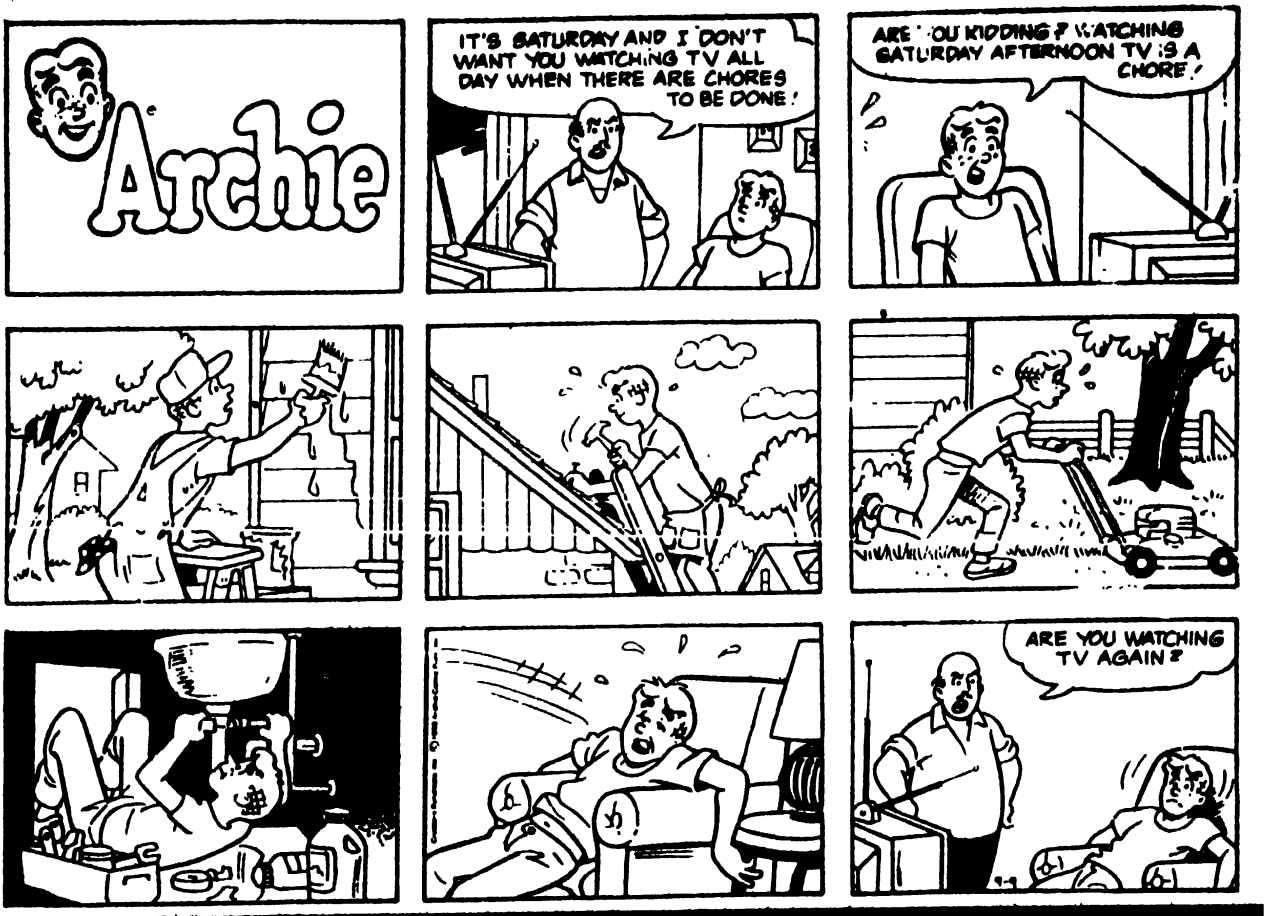
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

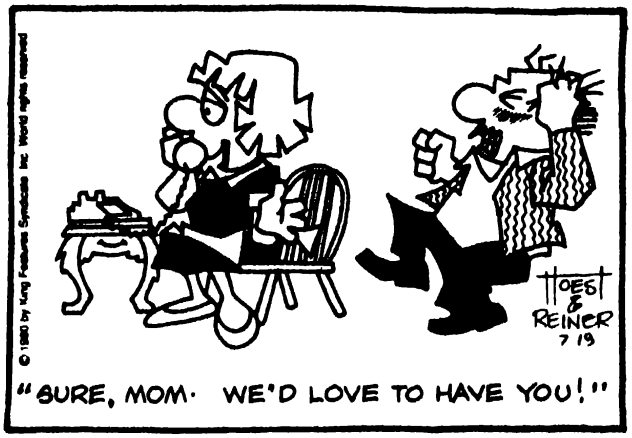
Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
6002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	6001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
6034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	6033
6030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	6029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr— Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

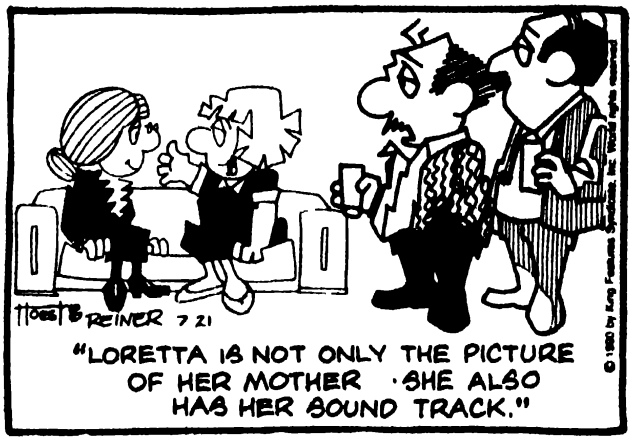

Archie
IT'S SATURDAY AND I DON'T WANT YOU WATCHING TV ALL DAY WHEN THERE ARE CHORES TO BE DONE!
ARE YOU KIDDING? WATCHING SATURDAY AFTERNOON TV IS A CHORE!
ARE YOU WATCHING TV AGAIN?


MOOSE MILLER by Bob Weber
MOOSE HAS A JOB?
HE'S A SECURITY GUARD AT THE BANK
RING!
LOANS
HELLO, MOLLY? PUT BLIP ON THE PHONE, WILL YOU?
BOBWEBER 5-14
MOOSE! WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL AND ASK ME TO PICK YOU UP AT THE STATION?
CHIPS
BOBWEBER 5 15

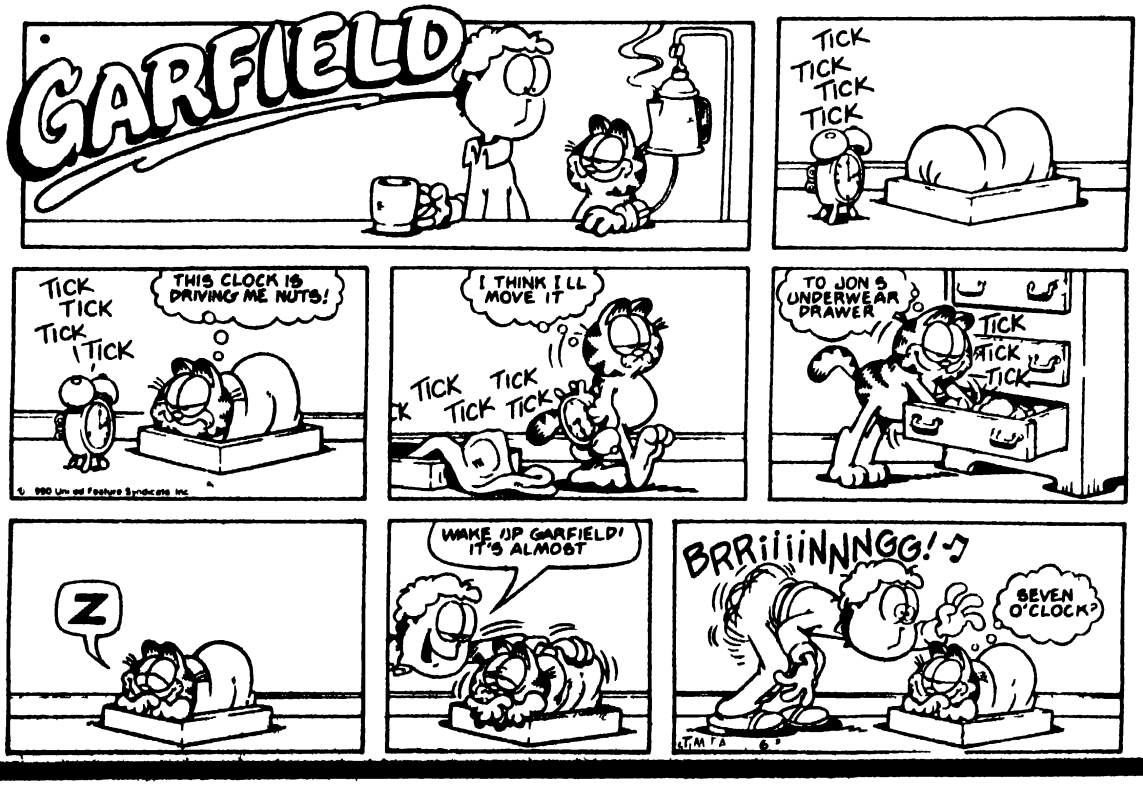




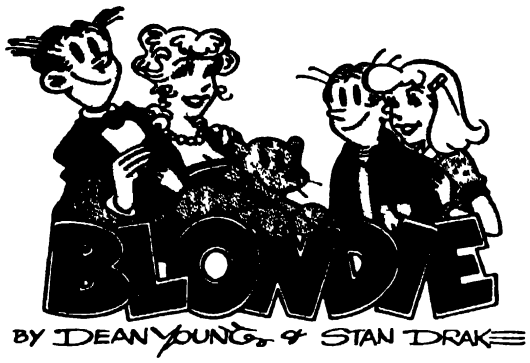


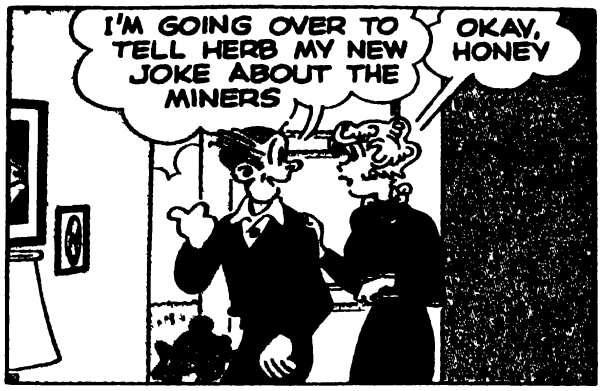


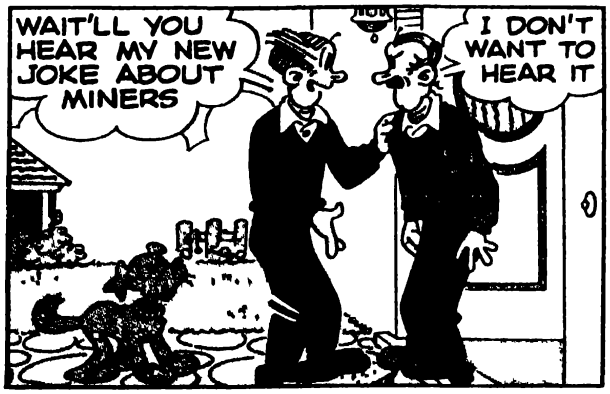
GARFIELD By Jim Davis

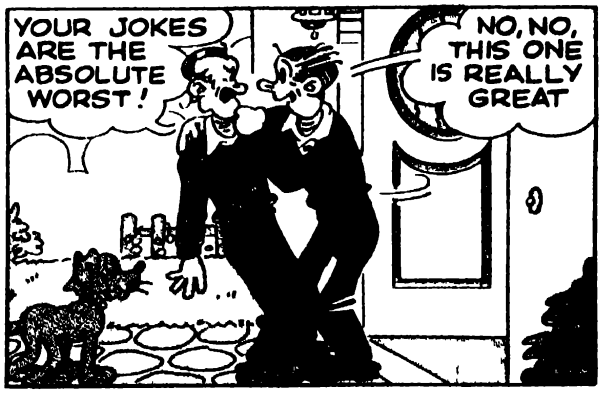



I'LL PROVE I'M NOT MEAN! WATCH THIS!
TWO BOTTLES OF BEST CHAMPAGNE, PLEASE!
I'M SORRY SIR, WE'VE NONE LEFT...
...WHY NOT TRY A BOTTLE OF BEER, SIR? OH, WELL. IF THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE...
WHAT A MAGNIFICENT NIGHT, PIERRE!
DO YOU KNOW THAT THOSE STARS RULE OUR DESTINY? IT'S ALL THERE, YOU KNOW!
I BET YOU'RE A CAPRICORN!
SMACK!
I KNEW IT! WARM HEARTED KIND, YOU LIKE A GOOD JOKE...
YOU CAN DEFINITELY TELL SOMEONE'S PERSONALITY BY THE STARS, PIERRE.
TAKE MY DORIS, FOR EXAMPLE...
PLEASE TAKE HER! HAR! HAR! HAR-DE-HAR!
DEAR ME! SNIFF! OUR STAR SIGNS ARE CERTAINLY COMPATIBLE- THE WAY WE LAUGH AND JOKE TOGETHER!
SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT I CAN READ THE FUTURE IN THE STARS?
OKAY! WHAT'S YOUR SIGN? IS IT CAPRICORN? ARE YOU A GOAT?
SMACK!
THERE YOU GO! I SAW THAT COMING!
HOW DID THE NIGHT-SHIFT WITH MAD PIERRE GO?
FINE.
WE HAD A FASCINATING CHAT ABOUT ASTROLOGY. I THINK HE'S A VIRGO.
DON'T BE SMUTTY, DENNIS.









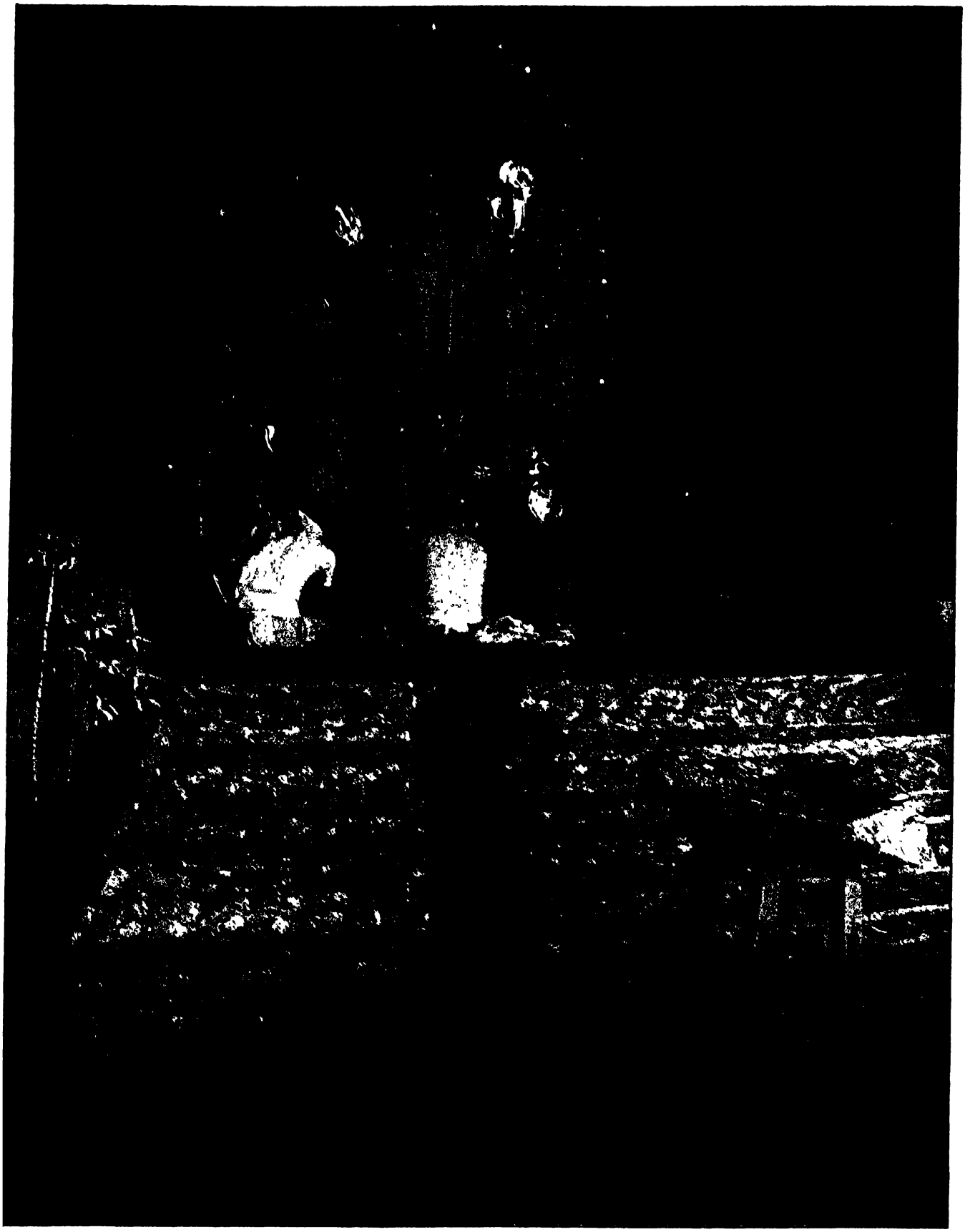


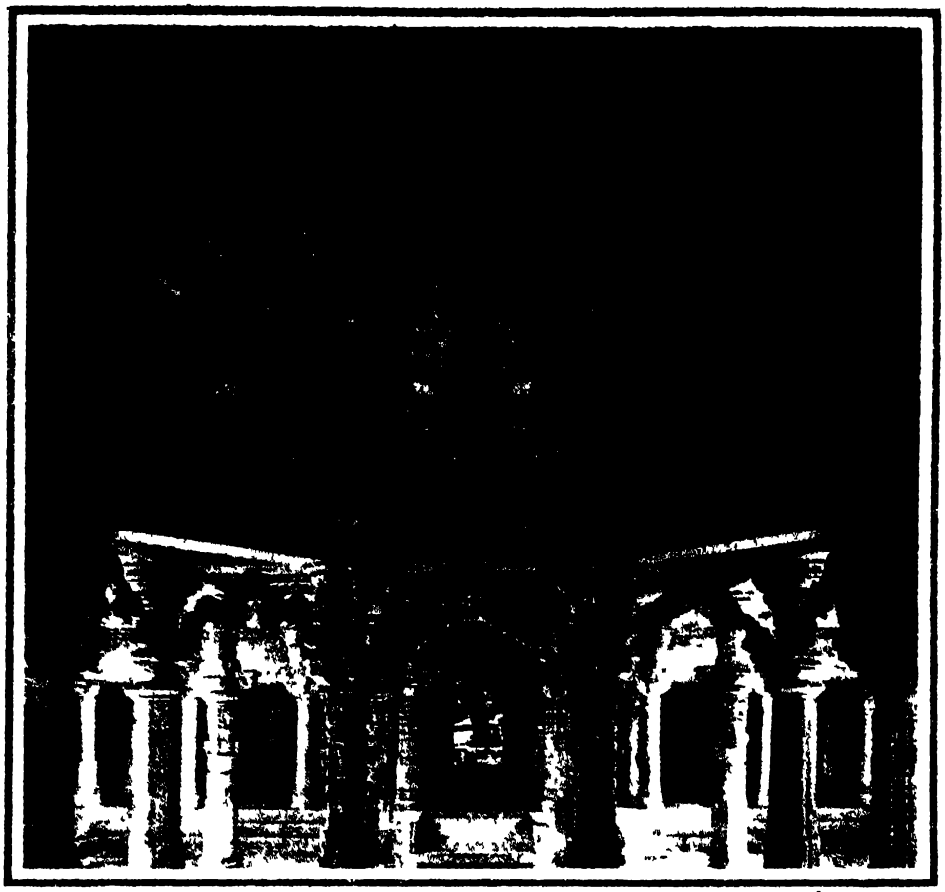






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CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

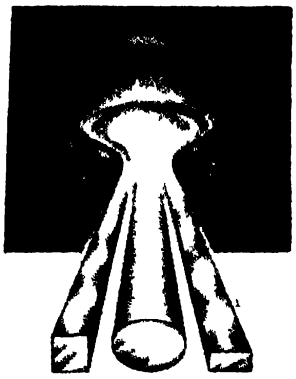
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive plateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

POWMEX is emerging as Asia's first plant to produce High Speed Steel and Super High Speed Steels through Powder Capsule Forging Technology.

POWMEX, in collaboration with the world leader BOHLER of AUSTRIA is setting up a Rs. 700 million high tech plant near Titlagarh in Orissa. This will put the Indian High Speed Steel on par with the finest available in the world. POWMEX product mix includes both Tungsten and Molybdenum High Speed Steels of various sections in rounds, flats and squares, and are indispensable for making drills, reamers, dies, forming tools, punches, special bearings etc. The tools made out of Super High Speed Steels will bring about a seachange in their durability and quality turning out better components.

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Sobhagya PSU/0005

Ultimate Refriger
rom Kelvinator



The new Sterling.

Stunningly beautiful. State-of-the-art technology combined together to evolve a new standard in refrigerators. Created by a team of engineers whose mission is not to follow the market but to lead the refrigerator world.

Artistic Sterling

- 100% Polyurethane Foam insulation. Avoids sweating of the refrigerator even in high humidity conditions.
- Superior SAN material–Crisper, Baffle Tray, Butter/ Cheese Chest and adjustable Bottle Shelves.
- Superior design for maximum storage space. Removable egg tray for extra storage – a special feature for vegetarians.
- A large Chill Tray with a unique Drip Tray for easy removal of defrosted water.

From Kelvinator "It's the coolest one."

Sterling
Refrigerators
Styled in Europe
Engineered in America

- All steel construction and tough ABS liner.
- Available in a wide range of attractive colours.

Sterling Technology

- Internationally renowned 'Power-Saver' compressor
- Cools superfast, makes ice even faster.
- Withstands wide voltage fluctuations.

No voltage stabilizer is required if the operating voltage is within 160-260V.

- Consumes minimal electricity.
- Automatic defrost (push button).

The new **Sterling.**

It is beyond doubt the most advanced refrigerator ever introduced in the market. With a proven, dependable after-sales service. It's no mere refrigerator. It's the Sterling.

Sterling

The 165 litre premium quality refrigerator

Sold and serviced by Expo Machinery Limited Pragati Tower, 26 Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110 008.

Manual 5120d

Pundits or Bandits?

I think you should have changed the headline of your cover story, 'Political Pundits' (July 22), to 'Political Bandits.' It would look, and mean, the same.
Md. M. Quadri,
Bhadrak (Orissa)

Combat Choppers

We were presented with a mind-boggling article, 'Muscle in the Sky' (August 12). With reference to 'Sikorsky's bees', however, there was a minor slip of the pen when it was written, "Pakistan, on the other hand, does not have any dedicated attack helicopters.. "

To my knowledge, India's battle-anxious neighbours have acquired Cobra helicopter gunships from Uncle Sam's arms shoppe.
Photon Rao,
Santiniketan

■ Your article on combat helicopters had an error. It stated that Pakistan does not have any dedicated attack helicopters. This can hardly be said to be true since she has 30 AH-1S Fiery Cobras, rated as the world's best, anti-armour attack helicopters before the advent of the AH-64A Apache.
Arjun Ghosh Dastidar,
Calcutta

Hard to Digest

Your article on 'Earthy People' (August 5) was hard to digest. It seems difficult to believe that geophagism practised by ancient Greeks and Romans is still practised today in India, a country that has developed to a great extent in medical science. This just goes to prove the illiteracy of the common people.
Lenny Graham,
Calcutta

Art of Faking

Your cover story on replicas of vintage cars (September 9) only shows that artificiality has become a creative mode of art. I am afraid that such trends might lead to erosion of the value and prestige of originals.
Othello Mazoomdaar,
Boral (W.B.)

Killer Disease

Before I read the article, I had the impression that as long as I avoided brothels and blood transfusion I would be safe from AIDS (August 19). Now I know that the incurable disease can be spread through the saliva and possibly even tears.
Sabyasachi Mukherjee,
Calcutta

■ The story was impressive, but you should have mentioned the symptoms of AIDS. The five early symptoms are: profuse sweating at night; loss of weight; persistent fever; swollen lymph glands; and marked general weakness.
Manav Jalan,
Calcutta

■ Since death is the final outcome for an AIDS patient, we should consider euthanasia for them. You have really put a scare into us with your story.
Dipankar Shome,
Jamshedpur

Reel Slum

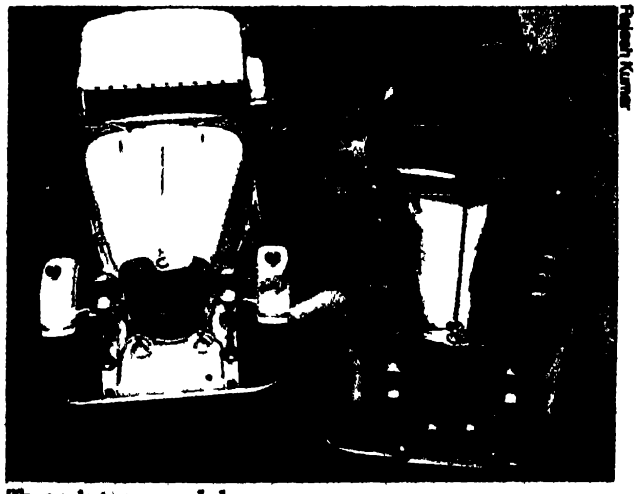
'All Set to Go' (August 12) was a splendid piece, indeed. The set for *City of Joy* on Paharpur Road has been beautifully prepared for the "exercise in realism."

I have full sympathy for the workers, however, who toiled in vain for over eight weeks just to get the news flashed of the delay in shooting the film.

At a glance, I could not believe that the set was not the real slum. Thousands of Calcuttans live in such slums all over the city. Isn't this set a proper gift to Calcutta in its tercentenary? Thank you, Roland Joffe.

Instead of destroying the set in the 'floods' of the last scene, Joffe should take those shots in a studio. That way the artificial slum could be gifted to homeless Calcuttans.
Rakesh Verma,
Calcutta

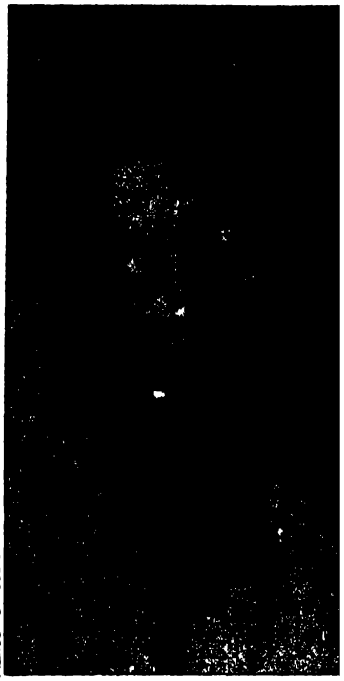
■ The sets are breathtakingly natural looking. But one wonders why the filmmaker has chosen to portray the darker side of Calcutta.
Javed Nishat,
Calcutta


Rakesh Kumar

Two vintage models

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The Telegraph
14 OCTOBER 1990


Rakesh Shrestha

14 Star daughters were a rarity in the earlier days. Today, there is a virtual onslaught by these lovely babes of the film industry

4 Mapping the sea floor requires advanced technologies and attempts are being made to pinpoint the underworld treasures

6 In Mangalkot, a village in West Bengal, may lie signs of an ancient civilisation

SECTIONS

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Cover Courtesy *Stardust*

In Deep Waters



A three-dimensional image of an underwater region southwe of Monterey, California, shows Lucia Canyon slicing through chunk of the continental shelf. Davidson Seamount rises 6,9 feet from the ocean bottom. New detailed maps of the sea fl should benefit a great variety of industries

Two seamen lower a long-range, side-scan sonar imaging system into the ocean from a research vessel assigned to a US Geological Survey sea-floor mapping project. Using sound to produce images of geologic features on the ocean floor, the instrument can survey an area the size of New Jersey in a single day

The first detailed three-dimension maps of the United States' vas underwater frontier, full of suc sea-floor marvels as chasms deeper tha the Grand Canyon, are emerging c National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adm nistration (NOAA) computer screens a Rockville, Md

"Not since the Louisiana Purchase hav such far-reaching lands been surveyed, says Capt Albert E Theberge, chief c

Attempts are on to chart out the treasures of the underwater realm, writes Donald J. Frederick

the ocean-mapping section of NOAA' Nautical Charting Division "We'r charged with exploring 2 9 billion under water acres, an area larger than th landmass of the United States "

The underwater realm extends 20 miles off the coasts of the United State and its island territories and is called th Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Sovereign rights and jurisdiction within the zone were proclaimed by President Reagan in 1983.

Both NOAA and the US Geological Survey (USGS) are responsible for mapping it. Because of the different technologies used, the USGS work has proceeded much faster.

"Using the side-scan sonar system on our ship the Farnella, we're able to survey an area about the size of New Jersey in a single day," says Bonnie A. McGregor, USGS's associate chief for marine programmes.

"So far we've surveyed the EEZ off the continental United States, and we'll finish Hawaii this summer. Then it's on to our island possessions in the western Pacific. We should finish them sometime in 1996."

The long-range, side-scan sonar imaging system deployed by the USGS uses sound to produce images of geologic features on the ocean floor. An instrument known as 'Gloria' is towed behind the survey ship and records the strength and character of the sound echoes, covering an expanse as wide as 37 miles.

"The vast panoramas we're seeing are like satellite pictures taken of the Earth," McGregor says. "With them we discovered more than 200 seamounts off the coast of California, some of them towering almost 7,000 ft from the ocean floor. Around Hawaii we're seeing enormous underwater landslides where parts of the existing islands have collapsed and cover hundreds of miles of sea floor."

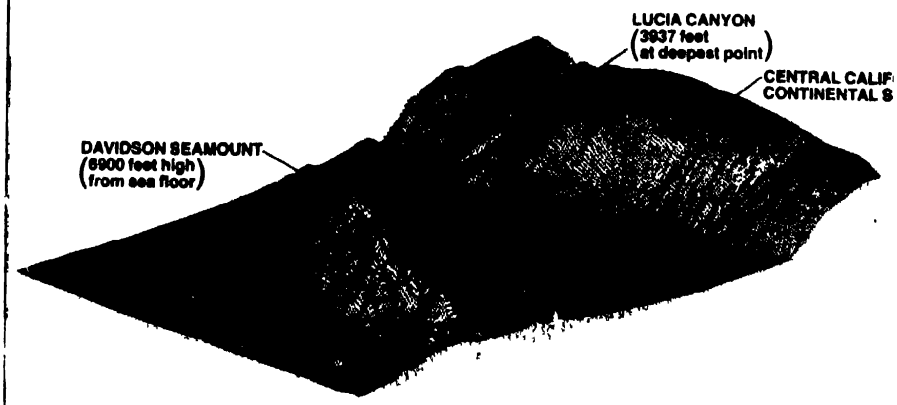
The multibeam echo sounders on NOAA ships give a three-dimensional perspective to the USGS images by measuring the depth of underwater features. A swath of sound beams—nearly as wide as the water is deep—sent from the ships echoes back to give the precise depth of the ocean bottom or any other underwater feature.

But it is a painstaking process. NOAA has surveyed only about 80,500 sq miles, or about two per cent of the EEZ. "If our resources and equipment were upgraded we could do the whole EEZ in 15 years,. but with our present effort it will take 226," says NOAA's Theberge.

Three-dimensional maps produced so far include several 2,000-square-mile areas off the coast of California, one off Oregon and four in the Gulf of Mexico. Maps of six areas near Hawaii are nearly completed.

One of the most spectacular features lies beneath California's Monterey Bay. Comparable to the Grand Canyon, the Monterey Canyon—the largest submarine chasm along the continental United States—plunges 300 ft and meanders some 108 miles out to sea to depths of almost two miles.

Carved from granite, shale and sandstone, Monterey Canyon was born 25 million to 30 million years ago nearly 186 miles to the south. Pushed along the San Andreas Fault as part of Earth's Pacific crustal plate, it owes much of its magnitude to continual seismic activity, from tremors to major earthquakes.



The multibeam system gives the depth of underwater features needed to produce three-dimensional maps

"One of the reasons we made the West Coast a priority was all the geologic and seismic activity out there. We wanted to find out what was going on off the coast," says Theberge. "An accurate bottom profile will also help fishermen by showing them places where fish might congregate and enable them to see rough features on the bottom of the ocean floor that could snare expensive gear."

The West Coast and Hawaii maps may also lead to underwater treasures. Placer deposits of gold have been mined for some time off Nome, Alabama. Deposits of gold, platinum, titanium, chromium and other metals can be found off northern California, Oregon and Washington, many in less than 500 ft of water, says James R. Moore, a professor of marine studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

Ocean profiles of areas near Hawaii show seamounts—some nearly as high as Mount St Helens—encrusted with deposits more than four inches thick that contain copper, cobalt, nickel, manganese and platinum.

Oil and gas exploration experts will study the gulf maps, which reveal a number of mammoth salt domes. One about 60 miles off the coast of Louisiana is nine miles in diameter and almost 1,000 ft high.

As sediments accumulate, layers of salt from ancient seabeds are forced up through the rock strata on the ocean floor, forming domes. They are often associated with trapped oil and gas.

The USGS estimates that the gulf still holds 8.6 billion barrels of undiscovered yet recoverable oil, much of it in deeper waters. "With the oil-rich tradition of the gulf and environmental concerns on the other coasts, it's natural for petroleum companies to look in the deep gulf if they're going to do anything in the United States," says John E. Flipse, director of the Offshore Research Center at Texas A&M University.

Maps detailing the ocean floor will enable companies to drill more safely and confidently in deeper waters. "We want to provide a view of the new frontier for the oil and gas industry that will be in depths of 6,600 ft or more," says McGregor. "Current deep-ocean wells go to only about 3,300 ft."

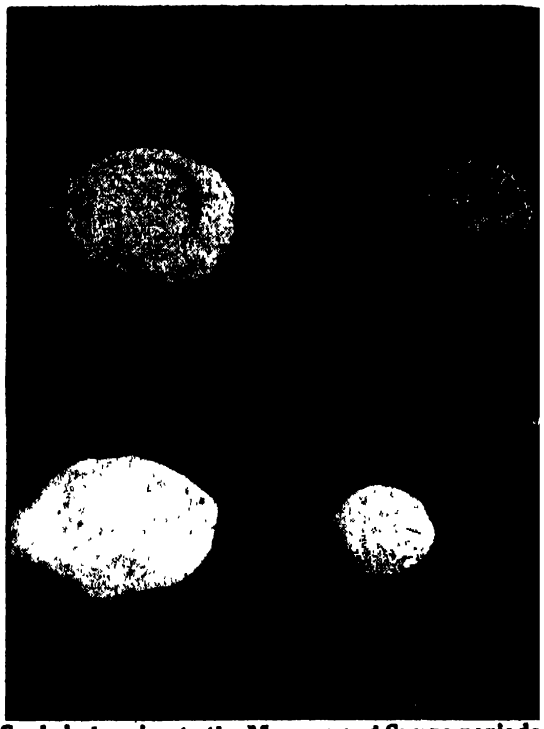
Ocean-use advocates hope the maps will lead to all sorts of other possibilities, including offshore airports, hotels and waste-disposal operations. In one plan a giant incinerator would crown an offshore platform resembling an oil rig. Loads of garbage would be barged out to the incinerator. Electric energy generated by the burning trash would be carried by underwater transmission lines to a small power plant on shore.

"Such plans should interest us all," says Michael A. Champ, president of Environmental Systems Development Inc. of Falls Church, Virginia. "For too long we've had this sacred-cow notion about the ocean being untouchable. We've spent billions on the space programme, yet here's a virtually forgotten trillion-dollar resource lying right off our shores."

(National Geographic News Service)



The typical stamped and designed Kushana pottery



Seals belonging to the Maurya and Sunga periods

A BED

Mangalkot in the Burdwan district of West Bengal is in fact a large mound lying on buried treasure, reports

Nandita Chaudhuri

Photographs: Afroze

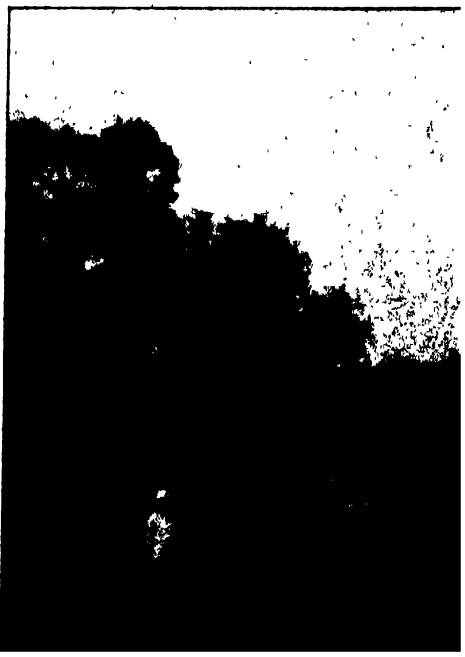
Mangalkot, a large prosperous village with unending narrow lanes and rows of mud-built houses, is situated near the confluence of the rivers Ajay and Kunur in Burdwan district. The regular movement of people within this region from the Chalcolithic period to the late historical time, stimulated the transmission of several cultural elements. Primarily a Muslim-dominated village, having 18 sacred spots of the 18 *auliahs*, it has the oldest Mughal mosque in the eastern region.

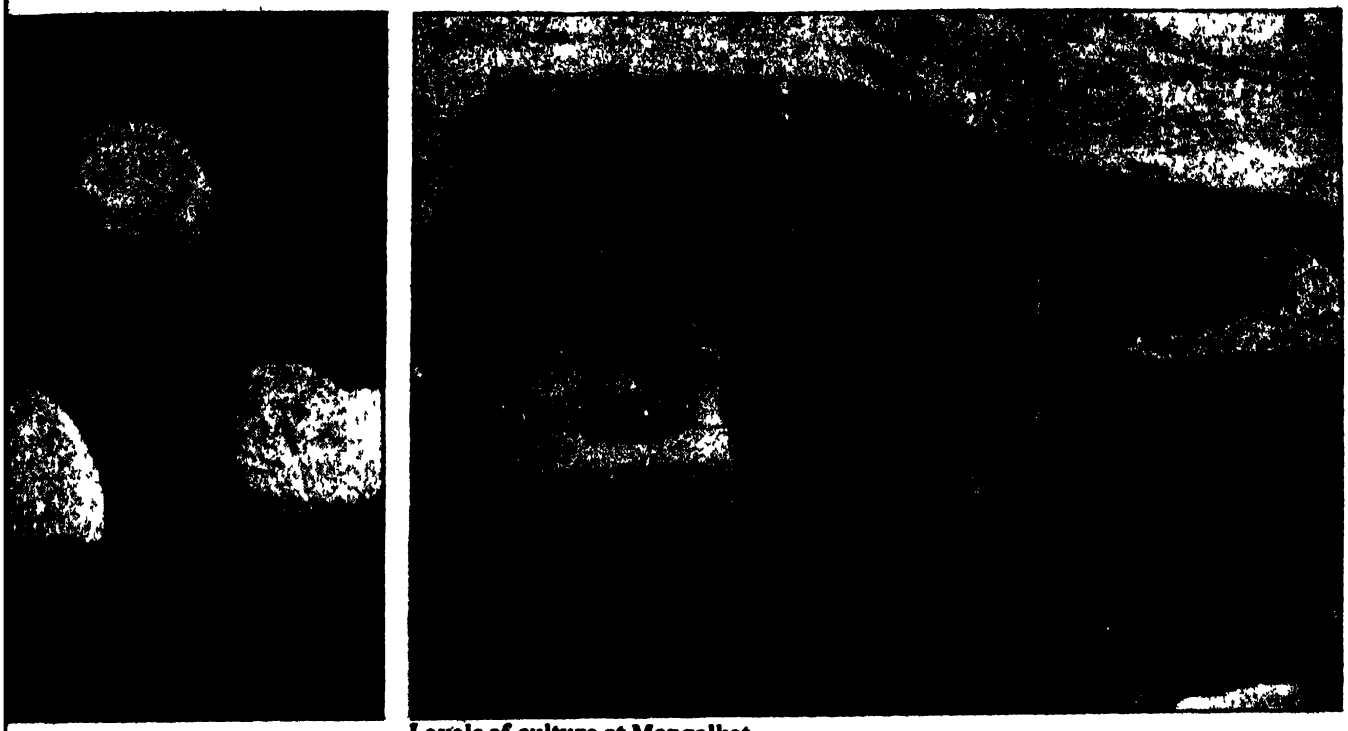
Brahmanical culture, especially Vaishnavism, flourished in this region as early as the sixth century AD. One of the oldest zamindari families of Bengal, the Chaudhuris originally belonged to this place. But gradually, over the years, Islam predominated, so much so, that the present Hindus (who comprise one fifth of the total population) have no place for worship. For their rituals, they make do with temporary arrangements under the trees.

Archaeological excavations carried out in recent times by the department of archaeology, Calcutta University and chance surface-finds have yielded antiquities from the 11th century BC to the late medieval period. A number of ancient occupation sites have also been traced.

The village consists of a number of scattered mounds, locally known as *dangas* or *dhibis*, carrying in its womb the remains of ancient habitation. Legend has it that bands of Bihari women came at regular intervals for many centuries to dig and deplete the area of its buried gold. In fact, the entire village is a large mound, lying on buried treasure. During the monsoons, when erosion takes place, a great number of antiquities, including gold, silver and copper coins and jewellery and terracotta potsherds surface on the land and are collected and sold for a pittance by villagers ignorant of their worth. Except certain stretches, most of the area is under habitation and cultivation. As a result, a great many of these antiquities have been destroyed.

The specialised archaeological department team has been continuously excavating the area since 1985-86 onwards. Of the various mounds, the two major ones which they excavated were *Vikramadityer dhibi* and *Monumiar danga* (so called after its local owner Monumian, who lent it out for sometime for exploratory purposes). Excavations in these two mounds have yielded a sequence of cultures in seven broad periods, beginning with the Chalcolithic period in the bottom-most layer and followed by the Mauryan, the Sunga, the Kushana, the Gupta and the Mughal periods. While in most ancient sites of India, there is a big gap between the end of the Chalcolithic and the begin-





Levels of culture at Mangalkot

OF RICHES

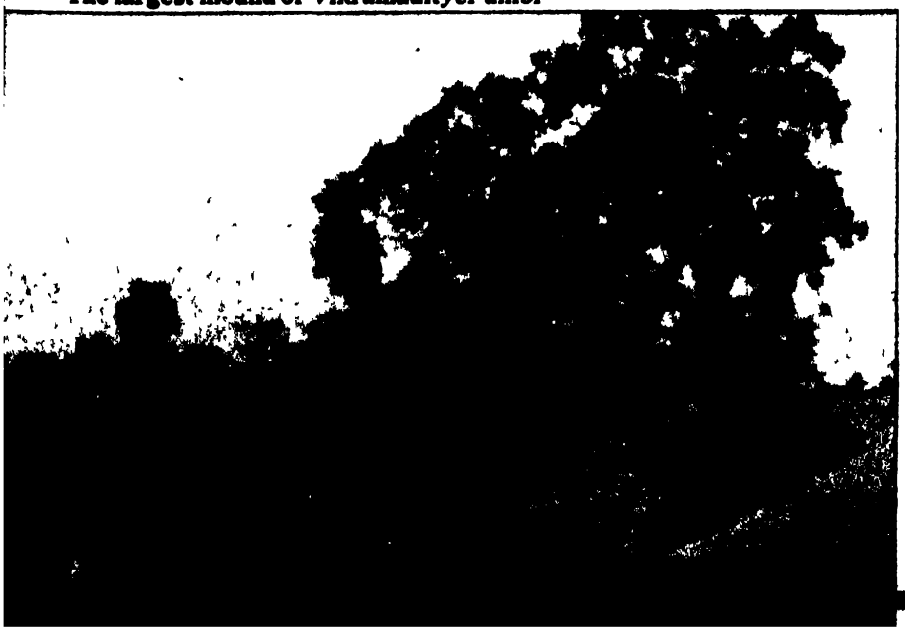
ning of the historical phase, Mangalkot for the first time shows noticeable changes in the life of the people in continuous historical succession. "There is evidence of the gradual merging of chalcolithic culture with the early historic culture of the Maurya period through a transitional phase which lasted between the 6th-3rd century BC," according to Prof. Amita Ray, one of the senior members of the expedition.

Black-and-red ware pottery, bone and copper tools characterise the Chalcolithic finds. The houses were of wattle and daub, revealing pieces of mud plaster. The discovery of copper slags suggests the practice of smelting copper in the area as early as the 6th century BC. A terracotta bull with punched design and silver punch-marked coins have been recovered from the Maurya and Sunga levels. However, the period yielding the most interesting antiquities is the Kushana level (1 AD to 3 AD). As compared to the simplicity of the previous periods, one is impressed with their intensive structural activity—well-burnt brick walls, floors and ringwells made in terracotta and brick. Apart from these, other finds include the typical stamped and designed Kushana pottery, terracotta figurines and a few copper coins bearing the stamp of Wema Kadphises, predecessor of Kanishka.

Pottery with moulded designs, terracotta seals with Gupta-Brahmi characters and well-built brick structures, characterise the Gupta period . The deposits of the topmost layer are varied, ranging from the eighth to the 18th century. The accumulated materials comprise varying types of pottery, including Chinese porcelains, glazed wares, gold and silver Mughal coins and even East India Company coins.

Excavations are still continuing in certain areas of the village. In spite of this a large number of antiquities are being destroyed due to the ignorance of the locals. Though it is too early to arrive at any conclusions on this point, nevertheless, the developments that mark the history of this region appear identical to those of the corresponding periods of the Gangetic valley. ■

The largest mound or *Vikramaditya dhibi*



For all children 14 years and under

The Telegraph

Children's Special

We have a special issue of the *Colour Magazine* just for *you* on November 11. With pictures *you* draw and poems and stories *you* write. Plus a lot more. So rush with your entries after reading the instructions below very carefully.

We have competitions for different age groups. You can enter any or all the competitions in your age group.

Age 0-4 years

Drawings (6 inches X 4 inches)
1 My favourite person
2 'This is I'

Age 5-6 years

1 Four line poems of which the first line is When I grow up"
2 Drawing of My mother" (size 6 X4')
3 Four sentences on 'My father'

Age 7-10 years

1 A two stanza poem of four lines each beginning 'I hate it when
2 Write six sentences on "Sometimes I wish "
3 Drawing/painting 'My home (size 12'X8")

Age 11-14 years

1 Short essay (10 sentences) "When I am the Prime Minister "
2 Short essay/poem (10 lines) 'Ten years from now
3 Drawing/painting 'The street where I live' (size 12'X8")

And if there is any issue you feel strongly about, or any poem or story you just *have* to write, do send it to us. If we like it we will publish it.

■ All entries must reach us by October 18 ■ Judges have final say ■ We are not looking for pretty pictures only ■ Name age and address of child should be clearly written on an accompanying sheet of paper, if necessary by a parent ■ Drawings can be in pencil, crayon oil or water colours ■ No prizes The best entires will be published ■ Entries will not be returned

Entries should be addressed to
"Children s Special"
The Telegraph
6, Prafulla Sarkar Street
Calcutta-700 001

Please remember, this is your issue. It's up to you to make it lively and interesting

• **Textbooks:** I offer some textbooks with notes for BA English honours and MA English courses of Jadavpur University along with reference notes for anything of corresponding value Write to Ruchira Ghosh, 45/3 Moore Avenue, Regent Park, Calcut ta 700040

• **Harmonium:** I would like to exchange a harmonium in good condition for anything of equivalent value. Write to Ashok Bhowmick, 87/9 A K Mukherjee Road, Calcutta 700090

• **Tennis racket** and **sewing machine motor:** I offer a few brand new tennis rackets and a sewing machine motor for anything of corrsponding value Contact Dipto Sinha, 32 Sashi Bhusan Mukherjee Road, Behala, Calcutta 700034

• **Magazines:** I would like to ofer 200 copies of *Sportstar* and 50 issues of the *Sun* magazines for a Walkman or anything else of corresponding value Write to R Wilham Paul, SBI Choube, via Jainagar, Hazaribag, Bihar

• **Books** and **autographs:** I offer several books of poems by renowned Bengali poets and autographs of wellknown cultural personalities for anything of corresponding value Contact Md Masud, Xerox Centre, Gitanjali Bipani, 61/1 B Roy Road (W), Bakultala, Calcutta 700061

• **Two-in-one:** I would like to exchange a Philips two-in-one in immaculate comndition for a good turntable with matching speakers in good condition Write to Ajit Bandopadhyay, 91/A/4 N S C. Road, Calcutta 700040

• **Aquarium** and **folding cot:** I offer an aquarium (15 "X9") and a steel-framed double bed folding cot for anything of corresponding value. Write to B B Majumdar, 137 Arabinda Basu Nagar, Calcutta 700061

• **Refrigerator:** I offer a 165 litre refrigerator in very good condition for a colour television Write to A. K Guha Thakurta, 69/1 Diamond Harbour Road, Calcutta 700038

• **Wall papers:** I would like to exchange to West German wall papers (size 12" x9") for anything of corresponding value Contact Sunny, P/17 S M Nagar, Sarkarpool, 24 Parganas (south), West Bengal, 743382

• **Motorbike:** I would like to exchange my Yamaha RX 100 in excellent condition for a Rajdoot RD350 in an equally good condition or with anything of corresponding value Write to S Sarkar, 73/3B Palm Avenue, Calcutta 700019.

Bullworker: I offer an almost new Bullworker-3 with power-metre and carrying case for a Spanish guitar in good condition. Contact Debabrata Mukherjee, 27/1 Northern Avenue, Calcutta 700037

RISING TO THE OCCASION

What is greatness? People ask me this from time to time, and their question flatters me because it implies that I am accustomed to distinguished company. Which isn't far from the truth, in a 'has-been' sense.

But how do I define a great man? Let alone historical figures such as Alexander and Napoleon, whose greatness was achieved on the battlefield, from my own observation I believe that great people must combine the virtues of humility, compassion and fellow-feeling, apart from those other leadership qualities that are obvious. In a sense, greatness is something which, like beauty, lies in the eye of the beholder.

I remember my father saying to me when I was about to go out in the world: "It isn't how high you climb that matters: it's how well you sit at the top." In other words, he believed that high office and good manners went hand in hand. They often do. But there are exceptions.

The first time I met Harry Truman was at a reception for the diplomatic corps at the White House in Washington. My being there was no great shakes: there were, perhaps, a thousand others like myself. I was comparatively junior at the time—this was in 1951—but when my turn came, the President smiled warmly, said my name (somebody behind his left shoulder was prompting him), gripped my hand, looked me in the eye, and said: "Pleased to meet you, sir. I have great respect for your Mr Nehru."

Young and impressionable as I was, what struck me most at the time was that I had been 'sir'-ed by the elected head of the most powerful nation on earth, no matter that he had been merely a small-town haberdasher just a few years ago. He was the "little fella" who had the courage to take the awesome decision to drop the atom bomb on Japan,

Greatness is more than just being great

thus shortening World War II by several years and saving millions of lives in the process.

By contrast, my first meeting with Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was a disaster. It was in 1962 when he was the foreign minister of Pakistan and visiting Mexico briefly from the United Nations in New York. His Mexican counterpart, Senor Manuel Tello, had arranged a hurried luncheon in his honour, to which only the Commonwealth Ambassadors and available senior officials had been invited.

When my wife and I came up to him in the reception line and our names were announced, the future leader of Pakistan merely looked the other way, ignored my proffered hand, muttered "Ah, yes," and turned to greet the guest next in line. Protocol had seated me next to Mrs Nusrat Bhutto and my wife next to her husband, but whereas the former made a charming table companion, my wife reported later that Bhutto never so much as exchanged a single word of conversation with her and pretended not to hear when she asked him, please, but would he pass the salt.

The Canadian Ambassador, Arthur Irwin, a former editor of *Maclean's Magazine* and a keen observer of the international scene, was witness to these incidents and called me next morning to sympathise, as did also Senor Tello, but I pooh-poohed the matter.

About a year later, the British Ambassador, Sir Peter Garran, mentioned to me casually that Lord Mountbatten, who was then Chief of Defence Staff, would be paying a brief official visit to Mexico, to which I replied that I would like very much to entertain the former Governor-General of India. "Not a chance, old boy," was Garran's response. "He's up to the neck. But not to worry—you'll be invited to some of the functions."

Peter Garran reported this conversation to London, and back came the signal: "CDS wishes that Indian Ambassador's invitation should be accepted and programme adjusted accordingly." Thus it was that the former Viceroy came to our home for lunch, and a good time was had by all.

Indira Gandhi also came to Mexico in my time, first for a quiet vacation shortly after the death of her husband, preceding a later official visit by her father, the Prime Minister. She made few demands, but one of the things she requested was a visit to Chichen-Itza, in the Yucatan peninsula, where the ruins of an ancient Mayan kingdom are located.

It so happened that there was an airline strike on the day that this visit was scheduled, so the government arranged for a private executive jet to take her there. Mrs Gandhi had had a rather bad upset the night before, and on our way to the airport she told me that she was feeling "like nothing at all". I suggested that she give up this part of the programme, but she glared at me in reply.

It was a small plane. Besides Mrs Gandhi and her personal secretary, there were only five other passengers—my wife and myself, a young girl from Relaciones Exteriores, and the pilot and co-pilot. In mid-journey, a typical Mexican meal was brought out—apart from meat and fish delicacies, there were the traditional *tortillas* (cornmeal bread), *fryoles* (mashed beans) and *quacamole* (avocado sauce).

The very sight and smell of the highly seasoned food must have nauseated her, but Mrs Gandhi tackled each one of the courses with a smile on her face and a compliment on her lips, and at the end she rubbed her stomach delicately and uttered one of her few words of Spanish: "Delicioso!"

These were four important people—nevertheless people who at one time or other controlled the lives and destinies of millions and will therefore feature in the pages of history. A common discernible feature is that there was no side to any of them, no false sense of pomp and panoply, though on formal occasions Mountbatten would insist on wearing all his ribbons and decorations, and Bhutto always dressed like a dandy. They were ordinary human beings who succeeded in rising to the occasion.

P.L. Bhandari



VOICE

Nurturing Nature

The women of Howrah were recently bestowed an award in recognition of



their efforts to conserve nature With the monsoon being one of the best in a decade this year several organisations and institutions launched their annual tree plantation ceremonies with exemplary effervescence But perhaps the most lyrical effort came from schoolgirls of St Thomas Kidderpore who braved inclement weather on Independence Day to plant saplings against a quaintly pastoral background

Wafting across a soaking playground girls dressed as dancers carried a palanquin like sapling container to the tune of *moru bijoy ketana* which aptly speaks of conquering the desert Veteran teachers and senior students planted the saplings which had been distributed by the forest department's urban and recreational unit Dr A K Chandra professor of Science College Calcutta University was the chief guest

Double Standards

The past month brought with it a mood of revelry, prayer and a flurry of aspirations The festive season also highlights the cult of worshipping a female power—be it as Durga, Lakshmi or Kali The fact that a male dominated society like our present one should confirm to a tradition that was prevalent as far back as the Iron Age does strike a rather incongruous note, especially since the unfortunate but steady metamorphosis in the female status has gradually demeaned the modern women (generally speaking) to beings who are inconsequential without relationships with men But while our *dharma shastras* (specially those of Manu) and several *dharma sutras* describe women as shorn of individuality and extol their dependence on men it is the female power (Durga again) who is invoked by the heroes of both the Indian epics The Pandavas seek Her aid twice in the *Mahabharat* (*Virat parva* 6 and *Bhishmaparva* 23) while Rama resorts to untimely worship in the quest of military success in the *Ramayan*

The worship of female powers today continues to be, strangely enough, a man's privilege. Almost every artisan making clay images of the goddesses is male, and while other men in the family are permitted to help in the creation of the idol, girls are strictly kept out of it The only contribution (if one may call it that) of a woman is far-fetched. the first clod of earth to make the image is taken from the soil in front of a prostitute's house While many associate this with fertility, another theory maintains that the soil outside a prostitute's house is pure because men shed their virtues prior to entering the "house of sin " The images are then taken to houses or community puja pandals for worship This again, is a male domain—rarely does one hear of a Puja being organised by a women's club The elaborate process of worship, too, is the prerogative of a male priest, because the sacred thread (and consequently the *Gayatri mantra*) are denied to women. It is poor consolation when women are finally granted access to the goddess in the hour of her departure, with the traditional *sindoor khela*.

All this would have raised no hackles had the common man accorded even an iota of the respect and devotion he offers a female deity to the womenfolk at home. The supremacy of the goddess is probably a legacy of the Tantrik cult just as the mythology surrounding the deities are And if we were to give credence to myths, Durga was created with the radiance emitted by male gods like Vishnu, Indra, Shiva and others, she was then armed with the weapons of these gods who had failed to defeat Mahishasur, a feat Durga accomplished with remarkable ease

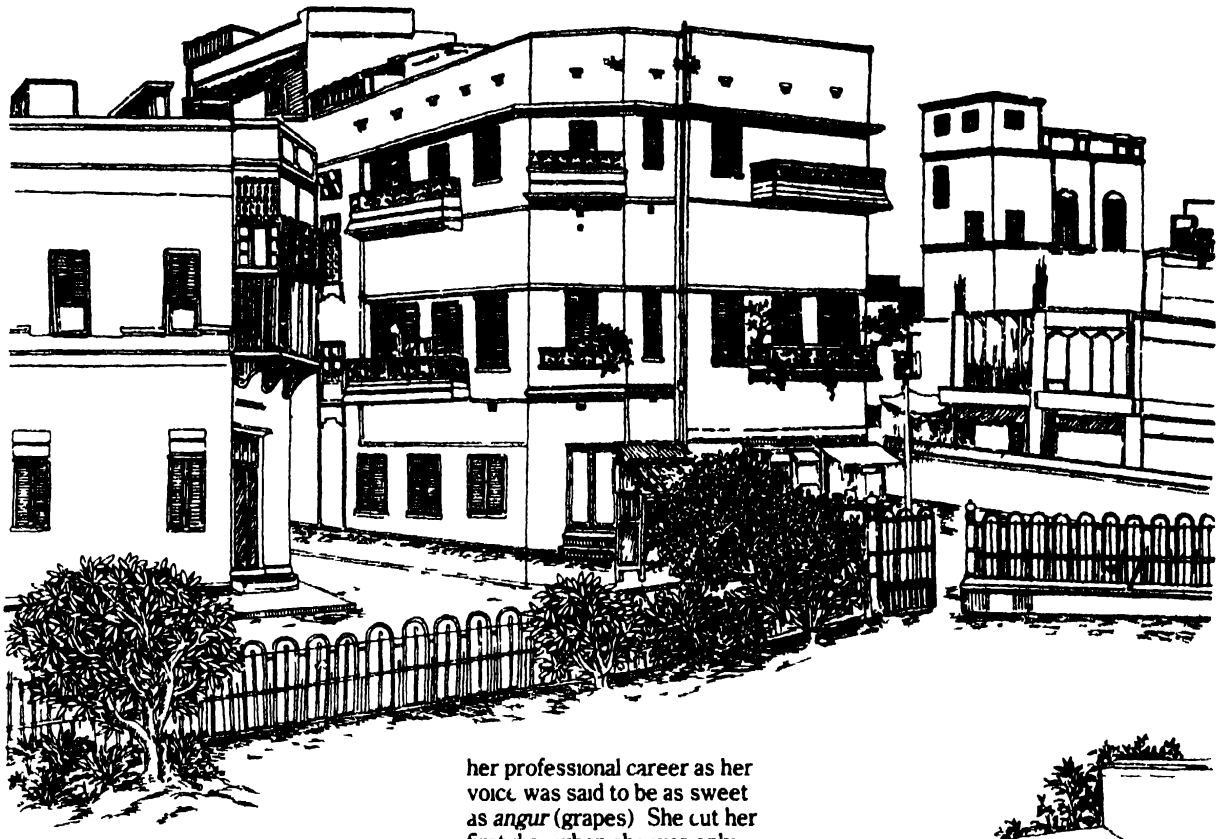
If men were to learn a lesson from the legend and cease treating their female counterparts as adversaries and regard them as being complements of themselves, perhaps, like Durga, the modern woman could help alleviate social evils and make the world a better place for everyone

Sudipta Bhattacharjee





ANGURBALA DEVI (1900-84)



Born to Bijoli Bhushan Banerjee and Harimati Devi Angurbala Devi was the princess of Bengal's music world for over 60 years She was educated in a missionary school in north Calcutta and began her music lessons from her father's friend, Amulyababu, at the age of seven Next she took *talim* from Jit Prasad, mainly in *thumri* and *khayal* For some time she was trained under Ramprosad Mishra, known as Matar Ostad Her training in the great variety of classical music began under Jaminuddin Khan Sahib, a disciple of Badal Khan She learnt the nuances of kirtan from Iswar Thakur and Kazi Nazrul Islam himself trained her in his own compositions

Born Prabhabati Banerjee, her name was changed later in her professional career as her voice was said to be as sweet as *angur* (grapes) She cut her first disc when she was only 16 *Bandhona tori khani aamaar e nadi kuley*, accompanied by Ustad Zahiruddin Khan on the sarangi It was an instant hit and since then she did not have to look back

Angurbala Devi was also an extremely talented actress She played the lead at Bejoli and Paree theatres This, at a time when there were not many 'respectable' women in this profession A staff artiste of Star Theatre, her memorable roles were in *Atmadarshan, Tulsidas, Chandidas* and *Siraj-ud Daulah* She also acted in a number of films of which *Yamuna Pulney* and *Dhruba* (both Bengali), *Chahar Darvesh* (Urdu) and *Ma Ki Mamta* and *Nasib Ka Chakkar* (both Hindi) deserve mention

Angurbala Devi, however, is better known as a singer of repute In the last years of her career she cut a Nazrulgeeti disc, *Aamaar jabar somoy holo* By then, she had recorded 400 songs in Bengali, Hindi and Urdu, from light classical to romantic and even a Tagore number She was invited to sing for the Maharaja of Mysore (who was extremely discriminating in his musical taste) and the Nizam of Hyderabad once composed a lyric especially for her to set to music and sing But she also sang for the common man and on many occasions did not charge any remuneration She was honoured with a D Litt of the Kalyani University and also received the Sangeet Natak Akademi award She died on January 7, 1984

The sketch shows her north Calcutta residence at P-13, Durga Charan Mitra Stree*

INNER EYE □ Bejan Daruwalla

ARIES
March 21—April 20

You must safeguard your health Wealth and happiness are your birthright Your sweetheart or mate will play difficult But you will finally get what you want Investments, buying, selling, loans and funds are favourably signified Travel for work or personal reasons is an important feature of October and November

TAURUS
April 21—May 20

Health job and partnerships could cause you some anxiety Romance and passion are destined for you Financial pressures are indicated because promises might not be kept by others In matters of health a medical checkup is long overdue Travel is a strong feature in October

GEMINI
May 21 –June 20

You will put in long hours at your job and reap rich rewards But your health needs proper attention In matters of romance you will work hard and play hard Your efforts in matters of finance will be appreciated though colleagues and subordinates will be jealous Children and hobbies give excitement and meaning to life and living

CANCER
June 21 July 20

You will wine and dine and go in for business deals and expansion Romance will hum in your heart Buying selling investment, renovation and decoration are the right directions of the month On the health front you should not have any major problem Unless absolutely essential for business reasons it is better to avoid any journey Devote some time to the affairs of children home and pastime

LEO
July 21– August 21

You will be active and extremely determined This in turn paves the way to success The conditions and setting are ideal for romance Once again expenses will shoot up But your earnings will be encouraging as well Minor health problems are likely Towards mid-week, you may need to travel



VIRGO
August 22—Sept 22

Travel becomes one of the main trends now Health could be a bit of a problem Secret affairs as well as strong open ties are the hallmark this week You will earn from more than one source and thus meet your financial commitments Children and home keep you occupied

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22

The domestic scene has an extra dimension this week Health of parents in-laws and elders cause anxiety Romance will be marked by complications and perplexities but joys and surprises as well Money will flow in so wait till November before raising a hue and cry In health matters there are too many irons in the fire for your comfort A home away from home is indicated Also, business can compel you to travel

SCORPIO
Oct 23– Nov 20

Important transactions settlements negotiations trips ties visits interviews and meets are foretold Romance will be fiery and fantastic There is money to be made and spent too You may experience some health problems Changes in the home and family are likely An addition to the family is not ruled out

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 21—Dec 20

Mighty ambition, great inner drive, buying/selling/investing and shopping sprees are the highlights of the week Secret ties and romantic places entice you Deals, contracts and assignments boost your ego and income No major health problem is foreseen Travel may be necessary for an important get-together

CAPRICORN
Dec 21—Jan 19

You will be working full steam on the home as well as on the work front Romance will be excellent in bits and parts You will wax eloquent but complain frequently By dint of hard work and determination you create the right financial openings A home away from home requires active preparation Just see that you do not buckle under psychological crossfire and posers Stomach and chest are the health hazards The home front will be fully activated

AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18

Publicity and sales campaigns, journeys and collaborations, ceremonies and functions, deeds documents contracts, job-hops and romance are all in a mad heap In romance you will love passionately and the response will be wonderful In finance, you steal a march over your rivals, but the going will not be easy Move fast to augment your income and status Travel will be necessary Health will hold well Children give you a hard time but it will be well worth it Home deserves a facelift

PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

Do not neglect the personal and emotional sides of your life now It is just the right time for romance Seize the chances to augment your income and build resources Health problems will not impede your progress. Visits and meetings are foretold Home and children offer plenty of satisfaction and security

BIRTHDAYS

October 14

October 17
You will have success in enterprises and on the employment front as well. In other words, your prospects are excellent. The eligible are in for romance and perhaps wedlock. Travel is more than probable in 1991.

October 18

October 20



Titan showroom on Park Street

GOOD SHOW!

A couple of more shop windows, aesthetic enough to set them apart

Photographs: Asit Poddar



Khazana of Taj Bengal

There was a time when the beautiful babies of the film industry were not really permitted to join the bandwagon. Of course, there were exceptions. But, today, the floodgates have been opened to them. They have the oomph, they have the talent. And they have the opportunities. **Sanjay Sayani** picks out five that are part of the new phenomenon

It all began with actors who then became stars. They spawned sons who became star sons, some shining, some lacklustre. You had Sunil Dutt's *baba*, Sunjay, and Dharmendra's kid, Sunny. Rajendra Kumar's son, Kumar Gaurav, tried his hand, and Raj Kapoor's brood, Randhir, Rishi and Rajeev, was released on unsuspecting celluloid freaks.

Corn really popped and wafers crackled in darkened movie halls then. With video, the trend changed. It was dinner at home, the small screen, with the even smaller VCR. The tape unspooled and star sons were made and destroyed.

Yet, during all this razzle-dazzle and media hype, star daughters, still in school skirts and plaits, struggling with home-



Sanjay Sayani

STAR



DAUGHTERS

Karishma: Dad was difficult, but Mum's was the word

Jagdish Mistry

work and battling puberty, were looking dreamily at the sets, arc lamps, greasepaint and glory.

Not only did the era of star sons start with Raj Kapoor, way back in the Forties, he being the son of the then superstar, Prithviraj, it was also the same Kapoor Khandaan that had the distinction of unleashing star sons on the big screen.

Shashi Kapoor's slim, bone-china-fragile girl, Sanjna, broke all Kapoor traditions, when she chose to live in with Aditya Bhattacharya. Meanwhile her appearances on Bombay's English stage, as well as the brief appearance as an adolescent in Papa's production, *36 Chowringhee Lane*, and *Utsav*, got favourable notices, and then, suddenly, she hit the limelight with *Hero Hiralal*.

In the film she played an actress, to Naseeruddin Shah's cock-a-hoop, nutty autorickshaw driver gone bonkers over the tinsel-babe. Says producer Gul Anand, "I managed to convince her; she liked the role, agreed and we began to shoot. No *nakhras*, no tantrums, and a fine performance."

Papa Shashi avers, "She was damn good, and I enjoyed her on screen as an old actor and a new director, and was happy for her. But now it seems she's gone back into her shell."

Sanjna, who never gives interviews, (the rule of the thumb for her) has now, according to reports, removed herself completely from the film scene, but may just do a role in her hubby's (she's married Aditya) film, a role woven around her. But no outside offers at all, though she has been getting a steady stream of them.

Says director Shekhar Kapur, who had signed on another Kapoor *beti*, Karishma (Randhir Kapoor-Babita's baby), for his new flick co-starring Bobby Deol, Dharmendra's *chotta beta*, about the trend of star daughters, "What's the harm? If there are star sons, there might as well be star daughters. And if they are good, and work well, I see no way that anything can stop them from reaching the top. Genetically, too, they have it in them."

Karishma was last heard as not doing Kapur's film, produced by Dharam to launch his son. She herself says, "I don't want to comment on my being in the film or not, but yes, I am determined to pursue a career of my own, and why shouldn't I?"

How about family reactions? "Dad was difficult, but Mum was easy, and I think I have it in me, both the talent and the looks, as well as the confidence to make it, so why not? Also, Mum and Dad were both in the profession, so I have a good lineage. Grandpas from both sides were also established actors (Raj Kapoor and Hari Shivdasani). It all kind of runs in the family, and my being a girl doesn't change anything."

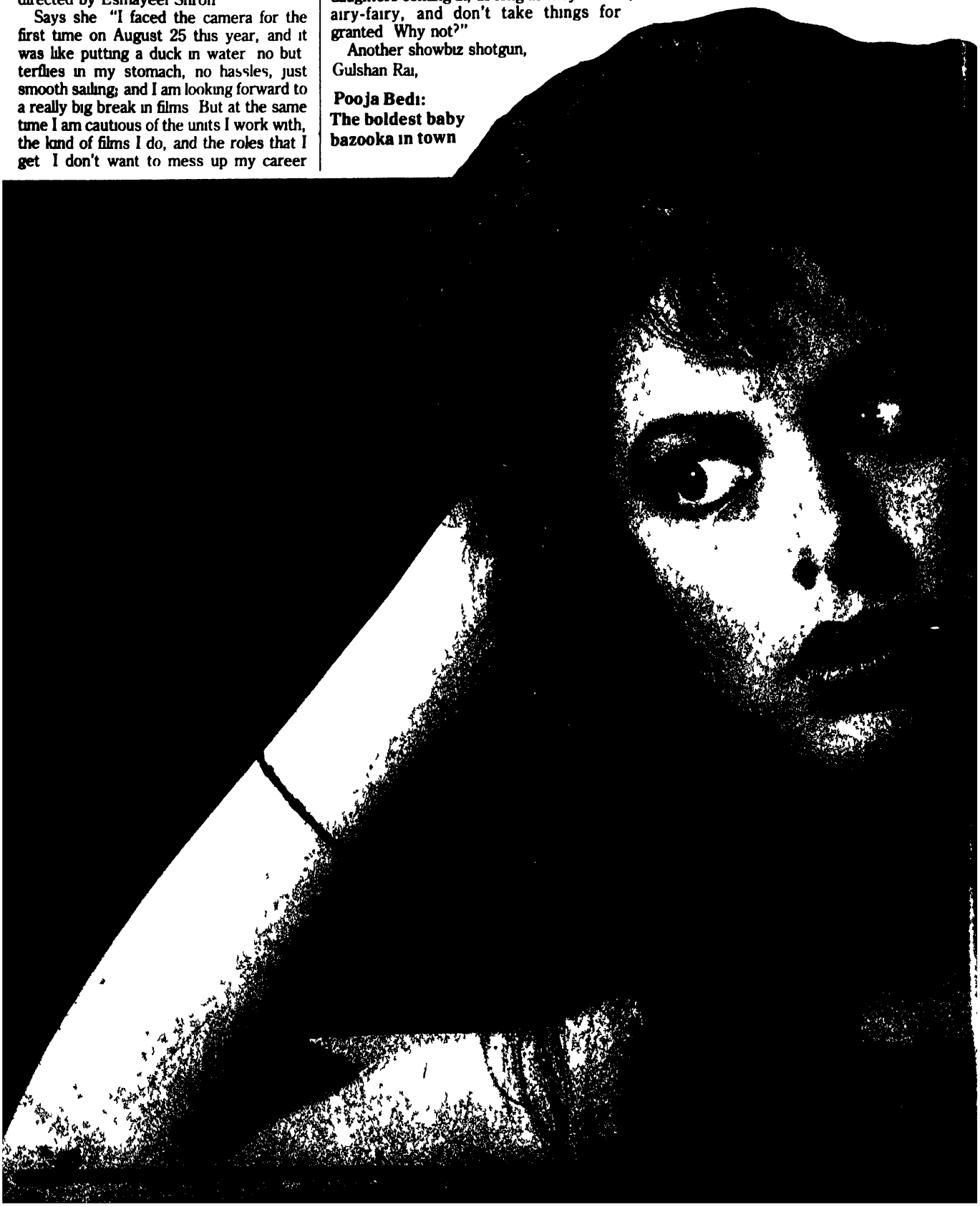
Karishma will soon be seen with current heart-throb, Salman Khan, in Bhappie Sonie's production, *Nischay*, being directed by Esmayeel Shroff

Says she "I faced the camera for the first time on August 25 this year, and it was like putting a duck in water no but terflies in my stomach, no hassles, just smooth sailing; and I am looking forward to a really big break in films But at the same time I am cautious of the units I work with, the kind of films I do, and the roles that I get I don't want to mess up my career even before it's taken off "

Bollywood's newest Sultan, Subhash Ghai, comments, "I see no harm in star daughters coming in, as long as they aren't airy-fairy, and don't take things for granted Why not?"

Another showbiz shotgun, Gulshan Rai, feels, "If it was the era of star sons, it can well be the era of star daughters Anyway, it's only youngsters making waves these

Pooja Bedi: The boldest baby bazooka in town



days. Look at my son, Rajiv, and his hit film *Tridev* or Sooraj Barjatya with his *Maine Pyar Kiya* or Rajkumar Santoshi with *Ghayal* or even Indra Kumar with *Dil*. All young directors, full of ideas, pep and vigour. So, why not young girls with star backgrounds?"

Into all this, and out of it too, is Pooja Bedi, who's the boldest, bawdiest, baby bazooka in town. She is the 'hot one' as industry pundits term her. Says Gul Anand, who cast her in an international telefilm (actually her first complete film), *Romancing the Taj*: "She is very good, spontaneous, and has a kind of a vivacious look in her eyes, which is what really attracted me to her and made me cast her in my film."

Though Pooja's first signed film, *Vishkanya*, produced and directed by Jagmohan Mundhra, the NRI director, is a little delayed, she has signed up a number of films. Says she, "I want the limelight, and I am out to get it." From striking provocative postures for magazine centrespreads to modelling as a pin-up girl for a liquor company, she won't stop at anything.

Speaking about her roles, Pooja says, "The initial thrust may have been lacking, but it's all coming together now, and I feel that good things are in store for me. One film that I am really enthusiastic about is Mansoor Khan's *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikander*."

Perhaps, this could be a major vehicle for her, as Mansoor is the man with the Midas touch, and has already a major hit, *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak*, to his credit.

Rakesh Shrestha





Sanjna Kapoor: Breaking the Kapoor tradition

Says Khan, "When I replaced Karishma Pahuja with Pooja, after 40 days of shooting, I wasn't nuts. I screen tested her opposite my hero, Aamir Khan, and she was just the girl I was looking for."

Pooja, who is the daughter of Kabir and Protima (still better known for her nude streak across town, splashed in *Cine Blitz*, than for her Odissi) has no inhibitions herself. She could soon become Bombay film bazaar's ultimate wetdream, replacing the going-going Kimi Katkar and about-to-get-married Sonam as the latest libido raiser.

Says Pooja, "I would like to do various roles, and if there are scenes which require dragging me into fountains, streams and showers, I'll do them coolly."

Karishma's just 18, Pooja's nearing 20, while Sanjna is now 24. But the youngest, smartest and the most go-getting of the lot is director Mahesh Bhatt's doll, again Pooja. How come she classifies as a 'star daughter'? Well, when we say stars we don't only mean those who ham it upfront, but successful directors like Bhatt, who work wonders as well as ham things up behind the camera!

Bhatt's babe will be seen nationwide in *Daddy*, a telefilm that Mahesh has put his heart and soul into. But wouldn't TV be a disastrous debut vehicle? "No way," says the 17-year-old Pooja. "In fact, when I asked Dad the same question, he said, how do you feel about 10 million or more people watching you at one go?"

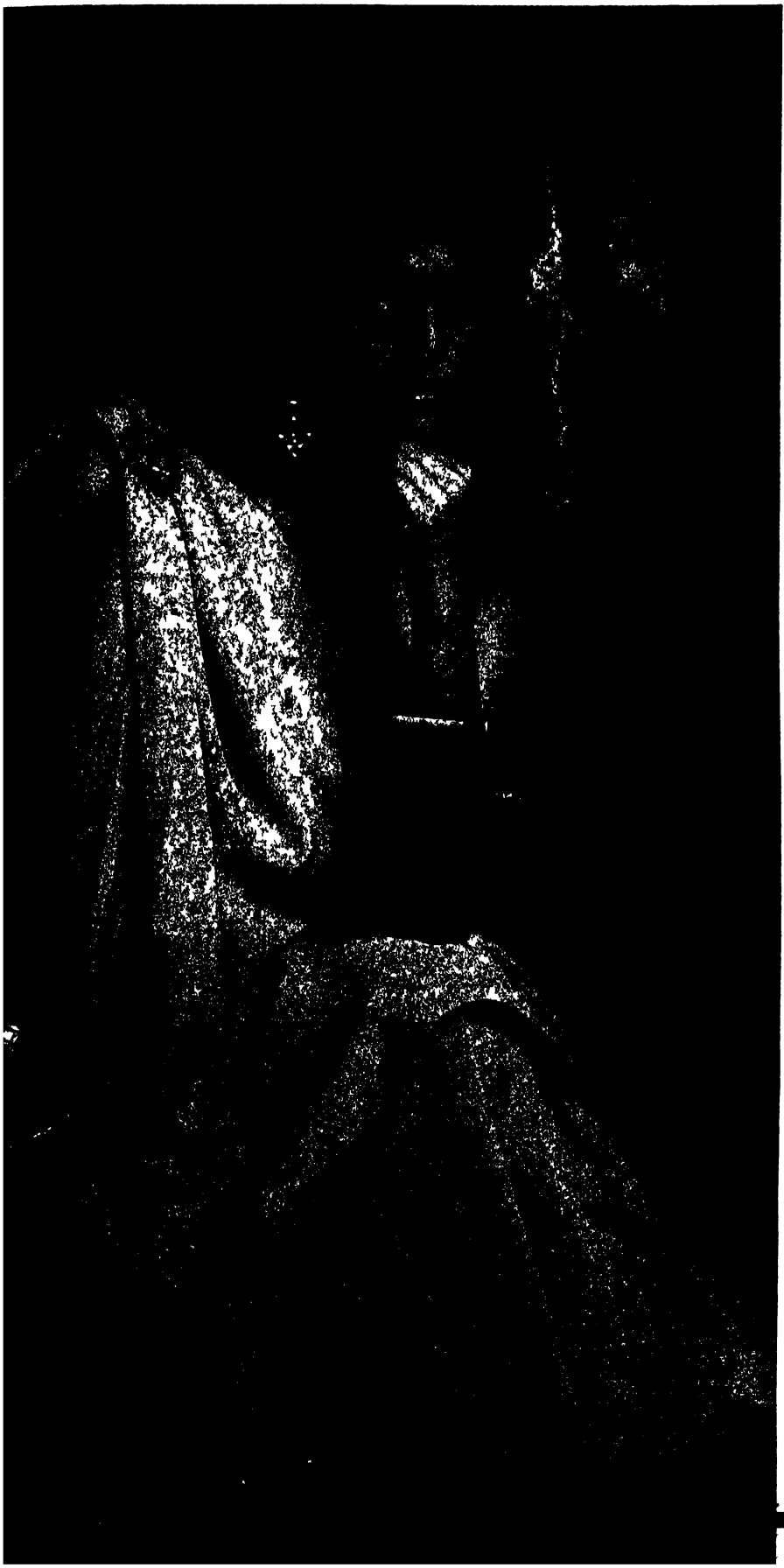
Pooja may be making her debut on the boob tube, but she's not sitting back; she says, "I am doing a film for Dad with Aamir also, and there are a couple of other offers that I am considering, but I don't want to rush things."

Unlike Sanjna and Karishma, but like Pooja Bedi, Bhatt has had modelling experience, but says,"When I went on the sets of *Daddy*, Papa was more nervous than me because he was wondering how I would do. But since I have always been familiar with studios since I was a toddler, and knew all the unit people, I did a very long scene in the first take, and what a sigh Papa heaved."

Pooja Bhatt is quite contradictory. She told us, "I wouldn't like to really disrobe, not at this stage, or even pose for sexy pictures and make hot copy." But seeing her splashed in the glitzy film mags in micro-minis, and spewing hot copy as the days go by, it does seem as a bit of Mahesh has rubbed off on her.

Luckily, most star daughters have little to worry about considering the set-up of the film industry, where it's not the heroine who really rakes in the 'initials', except when you are a Sridevi. (On her own, even Madhuri Dixit, is a dud). The hero still counts more, and so does the structure of a film. So even with initial flops, the others get the blame, while the

Shilpa Shirodkar: Arriving with a bang



heroine gets away scot-free the silver lining if one can call it that!

Women libbers may raise their hackles, but it's the truth "Look," says Manmohan Desai, "when I made *Gangaa Jamunaa Saraswathi*, a hit in the rural sectors, I made the mistake of making the heroine, rather both the heroines, Meenakshi Seshadhari and Jaya Prada—very strong Thus, Amitabh's role was equalled The film didn't click as I expected it to, that's the audience psyche "

Shilpa Shirodkar, in more senses than one, is the odd woman out For, she isn't a true star daughter, that is, if you reckon films, but her mother, Sushma Shirodkar, was a star on the Marathi stage in Bombay

First Shilpa made waves *a la* Pooja Bedi by getting sizzling pictures of hers splashed all over the glossies, and then, did a very daring rape scene for Ramesh Sippy's *Bhrashtachar* As she says, "When you want to arrive, do it with a bang " Then followed *Kishen Kanhaiya* where yet again her assets,including histrionic, were exposed to advantage

In fact, she's quite the gal to nix the loss of Kimi Katkar, and give Pooja Bedi a run for her cleavage Says Shilpa 'I am not going to be wearing sexy dresses all the time Only if required Otherwise, I am banking on my talent to take me to the top "

She's got the drive and panache to do so, and has a heap of films lined up, including her biggest break to date, *Hum* a Bachchan starrer in which she is cast opposite Govinda How does it feel to be a star daughter? "I am not a star daughter in the strict sense of the term, but I feel that I have a great mum Also, having been a very talented stage actress, she has been a very good tutor "

However, she is pretty cut up about the man who first introduced her to films, Sawan Kumar, but says she doesn't want to talk about it The story doing the rounds is that he gave her a raw deal, and then blasted her in print

As the present lot of heroes age, they'll find it increasingly difficult to pair with the newer lot of heroines, including the star daughters Which means that new heroes will have to be found, thus raising the risk factor This is, perhaps, why star daughters today are finding the going tougher than they expected

In any case, though pop corn won't pop as much as it did even till the late Seventies, movies will be made, and freshers will be blooded. The breaks will come—how soon and how frequently, only time will tell.

In the meantime, get ready to face the star babes. ■

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentick Street; 281917)—4 shows, Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270) & Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417)—noon.

Mahesh Bhatt's tribute to young love, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy. The music is by Nadeem Shravan.

• **Doodh Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442)—11.30, 2.30, 5.45, 9.

Directed by Ashok Gaikwad and with music by Annu Malik, the chief attractions in this film are Jackie Shroff, Neelam, Varsha Usgaonkar and Amrish Puri.



Rahul Roy and Anu Agarwal in *Aashiqui*



Moushumi Chatterjee and Tapas Paul in *Monmayuree*

• **Nyay Anyay:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road; 244822), Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Krishna (T.C. Dutta Street, 250437), Rupah (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road, 474403).

A film by Lawrence D'Souza starring Jeetendra, Jaya Prada, Sumeet Saigal, Shilpa Shirodkar and Anupam Kher. The music is by Anand Mi[illegible]

• **Pratibandh:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 391090), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani; 551133), Kalika (Sadananda Road; 478141)—regular shows; Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—noon.

A new film, starring Chiranjeevi and Juhi Chawla. The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal.

• **Shesh Naag:** Elite (S.N. Banerjee Road; 241383), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762)

Directed by K.R. Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Mandakini, Madhavi and Danny.

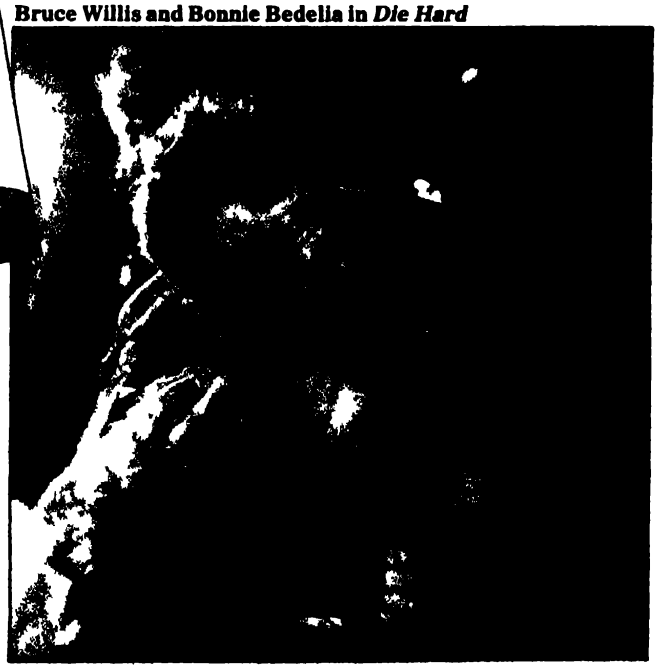
• **Zakhmi Zameen:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue; 553046), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Madhuban (Regent Park)

Aditya Pancholi and Jaya Prada are the lead pair. Also starring are Paresh Rawal and Ranjeet. The film is directed by Mahendra Shah and the music is by Anand Milind.

Bengali Films

• **Balidaan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200)—3, 6, 9, Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680)—2.30, 5.30, 8.30, Ujala

Bruce Willis and Bonnie Bedelia in *Die Hard*



(Russa Road; 478666)—3, 6, 9, Malancha (Regent Park), Jaya (Lake Town; 573936)—3 shows.

Anil Ganguly's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Raakhee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Papiya Adhikari, Nayana Das, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhishek Chatterjee, debutante Rupali and Tapas Paul. The music is by Bappi Lahiri.

• **Chakranta:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue; 274259), Darpana (Bidhan Sarani; 558080)—2, 5, 7.45; Purna (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474567)—2.30, 5.30, 8.

Ranjit Mullick and Moon Moon Sen are the lead pair. Others co-starring are Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhijit Sen, Rabi Ghosh, Ruma Guhathakurta and Sumanta Mukherjee. The film is directed by Amal Sur and the music is by Santimoy Mukherjee.

• **Debata (A):** Minar (Bidhan Sarani; 552753), Bijoli (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 352740)—2.45, 5.30, 8.15.

Victor Banerjee, Debashree Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, Kali Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R.D. Burman.

• **Jeeban Sangee:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani; 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road; 359561), Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

Directed by Ravi Kinagi and with music by Mrinal Banerjee, the film stars Tapas Paul and Archana Joglekar along with Deepankar De, Shakuntala Barua, Kali Banerjee, Gita Dey and Soumitra Chatterjee.

• **Manmayuree:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—3 shows; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45; Priya (Rashbehari Avenue; 464440)—2.30, 5.30, 8.

Moushumi Chatterjee, Tapas Paul, Deepankar De, Sreela Majumder, Subhendu Chatterjee, Lily Chakraborty and Master Rintu are the chief attractions in this film, directed by Biresh Chatterjee. The music is by Swapan Chakraborty.

• **Raja Badshah:** Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street; 552270), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue; 410417), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road; 365108)—3 shows.

Directed by Palash Banerjee, the cast includes Swarup, Mrinal, Debika, Manmatha, Arjun, Anuradha, Master Abhi, Master Papan, Rana Mukherjee, Payal Bhattacharya and a pair of elephants. The music is by Arun Robin.

• **Shesh Aaghaat:** Radha (Bidhan Sarani; 553045)—2.30, 5.30, 8.15; Lotus (S.N. Banerjee Road; 242664)—3, 6, Indira (Indra Roy Road; 471757)—3, 5.45, 8.30.

A film by Jayanta Purkayastha, starring Tanuja, Deepankar De, Shoma Anand, Nayana Das, Indrani Dutta, Manoj Mitra, Swarup Dutta, Biplab Chatterjee, footballer Subrata Bhattacharya and debutant Kumar Rana. The music is by Ravindra Jain.

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (1): AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300.
Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (2): AI-101 at 0240.
Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep. (2): AI-101/AI-743 at 0240.
Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1830; Dep. (5): AI-306 at 1930.
Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr. (6): AI-309 at 1825; Dep. (6): AI-309 at 1935.
Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep. (6): AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935.
Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep: (7): AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500.
Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep: (7): AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500.
New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (7): AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340.
Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300.
Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr. (4): SU-537 at 1525.
Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep. (4): SU-538 at 1725
Amman-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 4): RJ-184 at 0730.
Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep. (1, 4): RJ-181 at 0630
Calcutta-Singapore: Dep (2). SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep (7): SQ-413 at 1530.
Singapore-Calcutta: Arr (2): SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr. (5): SQ-414 at 0920.
Calcutta-Bangkok: Dep (2, 4, 7): IC-231 at 1060, Dep (1, 3, 6): TG-314 at 1355; Arr. (2, 4, 7): IC-232 at 1640, Arr. (1, 3, 6): TG-313 at 1240.
Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr. (6): IC-843 at 0755; Dep. (6): IC-843 at 0855.
Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr. (6): IC-844 at 1115; Dep. (6): IC-844 at 1215.
Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-247 at 1600, Dep. (1, 5): RA-214 at 1530; Arr (2, 4, 6, 7): IC-248 at 1915, Arr. (1, 5): RA-213 at 1430.
Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep. (1, 7): IC-223 at 1340, Dep. (2, 4, 6): IC-223 at 1640, Dep. (2, 3, 5, 6): BG-092 at 1060, Dep. (4): BG-092 at 1130, Dep. (2, 3, 6): BG-094 at 1620 and BG-096 at 1940, Dep. (5): BG-096 at 1820.
Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr. (1, 7): IC-224 at 1540, Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-224 at 1840, Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6): BG-091 at 1010, Arr. (2, 3, 6): BG-093 at 1540, and BG-095 at 1910, Arr. (5): BG-097 at 1740.
Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep. (6): IC-225 at 1330, Dep. (2, 5): BG-698 at 1415.
Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr (6): IC-226 at 1550, Arr. (2, 5): BG-697 at 1330.
Calcutta-Paro: Dep. (2). KB-106 at 0900; Arr. (2): KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (7): AI-1651 at 0500.
Delhi-Calcutta: Arr. (1): AI-1320 at 1300; Arr. (7): AI-1122 at 0340.
Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2): AI-101 at 0240; Dep. (6). AI-309 at 1935
Bombay-Calcutta: Arr. (5): AI-306 at 1815.

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep. (daily): IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225.
Calcutta-Bombay: Dep. (daily): IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855; Arr. (daily): IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755.
Calcutta-Madras: Dep. (daily): IC-265 at 1700; Arr. (daily): IC-266 at 2150.
Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-271 at 1500; Arr. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-272 at 2025.
Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep. (1, 2, 4, 6): IC-542 at 0730; Arr. (1): IC-541 at 0945 and Arr. (2, 4, 6): IC-541 at 1310.
Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily): IC-229 at 1250; Arr. (daily): IC-230 at 1550
Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6): IC-201 at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-202 at 1245, Arr (2, 4): IC-202 at 1500
Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1030; Arr. (3, 5, 7): IC-213 at 1540
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-219 at 1120; Arr (1, 3, 5, 6): IC-220 at 1600.
Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep. (daily): IC-2211 at 1100; Arr. (daily). IC-222 at 1320
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily): IC-241 at 0700, Dep. (2, 4): IC-243 at 1400, Dep. (3, 5, 6, 7). IC-243 at 0900, Dep (1): IC-243 at 1400; Arr. (daily): IC-242 at 0900, Arr. (2, 4): IC-244 at 1600, Arr. (3, 5, 6, 7): IC-244 at 1020, Arr. (1): IC-244 at 1600.
Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep. (daily). IC-255 at 0600; Arr. (daily): IC-256 at 1030.
Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep. (3, 5, 6): IC-269 at 1710; Arr. (3, 5, 6): IC-270 at 2040.
Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep. (1, 2, 7): IC-277 at 1745; Arr. (1, 2, 7): IC-278 at 2215.
Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep. (2, 4): IC-285 at 0545; Arr. (2, 4): IC-286 at 1015.
Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep. (1): IC- 287 at 0545; Arr. (1): IC-288 at 1235.
Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-410 at 0630; Arr. (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7): IC-409 at 1510.

Printed here is the regular Indian Airlines schedule. This is, however, subject to change. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569641/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-727 at 0530; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-728 at 1120.
Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep. (7): PF-729A at 0550; Arr. (7): PF-730A at 1050.
Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-701 at 1140; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-702 at 1615.
Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashahar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-729 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-730 at 1040.
Calcutta-Silchar-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-701 at 1100; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-702 at 1715.
Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep. (1, 3, 5): PF-715 at 0600; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep. (2, 6): PF-709 at 0615; Arr. (2, 6): PF-710 at 1640.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep (4): PF-709 at 0615; Arr. (4): PF-710 at 1750.
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep. (7): PF-709 at 0600; Arr. (7): PF-710 at 1705.
Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar-Guwahati: Dep. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-

705 at 0915; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-706 at 1620.
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep. (1, 3, 5) PF-729A at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5) PF-730A at 1410.

Calcutta-Aizawl-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6): PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310; Arr. (2, 4, 6). PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655.

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Patna: Dep. (1, 3, 5). PF-725 at 0550; Arr. (1, 3, 5). PF-726 at 1115.
Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep (2, 4, 6): PF- 717 at 0550; Arr. (2, 4, 6): PF-718 at 0745.
Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep. (2, 4, 6, 7): PF-707 at 0600; Arr. (2, 4, 6, 7). PF-708 at 0855.

Trains

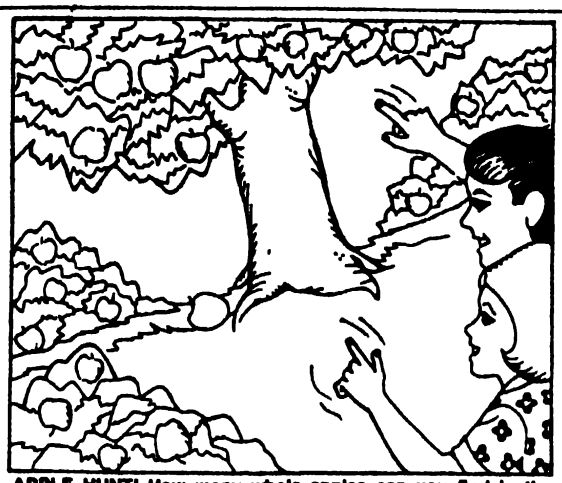
EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	Delhi-Kalka Mail	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	Amritsar Mail	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	Bombay Mail via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	Rajdhani Express 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	Doon Express via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	Udayan Abha Toofan Express via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	Amritsar Express	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	Delhi Express via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	Delhi Janata Express via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	Lucknow Express	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	Mithila Express	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	Kanchenjunga Express	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	Kamrup (Guwahati) Express	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	Black Diamond Express	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	Coalfield Express	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	Asansol Express	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	Danapur Express	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	North Bihar Express Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	Santiniketan Express	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	Shipra (Indore) Express Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	Gorakhpur Express Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	Darjeeling Mail	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	Gour Express	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	Jammu-Tawi Express	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	Mughal Saral Express via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	Chhapra Express Tri-weekly Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	Madras Mail	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	Bombay Mail via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	Gitanjali (Bombay) Express	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	Ahmedabad Express	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	Bombay Express via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	Coromandel (Madras) Express	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	Bangalore Express Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	Tata Steel Express	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	Ispat Express	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	Sambalpur Express	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	Ranchi Hatia Express	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	Puri Express Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	Jagannath (Puri) Express Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	Tirupati Express	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	East Coast (Hyderabad) Express	14 45	8046
8017	16-45	Purulia Express Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express Monday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13-45	2649
2650	22-35	Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22-35	Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



APPLE HUNT! How many whole apples can you find in the drawing above? Our artist claims the total number is 21

• UP A TREE! Credit an unknown source for this pithy rhyme Nature works in circles Everyone agrees Trees grow out of doors And doors are made from trees Except metal doors natch



SMUGGLER'S MESSAGE

A carrier pigeon used by smugglers of precious stones is intercepted and found to be bearing the following cryptic message in a capsule attached to its leg

UHOHDVLQJ
GLDPHQG
ELUG WRGDB WZR XP

This message is encoded in a simple manner D stands for A E stands for B F stands for C and so on consecutively through the alphabet with A B and C standing for X Y Z

Let s see if you can decode the message to help thwart the smuggling operation

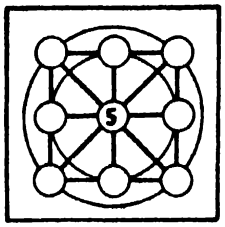
Message reads Releasing diamond bird today two pm

• SUM TEST! Place digits 1 to 9 in blank circles of the diagram below so that each horizontal, vertical and diagonal row of the inner square totals 15.

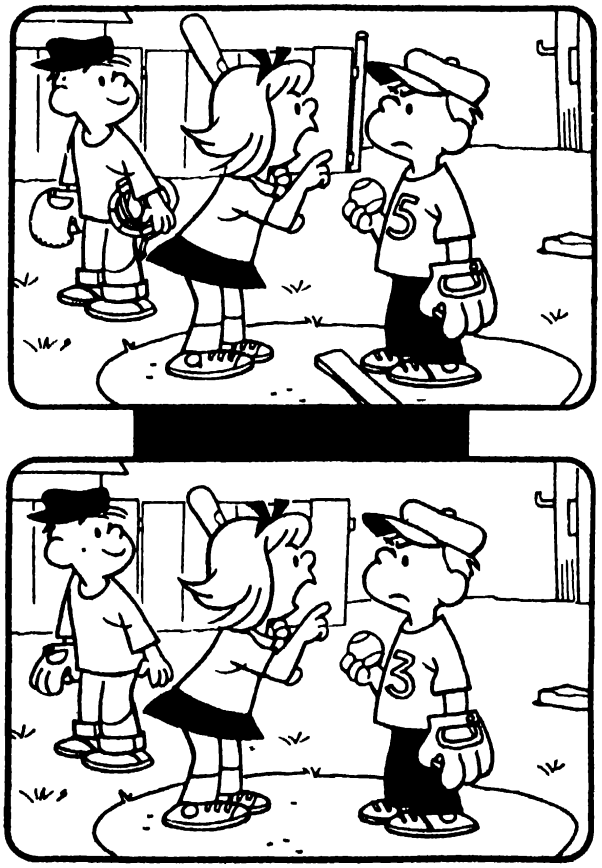
AND, at the same time, each four numbers of the inner and outer circles is to total 20

Number 5 is in place. Can you insert the rest?

Across top to bottom 6 7 2 1 5 9 3 4 will do it



HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Glove is different 2 Mask is missing 3 Bat is shorter 4 Pole is missing 5 Number is different 6 Picking stalk is missing

FUNSPOT



BIG SPLASH! Our surfer pal is landing with a splash Apply colors neatly to scene 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt. brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk blue

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

CULPABLE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 30 points

Possible anagram Club leap



We don't usually announce quizzes from outside the state because we either don't get any information about them or insufficient time to make the announcement. This time Sanskritiki, a socio-cultural organisation of Guwahati has informed us well in advance. They are going to organise the NE Quiz'90 on November 3, 1990 at the Rang Bhawan Auditorium in Maligaon, Guwahati 781011. They write: "The quiz will be conducted by one of India's leading quizmasters, Bhaskar Bhattacharji. In its maiden venture last year, the competition attracted the entries of as many as 54 teams from different corners of this region braving inclement weather with Govt Law College, Guwahati emerging victorious. The organisation expects more teams participating this year and making the event more attractive and competitive. Details regarding the competition can be had from: Western Pharmacy, Maligaon, Charlali, Guwahati 781011."

A quiz report from Shyam Sundar Jalan, Siliguri:

"Skylark, Siliguri organised an inter-school quiz competition at Maheshwari Bhawan, in which eight schools participated. Quizmasters Pradip Kedia & Dilip Agarwal did a great job in a close competition. Don Bosco School finished first followed by Lincolns High School and St Joseph's High School."

Othello Mazoomdar, Boral, has sent us a 'Who is he?':

"He was born during the last decade of the last century and spent an unforgettable childhood with his grandfather who was factually his mother's stepfather. His mother was widowed twice, first by an Englishman who was double her age and then by a Jew who fathered him but told him only in 1942 that they had been using a surname which they never deserted, that had no relation with blood. He had married a Greenwich village girl. Influenced by a gentleman whom he called the Master of his youth and who in the second decade of this century embarked on a full-time career as a city planner in India, he has been widely recognised as one of the original minds this century produced and was a philosopher, biographer, social analyst and critic of art and architecture. Apart from various world honours, he received doctorates from the universities of Edinburgh and Rome. The *Story of Utopias* was the first book and amongst his numerous books are a biography of Herman Melville, *Sticks & Stones, Faith for Living, Values for Survival,* and in his autobiography, *Sketches from Life,* he writes, 'I never suffered from academic paralysis of open-mindedness and my sole security consisted in my willingness to remain insecure'."



Who was he and who was the Master of his youth?

Ans: Lewis Mumford, social critic and Patrick Geddes.

Dr P.K. Nayak, Calcutta 19 writes to say that 'Barber's Chair' sign (September 9) also occurs in other diseases, such as Compression of the Cervical Chord and Syringomyelia.

Postcript: Tomorrow is the last day for receiving entries for the Argus Close Quiz which will be held on November 8, 9 & 11, 1990 at the Dalhousie Institute.

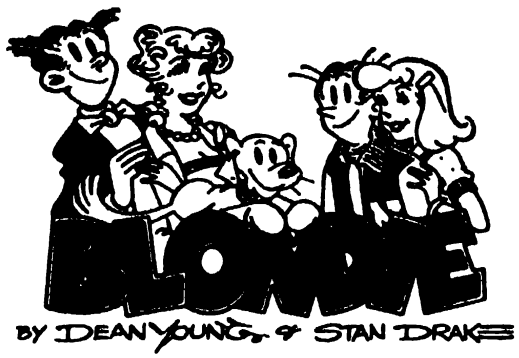
CBS

11th Question: **Which was the only team in Italia 90 which allotted jersey numbers in alphabetical order and not by positions? (P. Surendra, Kadam Kuan, Nawadah, P.O. & Dist. Nawadah 805110.)**

Ans: **'Belgium', hence their goalkeeper did not wear No. 1.**

QUESTIONS

ANSWERS

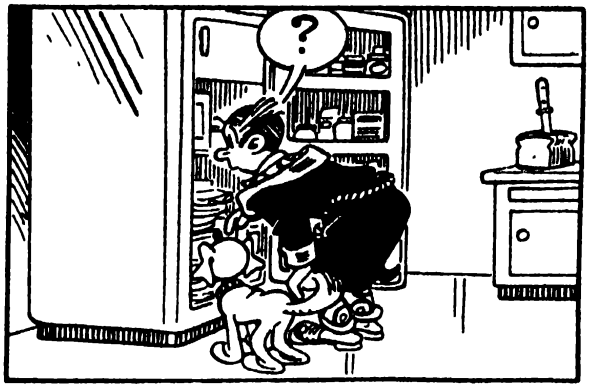






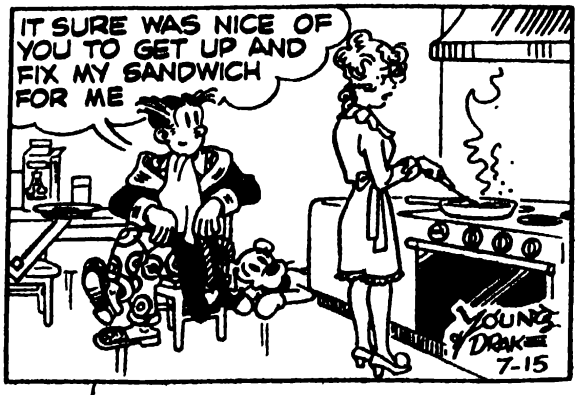




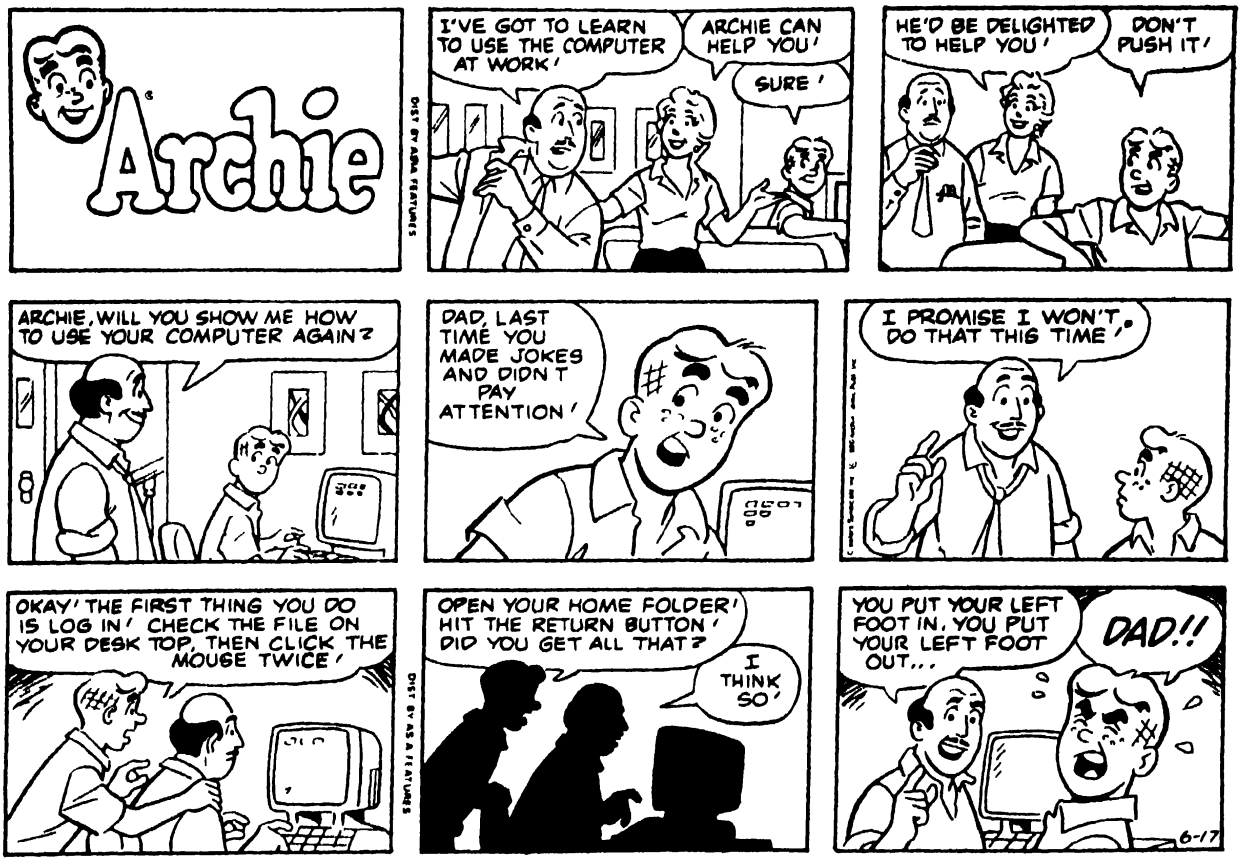




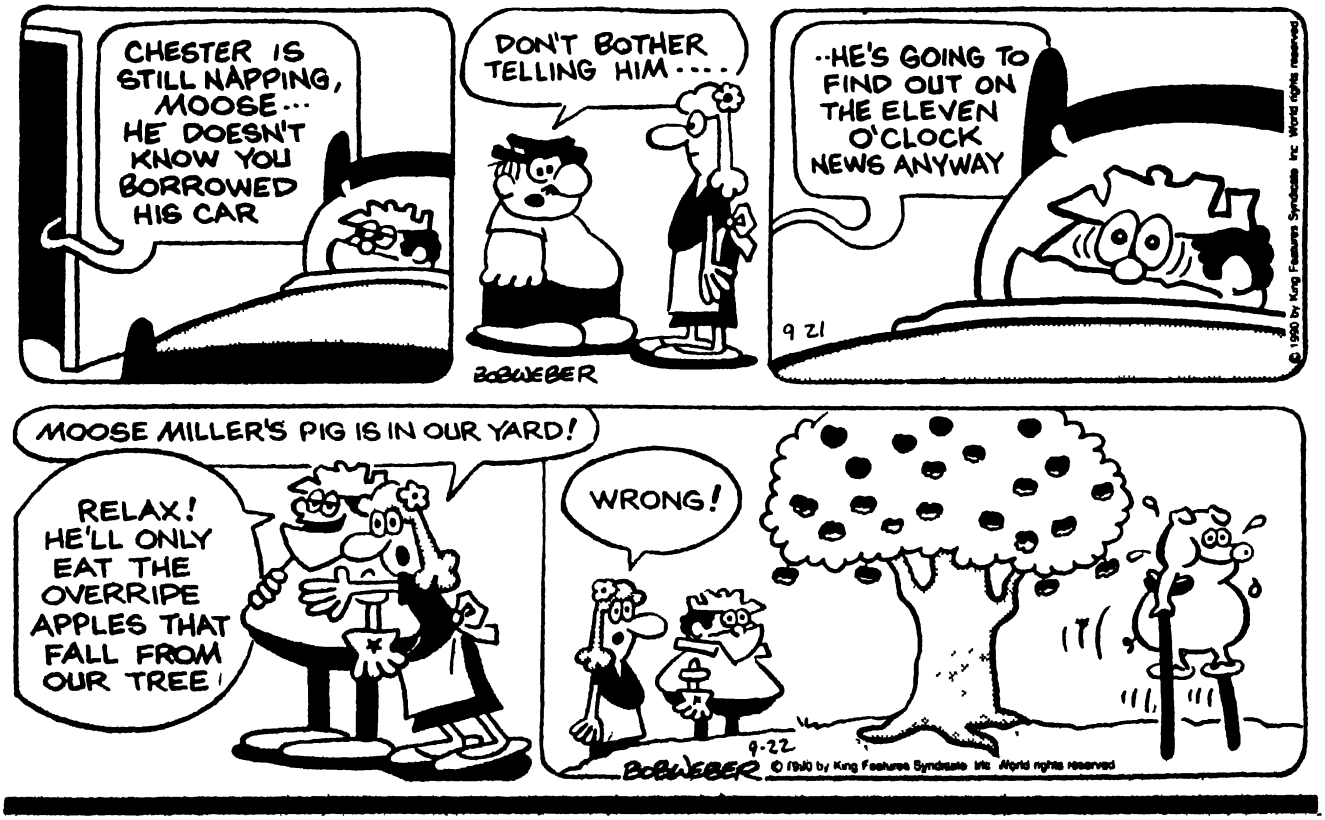
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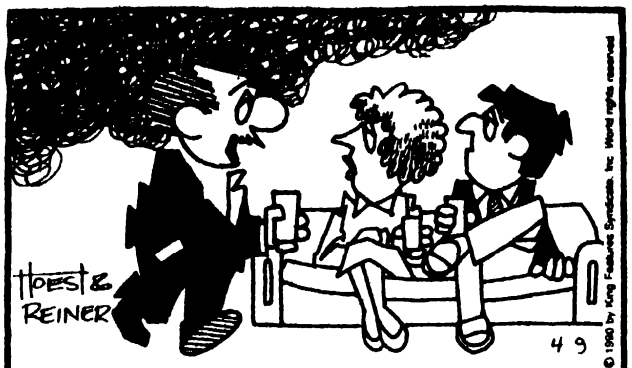


ARCHIE



MOOSE MILLER

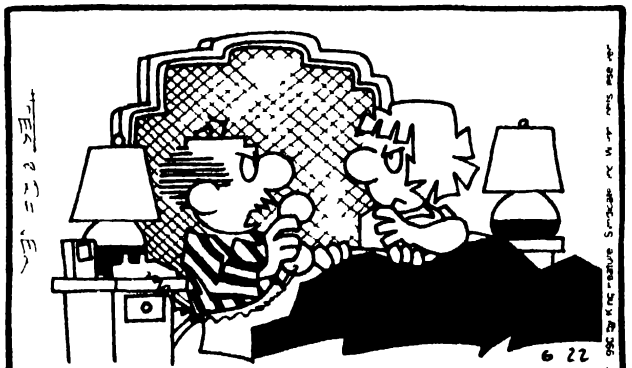




"IT'S CALLED 'THE 911 SPECIAL.'"



"HIT IT, LEROY... YOU'RE STILL TEN POUNDS AWAY FROM LAST YEAR'S GOLF SLACKS."

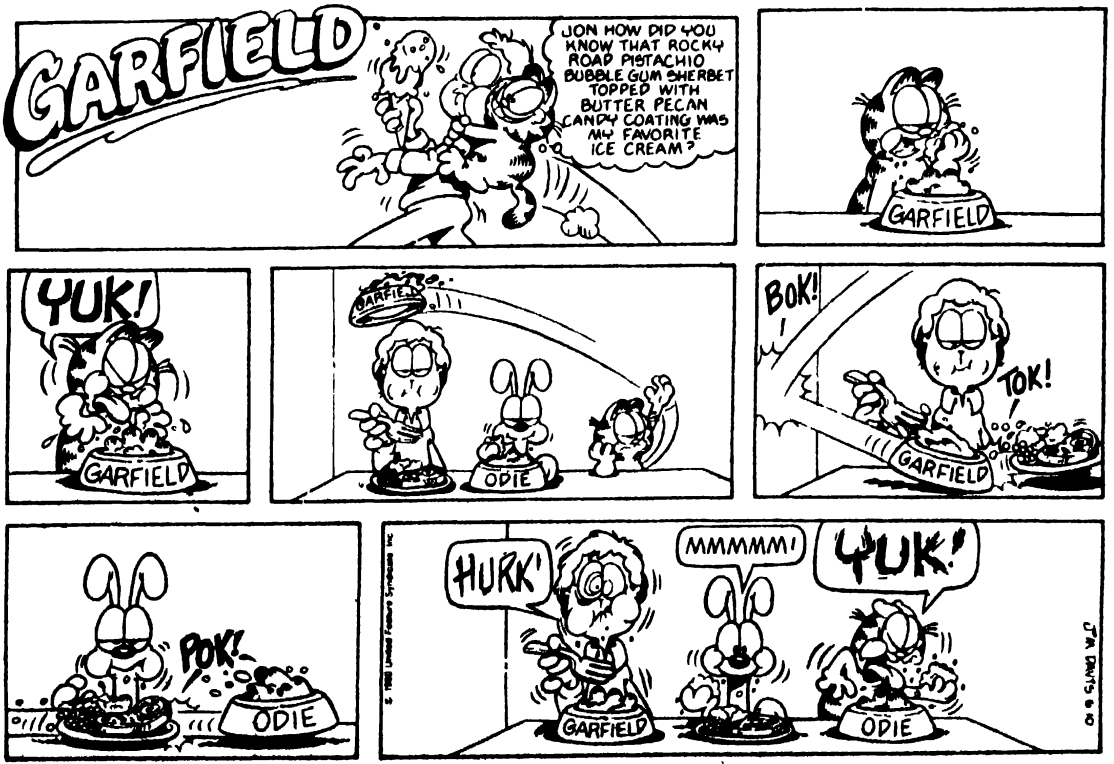


"IT'S YOUR FRIEND, HELEN, WITH THE ELEVEN O'CLOCK NEWS."



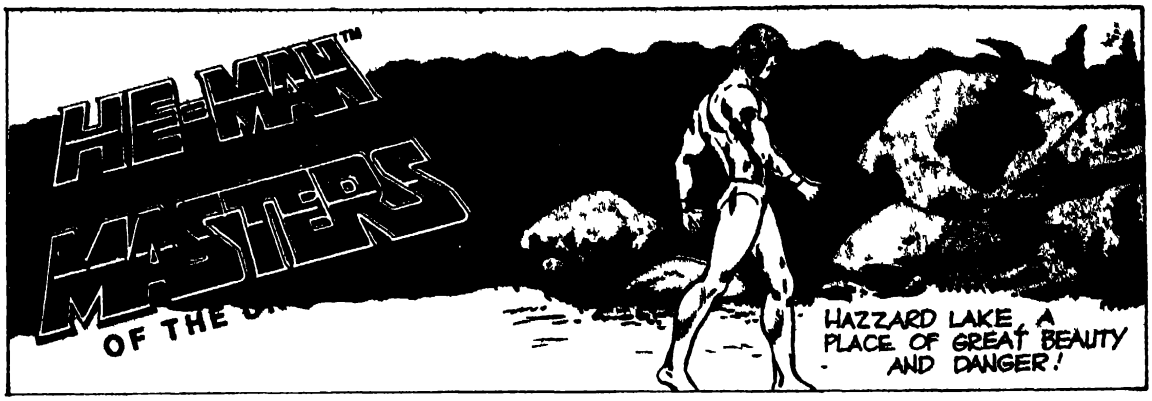
"LEROY HAS HIDDEN QUALITIES, AND YOU CAN'T REALLY BLAME HIM FOR HIDING THEM."

GARFIELD By Jim Davis



ADVENTURES OF





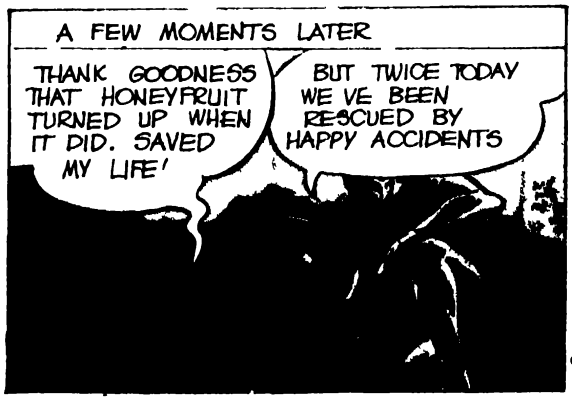










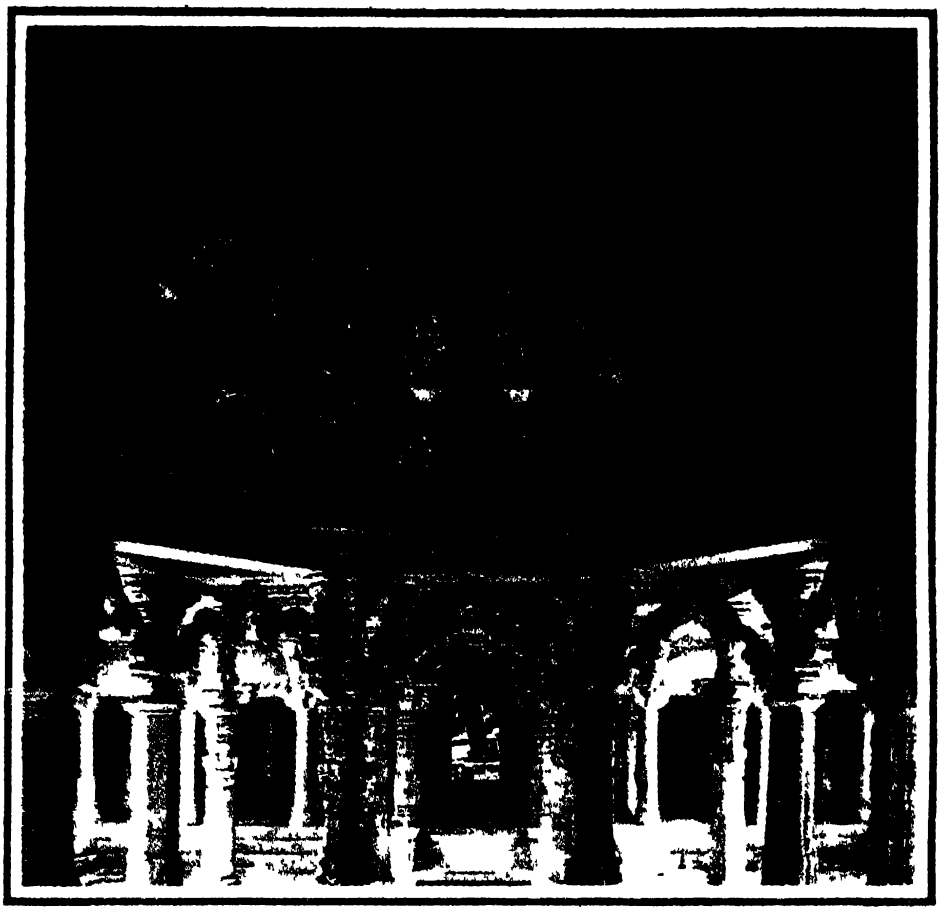


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Pocket-sized **Sachin Tendulkar** scored a point again: that size is no criterion for performance. And now the diminutive cricket crackerjack has bagged an unprecedented Rs 18-lakh contract with a sports goods company. More power to your elbow, Tender Ten. Photograph by UTPAL SORKAR



CAN YOU SEE STEEL IN THIS MAJESTY OF MARBLE ?

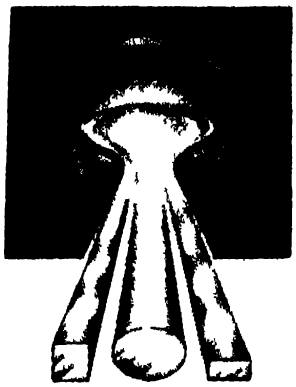
The discerning eye can see beyond the obvious. Far beyond the intricate form of this Dilwara Temple situated on the extensive pateau of Mount Abu in the Aravalli mountains of Rajasthan. Of white marble, the interior is lavish in sculpture and architectural decoration. Columns, ceilings, porticos and cells, display marble figures based on geometrical mandala with super-imposed planes and concentric rings in the form of a star. In each cell is a polished stone idol representing a tirthankara or Jain saint.

Centuries have rolled by. Monuments, great and small, have come to adorn our land. The men who made these aesthetic masterpieces possible were the anonymous artists in league with the blacksmith. It was that forgotten furnace which forged steel tools and implements, however crude and archaic. Thus, the backbone of such sweeping creativity was, as always, technology. In a word, steel forging. And centuries of steel forging in India is today reaching a technological zenith with POWMEX STEELS.

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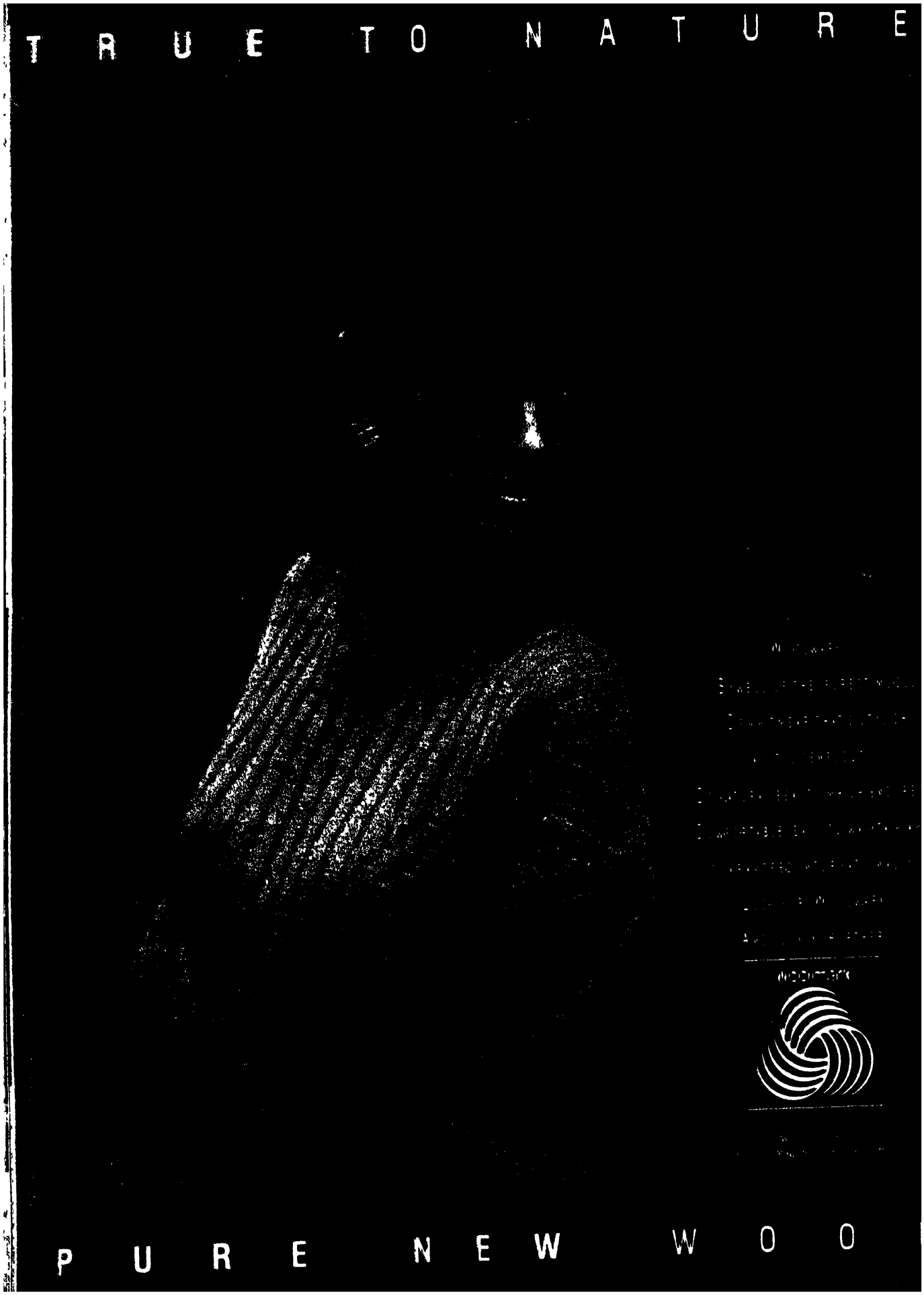
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PURE NEW WOO

POST MORTEM

Hot and Sweet

Thanks a million for that exciting picture of hot and sweet Gabriela Sabatini in Candid Camera (September 23). Gaby left *me* in a sweat.

But what took you so long, mister?

Md. Masud,
Calcutta

Some Research

Apropos of the piece, 'The Feminist Sita' (August 26) by Sarmistha Dutta Gupta, I am amazed that she should think Nabaneeta Dev Sen has "unearthed" the text of the *Ramayana* by Chandrabati Devi, the Mymensingh poetess of the 16th century.

Even a philistine (in the Arnoldian sense) like the present writer, who has no claim to scholarship, knew of the existence of this *Ramayana* ever since his childhood, fed as he was on its story by his grandparents. He also remembers a Bengali film of the early Fifties called *Kavi Chandrabati*, starring Anuva Gupta in the title role, which dealt with the life of the poetess vis-a-vis her *Ramayana*. That, according to one version, Sita was the daughter of Ravana and Mandodari was common knowledge among the children of our times. There exists even a Ceylonese version of the *Ramayana* where Ravana is not the villain, but a great hero (and the protagonist) who pines for Sita's love.

Was Chandrabati's father's name Dwijabanshi Das? According to Prof. J. C. Ghosh of the University of Oxford, his name was Vamsivadan (or Vamsidas) Chakravartti (vide, *Bengali Literature*, p65, edn. 1948, OUP). The Brahmin youth Chandrabati was betrothed to, jilted her for a Muslim woman.

I wonder if the writer of the piece misunderstood Ms Dev Sen or it is 'research' of this kind which comparative literature inspires.

Ashoke Sen,
Calcutta

Sarmistha Dutta Gupta replies:

I am thankful to Mr Ashoke Sen for giving me another opportunity to explain why I thought Nabaneeta Dev Sen had "unearthed" Chandrabati Devi's *Ramayana*.

Chandrabati Devi is a well-known poet of Mymensingh and her ballads have received wide literary acclaim except the "hardly-known *Ramayana*". This text never received any serious literary attention. However, it was very much a part of popular culture in Mymensingh and some other parts of East Bengal. Mr Sen proves my point better, fed as he was on its story by his grandparents in his childhood.

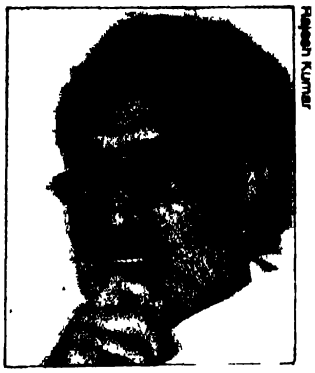
History has shown that the acceptance of alternative versions of epics has always depended on the cultural orientation of the people who have exercised their preference. Chandrabati's epic is a woman's retelling of the story according to values she considered important. As such it was a significant break from convention. Ms Dev Sen has been trying to reinterpret it in such terms for the first time so that the literary significance of the 'silenced' text may be rewritten.

Sabatini: Oh, Gaby!



CONTENTS

The Telegraph
21 OCTOBER 1990



Rajesh Kumar

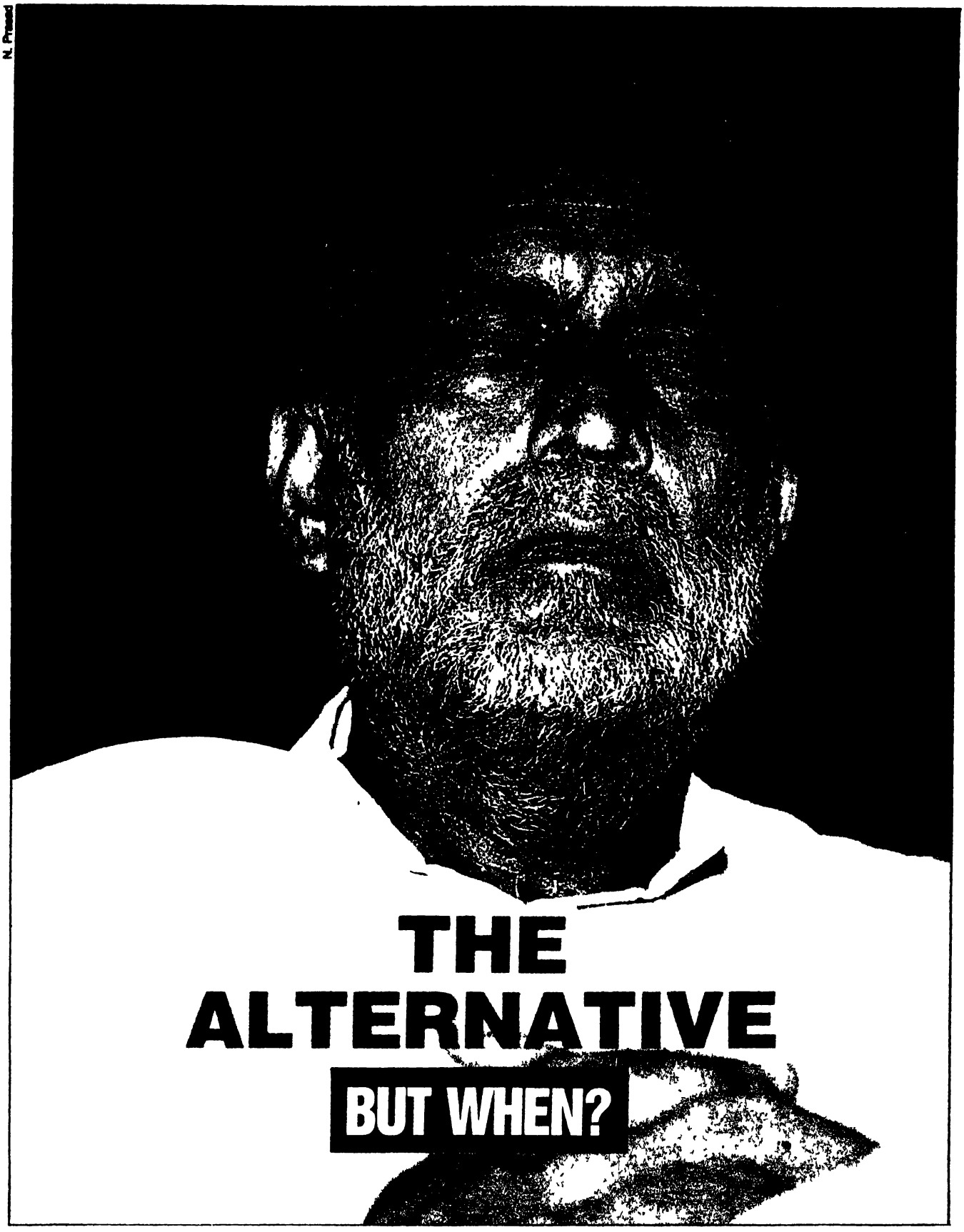
4 With the growing dissension in the Janata Dal, the reports of a search for an alternative to V P Singh are gathering momentum Has Chandra Shekhar's time finally come?



14 Children brought up on Walt Disney can now wear his creations A report

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N. Prasad
THE
ALTERNATIVE
BUT WHEN?

Is Chandra Shekhar, the perennial Prime Minister-in-waiting, finally ready to throw down the gauntlet? SHUBHA SINGH finds out

He has been called an ageing Young Turk, an angry old man, Bhondsi Ke Babaji by his detractors But Chandra Shekhar is unfazed by these epithets What matters right now is that he is back where he belongs at the centrestage of power politics, from where he was rudely ejected when the National Front government was formed last year

For a long time, Chandra Shekhar has been among the Opposition's most eligible candidates for Prime Ministership But when the long awaited chance came in December last and the veteran Janata leader made his bid for the position, a low trick robbed him of his chance

Now, 10 months later, a group of MPs comprising his close supporters has openly challenged the leadership of V P Singh with devastating criticism of his government and its policies The question that is on everybody lips in the capital is Has Chandra Shekhar s time finally come? Will he shed his perennial Prime Minister in waiting image and move into a higher gear for the nation s top political post?

Twenty nine MPs recently demanded that V P Singh step down but is Chandra Shekhar ready to don the mantle of leadership of this dissident group? The dissidents leader Yashwant Singh, claimed that though they did not have an alternative leader in mind when they demanded Singh s resignation, Chandra Shekhar was "with" them

According to one Janata Dal leader, the dissident move is part of a carefully orchestrated strategy to keep up the pressure on V P Singh so as to create confusion and give an impression of instability and revolt in the ruling party Others contend that the revolt is essentially a preparation for a bigger move

The timing looks most opportune, V P Singh s popularity is at its lowest ebb The Prime Minister has become a target and a symbol of the frustrations of the youth and the deeply entrenched forward classes Faced with a hostile bureaucracy, the government has virtually come to a stand still Chandra Shekhar s patience seems to be at an end

This time around Chandra Shekhar and Devi Lal and his son Om Prakash Chautala, have joined forces, resulting in a much more formidable combination In the 10 months that the National Front has been in power, the ruling party and the government have hurtled from one crisis to another. Chandra Shekhar has emerged as the rallying point for all the dissatisfied and dissenting forces, which in turn have grown in size and substance with every false move VP has made

As one of the dissenting MPs said, 'This is the best opportunity for Chandra Shekhar—between the Rahu and Ketu



(the two planets which astrologically, are said to have a destructive influence) of presentday Indian politics, I mean V P Singh and Rajiv Gandhi The National Front allies are not tied to any one personality in the Janata Dal They just want the squabbles in the party to come to an end, they will support whoever can ensure this and it is evident that only Chandra Shekhar can ensure a stable government " The Congress-I has also made it clear that it is ready to support "a more responsive" government with any other person as its leader

Although the dissident group has said that it is "not in the numbers game," the fact remains that in the end, it is numbers that really matter The group has only three MPs from UP and for any decisive move, the support of the UP MPs, who are divided between the Mulayam Singh Yadav, Ajit Singh and Jan Morcha camps, will prove crucial

Meanwhile, until the efforts fructify, Chandra Shekhar is seen as a "destabiliser" by V P Singh's followers and even others who are fed up with the eternal squabbles in the party Recently, when Congress I leader Vasant Sathe announced in the Lok Sabha, his "fast onto death" for the withdrawal of the Mandal Commission recommendations, Chandra Shekhar and Rajmangal Pande walked across to the Opposition benches to persuade Sathe to give up his fast They were returning to their seats in the fast emptying house when an irate CPI MP, Ram Sajivan, came up to them to find out what they had been doing Pande explained their errand but an emotionally charged Ram Sajivan volleyed at Chandra Shekhar 'You are a conspirator We all know what you are up to Evidently, even his honourable motives are often suspected

Chandra Shekhar was born on July 1 1927 in Ibrahimpatti village in Ballia district, the eldest of three brothers of an influential Thakur family As a student at Allahabad University, where he took a master's degree in political science, he became active in the youth wing of the Socialist group He came into contact with Acharya Narendra Dev who had a strong and abiding influence on him From his early days in politics he has been known as an organisation man

In 1958, he became secretary of the UP unit of the Prajatantra Socialist Party (PSP) and the year after, member of its national executive Chandra Shekhar had a wide reputation as a fiery youth leader His ability to attract other young men to his cause was in evidence even in his early days, he was always accompanied by a band of dedicated young men

In 1962 Chandra Shekhar was elected to the Rajya Sabha on the PSP ticket but after the 1964 break in PSP left the party with Ashok Mehta and others to join the Congress Party Those were the days of the Young Turks with Chandra Shekhar as one of the leading lights, along with Chandrajit Yadav, Mohan Dharia and Ram Dhan In 1972 he contested and won the Congress Working Committee (CWC) election against the wishes of the high command and became something of a hero He had already distinguished himself in Parliament as a forceful speaker and was

SINHA VS SINGH

Urbane and articulate, bureaucrat-turned-politician Yashwant Sinha is the mainstay of the dissident group within the Janata Dal. The Rajya Sabha member was the only MP to speak up at the National Front Parliamentary Party, when he asked V.P. Singh to resign for his government's "non-performance" on important issues. VP managed to secure an overwhelming vote of confidence at that meeting after Sinha walked out in protest against the procedure that was adopted, but a week later his dissident group gathered 29 MPs to support the demand that the Prime Minister quit office.

"Give the party and the country a chance," Sinha said at the Parliamentary Party meeting. Though 29 MPs do not constitute a group large enough to force a change in the leadership of the party, their open letter to V.P. Singh demonstrates the depth of their anger against him. Sinha asserted, "We have not dropped our move against V.P. Singh. We are determined on a change of leadership. It is the only alternative to save the country."

Fifty-three-year-old Yashwant Sinha sought voluntary retirement from the IAS. In 1984, he entered politics as an associate of Chandra Shekhar, who made him general secretary of the Janata Party from 1986 to 1988. While in the civil service,he had been principal secretary to Karpoori Thakur when he was chief minister of Bihar. Shortly after the Janata Party and the Lok Dal(A) merged, Yashwant Sinha and Subramaniam Swamy were elected to the Rajya Sabha from the merging groups. Sinha has been an active and vocal participant in Rajya Sabha debates, ably countering the Congress(I) charges against the ruling party till the last session.

Since then, he has grown increasingly critical and bitter about the National Front government. Of course, the seeds of discontent were sown as far back as last December when the Union Cabinet was formed. Sinha was to be sworn in as minister, but he walked out of the Ashok Hall at the Rashtrapati Bhavan when he discovered that he was to be only a minister of state and



Yashwant Sinha

not a Cabinet minister. A few months later, he was offered the governorship of Punjab, which he declined. His disillusionment with the government has only increased in recent days.

Harmohan Dhawan is another MP aggrieved by V.P. Singh personally. At one Parliamentary Party meeting, Dhawan was being critical of some of the government's policies towards Chandigarh. He remarked that the MPs were able to get many more things done in their constituencies earlier when they were in the Opposition. Irritated by the criticism, the Prime Minister shot back, "Then why don't you sit in the Opposition!"

About his decision to openly oppose the party leader, Yashwant Sinha says, "There are certain occasions which arise in life when one is forced to take a stand, which to the ordinary observer may not seem logical. We have been forced to take a moral stand." The group itself is formed of staunch supporters of Chandra Shekhar and Devi Lal, united in their animosity towards the present leadership. Although about a third of them tried to dissociate themselves from the letter, the day after it was released to the press, it is obvious that this group will always fall in behind their mentors once the battlelines are finally drawn and the stage for confrontation set. For the, core group of the dissidents, the fight continues.

considered an important figure in the younger, upcoming leadership in the Congress

In the initial days of Jayprakash's movement, Chandra Shekhar was critical of the agitation, but later he called for a dialogue between Indira Gandhi and JP He took the initiative of inviting Members of Parliament to meet JP and came to be seen as a focal point for dissent in the party On the day Emergency was declared, Chandra Shekhar was present at JP's house in Delhi, and witnessed his arrest He was one of the few Congressmen to be jailed during the Emergency

Controversy has always plagued Chandra Shekhar particularly his long-time association with a number of important industrialists as well as others like Dhanbad strongman Suryadeo Singh The association has followed him like a dark shadow for a long time notwithstanding his socialist image But Chandra Shekhar has made no bones about his friendship with rich businessmen and godmen like Chandra Swami "My house is open to all those who want to meet me," he says

Chandra Shekhar's detractors maintain that every move of his is carefully plotted his intentions as dark as his beard (now mostly grey) It was shortly after the Emergency that he was last seen in public without a beard He had grown very close to JP by that time and had gone to see him off at the Patna airport during the heady days when the Janata government was being formed JP jocularly twitted a

The whole thing stinks





Times have changed

clean shaven Chandra Shekhar on why he had shaved off his beard Chandra Shekhar rubbed his hand over his face and replied, *"Haan, dari se main prabhavshalli lagta hoon* (Yes I look more impressive with a beard) JP told him that he should grow his beard again

While the Janata government was embroiled in its squabbles and power play, Chandra Shekhar became the Janata Party president His ambition to be Prime Minister had begun taking deep roots a former associate said Chandra Shekhar wanted to be JP's heir but that was not ordained But his ambitions grew and his image as future Prime Minister began to take shape from that time

"It has now become an obsession since he feels that he was deprived of his great opportunity by a low deceitful trick played out by V P Singh and Devi Lal His intense anger and bitterness is directed at V P Singh "

The period till late 1984 was spent in various kinds of unity moves which never materialised He lost the 1984 election from Balia The Bharat Yatra padyatra from January 6 to June 25, 1983, starting from Kanyakumari to Rajghat and covering 4260 kms, was a high point in his political career But some observers believe that the padyatra did no good to Chandra Shekhar As one person said, "It gave him a high moral stature which was difficult to keep up in politics There were naturally some dissonance "

During his long tenure as Janata Party chief, he resisted all attempts to dislodge him At the Pune Janata Party convention, Chandra Shekhar had planned to install Indubhai Patel to succeed him Though the other faction was united behind Madhu Dandavate, he withdrew from the contest But Swami Agnivesh tried to force an election, which finally did not take place Agnivesh later alleged that he had been roughed up by Chandra Shekhar's men

His men have resorted to strong arm tactics on other occasions as well In the rumour filled days last year before the new government was formed, eminent lawyer and MP, Ram Jethmalani was assaulted in front of Chandra Shekhar's South Avenue home while protesting against the latter's attempts to force an election for the Prime Minister's position Though Chandra Shekhar could not be faulted for pressing for an election, his remark about the assault—"My supporters are not helpless"—which was telecast by Doordarshan, showed him in very poor light

From the high point in 1983, after the padyatra, Chandra Shekhar's image, especially in the media, took a nosedive after



With VP : One-way smile

1987 when he was perceived to be against Opposition unity Even the merger of the Janata Party with the Lok Dal (A) led by Ajit Singh was seen as a move to scuttle larger Opposition unity But it proved to be a shrewd political move, with the two parties ending up stronger than before Nevertheless, the public perception of Chandra Shekhar being against Opposition unity, as being willing to go to any lengths to oppose the unity moves, continued to grow

Says a former socialist colleague who recently fell out with Chandra Shekhar, "His ambition is proving to be his undoing Chandra Shekhar has always had the courage of his convictions, but when ambitions become too strong, convictions are also affected "

Chandra Shekhar's has been a voice of dissent for a long time He has never hesitated in expressing his opinion, even when it has gone against the majority opinion Though events may later have proved him right, his outspokenness has earned him much hostility among his opponents, whether his views were on Operation Bluestar, or the handling of the situation in Punjab and Kashmir, or on telephone tapping

Critics see much of his criticism of National Front policies as aimed directly at his *bete noire* V P Singh He has spoken in Parliament on the government's cau- stand vis-a vis the Nepalese democracy movement, he has opposed the new industrial policy, excise refunds to business houses and the manner in which the Mandal Commission report was implemented

With its scathing indictment of the government's functioning, the dissident group has tried to exert moral pressure on the Prime Minister to accept responsibility and resign from office The group has tried to show up the failures and shortcomings of the government in order to set the stage for a later confrontation With a minority government in power, the Janata Dal is in no position to take action against its recalcitrant MPs The dissidents will continue to attract more adherents who may or may not align with them openly

The dissident's revolt has so far failed to really rock the government, with at least a third of them trying to dissociate themselves from the move But the incipient revolt cannot be wished away It is a potential threat to VP that could take some time in materialising And a reminder that Chandra Shekhar can never be taken for granted.■

MASTER MINDS

As the Super-F
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rivalry, Devan
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The world chess championship has had a fairly chequered history. Discounting various Arabs, Italians, Spaniards and Greeks who have claimed to be the best, (usually by virtue of beating their next door neighbours) we come to the 19th century. Despite the claims of Adolf Anderssen (Germany), Howard Staunton (England) and the legendary Paul Morphy (US), the first officially recognised world champion was Wilhelm Steinitz of Bohemia (now Czechoslovakia).

In 1866 Steinitz beat Anderssen in a match, but it was only in 1886 that he received official recognition. He was dethroned in 1894 by Emmanuel Lasker, who kept the title till 1921, (still the longest ever reign). Steinitz incidentally, spearheaded the chess team of Bedlam Lunatic Asylum in the famous match in which they beat Cambridge University —not the first or last brush chess had with lunacy.

Lasker, a top class mathematician and occasional collaborator of Einstein, was a much shrewder and more stable personality. By defending his title at long intervals and picking the opposition carefully he staved off serious challenges.

After Lasker, came Jose Raul Capablanca, the Cuban playboy and career diplomat. 'Capa' was probably the most gifted and undoubtedly the laziest of world champions. He demolished all opposition from 1921 to 26 when he lost to Alexander Alekhine. The rumour was that his ex-wife, his longtime girlfriend and his successor ganged up on him during the 1927 match and even he wasn't diplomatic enough to remain unaffected.

Alekhine was a Russian emigre who had fought for both sides during the Revolution. Despite enjoying, rather than suffering, the odd bout of alcoholism, he was both brilliantly gifted and a very hard worker. In 1935 he lost the title to Machieglis "Max" Eawe (Netherlands). However he regained it in 1937 and held it till his death in 1946.

Until Alekhine's death left a hiatus at the top, the world title had been very much a personal fief. The champion chose his challengers, set the match conditions and defended the title as and when he liked. After Alekhine, the World Chess Federation (Fide) assumed charge. In the 1948 match-tournament (the only time there has been a tournament) the worlds top players fought it out. Dr Mikhail Botvinnik ran out champion. Botvinnik was obliged to defend his title every three years, an interval that has been more or less (more, rather than less) maintained since. Match conditions and fees

would be worked out beforehand by Fide in consultation with all concerned parties

Botvinnik started the Soviet domination of world chess, which has continued with only a single break Botvinnik lost the title to Vassily Smyslov ('56), regained it, lost it to Tal ('60) and regained it once more Finally Tigran Petrosian beat him in 1963

In 1969 Petrosian lost to Boris Spassky wich brings us to the aforementioned break In '72 a monomaniacal American called Bobby Fischer blasted his way past the gentlemanly Spassky Fischer first qualified for the Candidates' when he was all of 15 He then withdrew from the cycle stating "The Russians have fixed everything" It took the blandishments of Nixon and Kissinger to bring back the "Cold Warrior" for a historic East-West confrontation

In his electric career Fischer set standards only Kasparov has matched Only 29 when he beat Spassky at Reykjavik, he hasn't played a single game since for reasons known only to him He declined his option of defending the title and Anatoly Karpov became the 12th world champion by default

Only 24 when he gained the title, Karpov rapidly proved himself He won practically every tournament he played in the next ten years and staved off two politically explosive challenges In two closely fought matches he beat Viktor Korchnoi, the flamboyant defector from Leningrad Korchnoi, aided by English Grandmasters and Australian Ananda Marg yogis would have been a great embarrassment to the Soviets if he had won

In 1984, a 21-year old from Baku rewrote the record books on his way to a title match Garri Kasparov was to become the youngest ever champion, but only after a titanic struggle The first Karpov Kasparov match was to go to the winner of six games, draws not counting It was annulled on "medical grounds" after 48 games with Karpov leading 5-3 Kasparov has alleged that the Fide secretary Campomanes did this to protect his personal friend—Karpov

In his outspoken autobiography *Child Of Change*, Garri reckons the frail Karpov was in much worse shape physically and psychologically having lost the last two games Fide hastily changed match regulations to prevent another marathon

In 1985 Kasparov won a 24-game match to become the 13th world champion He beat Karpov again in '86 in a return match In '87 in Seville when they met for the fourth time Kasparov won a last game cliffhanger to retain his title However after 120 title encounters he had won only one game more than Karpov Off the board he has generated plenty of controversy, with frequent well publicised squabbles with Fide and the Soviet Federation He has 'star quality' in the sense that most people have heard of him, regardless of their interest in the game

The 'Super-K's' are meeting again, in France with the title at stake Most experts will back Kasparov who has gone from strength to strength Karpov (39) may find it difficult to maintain his immaculate standards ■



Garri Kasparov: Star quality

Alexander Alekhine: Brilliant despite the alcohol



Bobby Fischer: Cold Warrior from the West



HERITAGE ◻ Rathin Mitra

GAUDIYA MISSION



Originally situated at Ultadanga, the 86-year-old Gaudiya Mission, headquarters of all the 34 missions including the one in London, moved to its present premises at 16A Kaliprasad Chakraborty Street, Bagbazar, in north Calcutta, in 1928.

The Gaudiya Mission was founded by Om Vishnupad Paramhansa Sri Srimad Bhakti Sidhanta Sarasvati Goswami Thakur, born in 1874 at Sri Purushottam Kshetra, Puri.

Srila Thakur Bhaktivinode revived the cult of unalloyed devotion during the first half of the 19th century after Mahaprabhu Sri Chaitanya's death. Thakur Bhaktivinode was a deputy magistrate by profession and a contemporary of Sri Sri Ramakrishna Paramhansa Dev, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Shishir Kumar Ghose. Srila Thakur Bhaktivinode's work was successfully carried on by Sri Srimad Bhakti Sidhanta Sarasvati Goswami Thakur. He helped in spreading the teachings of Srila Thakur Bhaktivinode by establishing preaching centres in India and abroad, and publishing numerous books and periodicals in various languages.

The fundamental object of the Mission is to practise and propagate the spirit and teachings of the Vaishnav faith as described in the Srimad Bhagavatam, and propounded and propagated by Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and practised and taught by Gaudiya Vaishnav Acharyas. The Mission also strives to uplift and ameliorate all human beings without any distinction through the teachings of the sublime religion of divine love and universal brotherhood.

It all started with Sri Visva Vaishnav Raj Sabha, an association that practised the teachings of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and dedicated to the services of Lord Krishna. It was founded by Sri Jiva Goswami with Sri Rupa Goswami as its first Patraraj (president) during the 16th century when the religious firmament the world over was rushing towards materialism and antheism. The Sabha was revived by Srila Thakur Bhaktivinode in 1886.

ARIES

March 21—April 20

A medical checkup, journey, communication and job-switch are on the cards. In romance, a big yes to life and luck. Loans, transactions, funds, buying and selling are also signified. Extra health care is essential. The mid-week is best for communication at all levels. Changes, adjustments and adornments in the home and family are predicted.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Money, favours, alliances, hobbies, children and legal hassles are the week's highlights. Mix romance with finance and watch out for jealous rivals. Finance promises a happy prospect, so go all out Travel, tour, correspondence and partnership will be the cornerstones. Health care is essential, including dangers of accidents and operations.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

The home and the outside world shake hands and also exchange terrific blows, and this makes for enough excitement. Romance will be terrific, but perhaps bittersweet. More money, perks and certainly commensurate expenses are indicated. Invitations, events and functions may propel you on a journey. In health matters, you could be a bit run down.

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Communicate, sell, emotionalise and get set for goodies, laurels and victory. You will have your full quota of romance. In finance, your efforts will be rewarded. Loans and investments are possible. Your health shows a marked improvement. Happy changes in the home are indicated.

LEO

July 21—August 21

The focus this week is on partnership, property, banks, marriage and job. Therefore, you have much to do and possibly your health will be undermined a wee bit. Mortgage, security and business deals figure prominently. In romance, your heart will lead you into games and glamour. Changes, alteration, renovation, buying and selling in the home and family are likely.



VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

The new moon highlights attachments, contacts, correspondence, functions, socialising, appointments and interviews. Romance could blow hot and cold. Hectic financial transactions, new offers and settlements are indicated. Reaching out to people will be a dominant feature. Slight posers with stomach, sinus, colds and nerves are likely.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

Expenses, augmentation of income friendships and connections are the week's main trends. Romance promises sentimentality, drama and action. You will feel restless and thus like to travel despite a feeling of tiredness. Changes in the home and family are predicted. Periodic rest, music, relaxation and meditation will be ideal to keep your health in shape.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

Partnership, home, property, and a surge in profession and business career are the week's salient features. An engagement, marriage and affairs of the heart are on the cards. You will show keen interest in buying, selling, investing and shopping. A journey with a stopover is possible. You will be well on top of health problems, but fever, infections, boils and wounds are possible.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

The main trends are secret meets, rendezvous, trading, buying, selling, affairs of the heart, journeys and heavy expenses. In romance, a wild fling is possible. Travel, trips and commuting are certain. Entertainment, amusement and ceremony with a religious or historical significance will keep you in good spirits.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Entertainment, amusement, creative pursuits and money in the kitty constitute the week. Your sweetheart will sing your praises and adore you. You and money will be bosom pals. Connections and collaborations are predicted. Nothing much to worry about Good food and company, refurbishing, children and grandchildren give joy.

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Mars in your fifth angle gives you charisma, style, energy and pep. Also, overvaulting ambition. In romance, love will be a many splendoured affair and happening. Deals, bargains, power, position and responsibility are fated for you. You may have to travel for work or health.

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

You will be on a happy wicket, score runs, be popular and thus your work will be accomplished. In romance, you will hunt with the hounds and race with the hare. Both income and expenses will multiply, but your lifestyle will be rich. Travel is more than a possibility. Expect visitors to drop in. You will have to labour hard to keep your health in good shape.

BIRTHDAYS

October 21

No strong aspect: Changes on the work front are possible. You will be free to carry out your plans and ideas. Home and property affairs also come under this spell of change.

October 22

Sun conjunction Mercury: Power, pelf, glory, communication, news, views, messages, alliances, deals, contracts, deeds, documents, interviews, appointments, conferences, publicity, pilgrimage and sales occupy a long list in your birthyear.

October 23

Moon sextile Venus: Opportunities for business, fun and pleasure, and you get the best of both the worlds. Expect an overall improvement in the scheme of things. Home, property and personal pride will complete the picture. You are on an excellent turf.

October 24

Moon sextile Sun: You will be able to lead, persuade and influence others. Executives, actors, teachers, writers, politicians and public figures will sway the masses. Expect romance and attachments.

October 25

Moon conjunction Saturn: Despite impediments and difficulties you move forward provided you have faith, and imagination. The trick is to be positive. Separation and ill-health are the negative factors. Be careful in financial and family affairs.

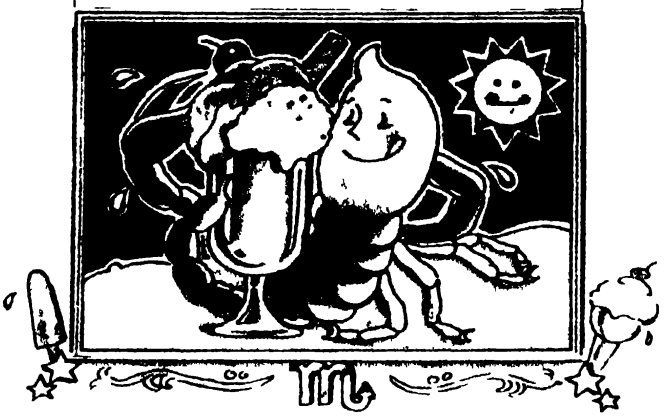
October 26

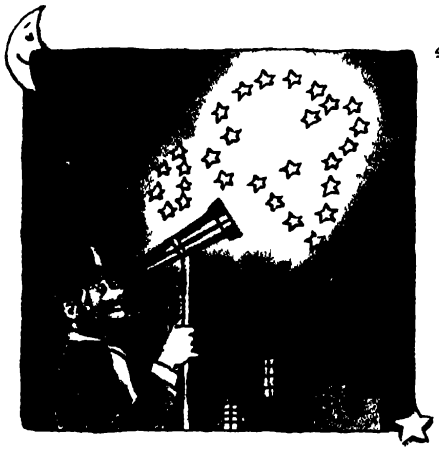
Moon's first quarter: The quarter influences home, family, elders, parents, and in-laws. Despite a few hurdles you will be able to accomplish much. Expect to strike a lucky and favourable financial patch. A good year for profession and status. Separation from a loved one is possible.

October 27

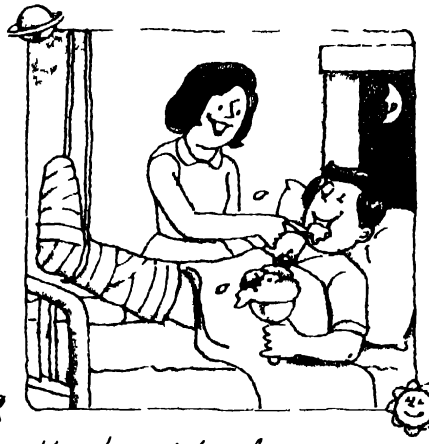
Moon sextile Saturn: Be it business or job or profession you come out right on top. On the personal level do expect complete satisfaction.

THE POSITIVE Kwality OF SCORPIO

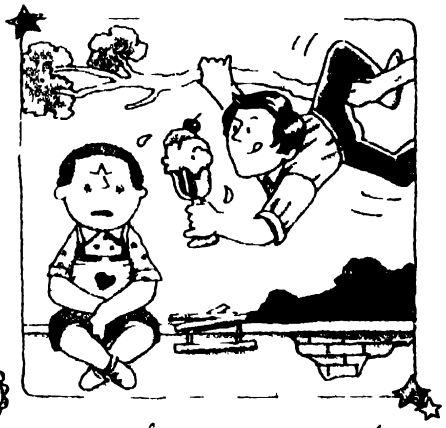




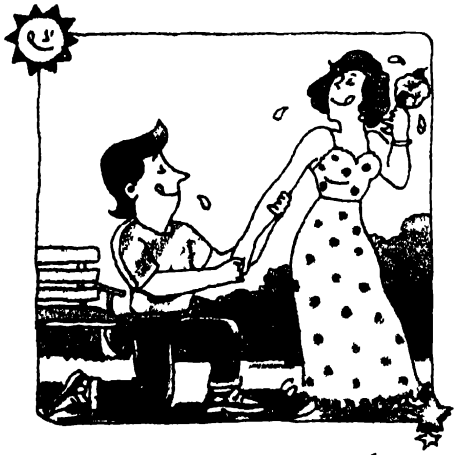
His brilliant mind loves food for thought



Her kwality of mercy is never strained



To win him, you need an appetite for danger



She's choosy about her cup of happiness.



He knows your sweetest dreams



We've all the Kwality of a real Scorpio

HTA 4192



DRESSING UP IN DISNEY

Just when they thought the war of the wallet was over with Barbie, He-Man and the rest of Eternia on the nursery shelf along come Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck Goofy and Co., straight out of Walt Disney, threatening to make five figure incomes look like four.

Every child's favourite character is now smiling out of an assortment of T-shirts, jogging suits, shorts, beachwear and night clothes. The logos become subtler, to cater to age groups of upto 22 years, and the 100 per cent cotton fabric gets upgraded from thinner to thicker to suit changing seasons.

After Barbie came sister Skipper and a parental nightmare in lawn sets, doll houses, wardrobes and other accessories. Hitting on the concept of continuity for the Walt Disney range is Bombay-based Ashok Rajani of Midas Touch Exports. Midas Touch in collaboration with Kaytee Clothing Co. has the sole licence in India to manufacture and market apparel with Walt Disney characters.

There will be a storyline, say *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, on a range of night wear, complete with slogans. "Parents can pick up one set or the complete story," says Rajani. He adds: "In marketing children's clothes we find that parents will forego anything for their kids. If they want Nike shoes, they get Nike shoes." That is Ashok Rajani's punch line. And he has 89 Walt Disney characters to offer.

The garments which are being shipped out since mid-August to catch the festive buying rush, are largely within the price range of Rs 150 to Rs 250. Rajani has to keep within this as outpricing himself would inevitably result in infringement. "At this price they cannot afford to make copies any cheaper, especially with the kind of fabric we use."

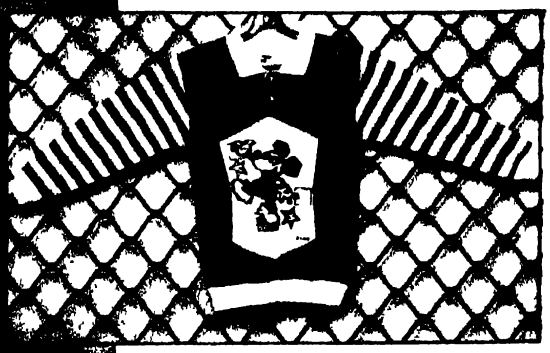
Walt Disney has already picked up 16 people for copying their characters. But according to Rajani even the Famous Disney people were stumped with the kind of response they got in Calcutta. "One fellow in Calcutta defended his Mickey Mouse imitation saying that the mouse is the carriage of Ganpati. 'So copyright does not apply; do what you want, take me to court'" reports Rajani.

It took some thinking on both their parts before Walt Disney and the Midas Touch-Kaytee clothing combine decided to collaborate. Says Mark Lewis, marketing consultant for Famous Communications, Indian marketing licencees of Walt Disney Co., USA, "We went to the market looking for producers who would meet the standards of Walt Disney worldwide, in quality and experience in children's apparel. They (Midas-Kaytee) were shortlisted along with three or four manufacturers. In quality we found them the best."

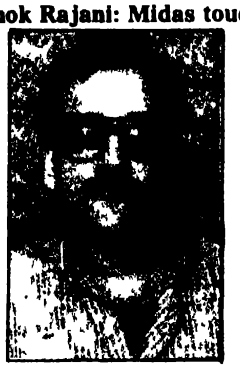
Famous Communications made their choice of the people to manufacture and market the Walt Disney line-up on apparel, at a garment fair held in Bombay in July/August. Organised by the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) the fair allows garment manufacturers to dis-



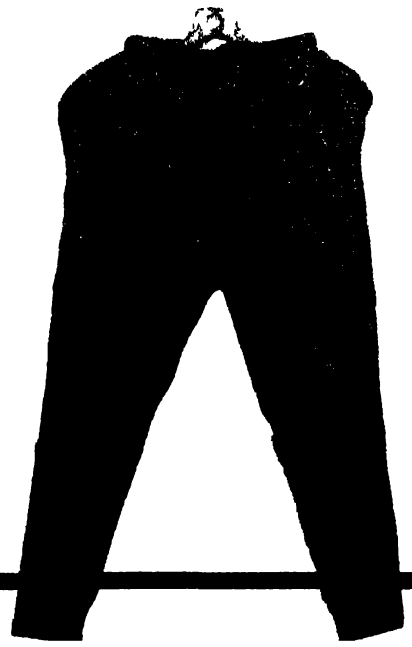




Ashok Rajani: Midas touch?



For those who still live in a wonderland of their own, there is some exciting news: they can now wear Walt Disney creations and go to town. **Lekha Dhar** reports on the new fad



play labels and introduce new lines. Kaytee Clothing's Zee Club range of high fashion readymade garments finally won the day with Disney's marketing licencees here.

"They tried a lot of people Did test runs on Zee Club clothes, and others, and then zeroed in on us," says Rajani, who promoted Midas Touch Marketing two years ago to exclusively market the Kaytee Zee Club range.

If Walt Disney was choosy so were Rajani and the Keshavlal Talakchand group who diversified into readymade garments with the Zee Club range of casualwear two years ago. "We took time deciding, as we were already doing well. They had strict rules about minimum guarantee commissions on projected sales turnover, etc." But the matter has been settled to mutual satisfaction as the agreement now is to pay eight per cent commission on the actual turnover of the Disney line.

Involvement with the Disney deal has made Rajani put on hold plans to come out with cotton shirts for men this year. For the Walt Disney range, Midas Touch will handle the marketing while the production will be looked after by Kaytee Clothing. Rajani who promoted Midas Touch in 1973 when he stepped out of college has worked his way up to a turnover of about Rs 7 crores (last year), courtesy Midas Touch Exports. He has a production capacity of 4,000 garments a day and manufacturing units in Bombay.

Banking on the lure of Uncle Scrooge, Minnie Mouse and Donald Duck, Rajani and his partners in Kaytee who share the Disney licence have a projected sales target of about Rs 10 to 12 lakhs. "By January we hope to increase the domestic niche to around Rs 25 lakhs" says a hopeful Rajani Some 310 shops all over India will retail the entire range of products. The entire Zee Club range made a turnover of Rs 1.5 crores, last year, which Rajani hopes will touch Rs 2 crores—with a little impetus from the Disney range, of course.

Clothing has traditionally been in the unorganised sector. But with that new phenomenon where everyone wants to look good, garment manufacturers are looking at success.

Unlike their counterparts in Taiwan, Korea and Thailand, cannot import fabric and export. Despite this India's exports touched Rs 3,248 crores last year, surpassing the Rs 3,000-crore target. This year's target of Rs 4,000 to Rs 4,500 crores may be set back a bit on account of the Gulf crisis and the US involvement in it.

"But all this is not too much of a disadvantage," says Rajani. There is after all a massive domestic market which has turned big names like Disney to India—and now, to the country's sure bet; It's kids. ■

Freedom's Just

Donald Smith writes about a strange corps of diplomats in Washington

In the entrance hall of a stone townhouse on 16th Street, Washington, four tiny tricolours surround a tear-stained guest book. Above, a smiling young girl in a photograph waves a larger version of the same flag over rows of helmeted Soviet troops.

"We've had our hands full recently," says Margarita Samatas of the Lithuanian Legation as she ushers in a group of visiting high school students "Last summer we had an invasion of visitors from our own country It was very emotional. People were writing little poems with tears in their eyes, greeting this place and its spirit of independence "

Outside, a light rain falls on this spot of ground where free Lithuania exists now as it did 50 years ago, beyond the reach of Soviet tanks and fuel embargoes, frozen in a diplomatic time warp.

Samatas belongs to a singular division of the Washington diplomatic corps· the officially sanctioned representatives of the independent Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia as they were before they were occupied by the Soviet Union

After a half-century of obscurity in the dusty back lots of the diplomatic community, these legal relics suddenly are finding themselves back on Main Street, as they countries seek to reclaim independence.

The Soviet army occupied the Baltic states in June 1940, a consequence of the non-aggression treaty that had been agreed to the previous year by Adolf Hitler's Germany and Joseph Stalin's USSR. After suffering another occupation by invading Nazi troops beginning in 1941, the countries again fell under Soviet domination after the collapse of the Third Reich in 1945. This time the Red Army stayed.

However, the United States and most other Western nations to this day have refused to recognise Soviet rule in the Baltics. Diplomats who were serving at the time of the takeovers were allowed by their host countries to remain as the representatives of the last free governments—financed by stocks of gold bullion that officials shipped out of their countries during their last days of independence

Today the Baltic diplomats and their successors—often their own sons and daughters—consider themselves survi-



vors, a State Department official says. "Their job is to keep alive the idea of Latvian and Estonian and Lithuanian nationhood until such time as freedom returns to their occupied countries."

That purpose has not endeared them over the years to the Soviet diplomatic community. "We have a polite relationship with the Soviets when we happen to encounter them at receptions," says Janis Lusis of the Latvian Legation. "But we do not actively seek them out, nor they us."

The head of the Lithuanian mission, Stafys Lozoraitis Jr, is blunter. "We ignore each other. I was very near (former Soviet Ambassador Anatoliy) Dobrynin many times. If he said hello, I wouldn't have bothered to spit into his hand," he says with a bitter laugh. Now, Lozoraitis says, he is ready to shake hands with Soviet diplomats in a spirit of reconciliation.



Lozoraitis' mission is the largest of the three, reflecting the size of the US Lithuanian community—about 300,000. The largest single concentration, about 30,000, live in the Chicago area.

Latvia maintains its legation in a two-storey brick house on a nearby residential street. Estonia's delegation occupies a small office in New York's Rockefeller Center.

None of the legations is a full-fledged embassy. It was not the custom at the time of the occupations, as it is now, for smaller countries to exchange full ambassadors. The Baltic representatives expect that once their countries' independence is regained, ambassadors will be received. In the meantime, the legations retain their legal status as of 1940.

The Lithuanians have occupied their 16th Street quarters, modest by Embassy Row standards, since 1924. They share the block with diplomats from Poland and the Cuban Interests Section of the Czechoslovakian Embassy.

Inside, the legation has a mellow, Old World glow. Signers of the 1918 Declaration of Independence gaze at visitors as they pass under a mural-size oil portrait in the entrance hall. Guests climb a heavy oak staircase and enter a large reception hall. Presiding over this room is a tapestry depicting the Lithuanian national emblem, a white knight astride a rearing horse.



Silver bowls with floral sachet scent the air. To one side is a dining room with seating for eight. On the other, a large parlour is elegantly furnished with gilded chairs and sofas. Among the bearded figures in old photographs clustered about on tables is Lozoraitis' grandfather, who served in the cabinet. Seated next to him in one photograph is the grandfather of the current president of Lithuania, Vytautus Landsbergis.

Lozoraitis, dressed in a muted gray suit, bounds down the staircase from his living quarters above, a trim, good-humoured, energetic man in his mid-to-late 50s. He will not reveal his exact age, explaining that age is less important than how one feels. But he gives himself away by recalling dramatic events taking place in his homeland 50 years ago. Conversations were animated at the family dinner table in Rome, where his father, who previously had served as Lithuania's foreign minister, was representing his predominantly Catholic country at the Vatican.

Like his Latvian and Estonian counterparts, Lozoraitis today remains in close touch with the independence-minded government of his homeland—although for now, ironically, he cannot represent Landsbergis at the State Department without interfering with the official US policy of not recognising current Baltic regimes. Nevertheless, during the past two years the legation has increasingly become a clearinghouse for news and background information about Lithuania's drive for independence.

"It has been lonely at times," Lozoraitis says of life before now as a diplomat of a defunct government. "For years, people just didn't want to talk about the possible liberation of Lithuania and a return of freedom and independence. It was a very unpleasant case."

Resentment over his country's subjugation, he says, has sustained him throughout the decades.

"Hatred and anger makes one live very long. I was angry because I knew our people were suffering. Now, of course, I am elated by the prospect of independence. I see huge problems, though."

He pauses and stares toward the window. The high school students are assembling in the reception hall for what proves to be a spirited briefing on the ever-changing events in Lithuania. Outside, the rain has settled into a steady drizzle.

"Declaring independence is one thing," says Lozoraitis rising from his chair to join the group. "Getting it is another."

(National Geographic News Service)





FOR ALL THOSE WHO'D LIKE TO WORK A LITTLE HARDER DURING THEIR HOLIDAYS.



) TREKKING THROUGH THE
ILLS OF U P JUST LIKE PEOPLE
VE DONE SINCE THE 12TH
ENTURY JUST LIKE PEOPLE DO
I TODAY AMIDST NATURE THAT
ILL IS AS BREATHTAKING AS
SPOILT UTTAR PRADESH
FERS YOU MUCH MORE THAN TOWERING PEAKS
OWERING MEADOWS RAGING WATERFALLS,
SHING RIVERS, COUNTLESS BIRDS AND EXCITING
LDLIFE IT OFFERS YOU INSPIRATION THE
THOLOGICAL LAND, CONSIDERED THE PLAY-
GROUND OF THE GODS, WHERE
LEGENDS HAVE THE SANCTITY
OF HISTORY LAND, THAT
TILL TODAY IS BEST
EXPLORED ON FOOT
SO, THE NEXT TIME
YOU WANT TO
WORK A LITTLE HARDER DURING
YOUR HOLIDAYS TAKE OFF TO THE
HILLS OF UTTAR PRADESH
TREKKING BASES MUSSOORIE,
UTTARKASHI PAURI, GWALDHAM
JOSHIMATH, NAINITAL ALMORA, KAUSANI
CHOUKORI THERE ARE EASY TREKS AND NOT
SO EASY TREKS THE WEATHER AT THIS TIME
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CALCUTTA PH 207855 CHANDIGARH PH 41649
MADRAS PH 479726 NEW DELHI PH 3322251

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentick Street, 281917)—4 shows, Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270) & Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417)—noon

Mahesh Bhatt's tribute to young love starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy The music is by Nadeem Shravan

• **Doodh Ka Karz:** Paradise (Bentinck Street, 285442)—11 30, 2 30, 5 45, 9

Directed by Ashok Gaikwad and with music by Annu Malik, the chief attractions in this film are Jackie Shroff, Neelam, Varsha Usgaonkar and Amrish Puri

• **Meri Zaban:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849)—4 shows

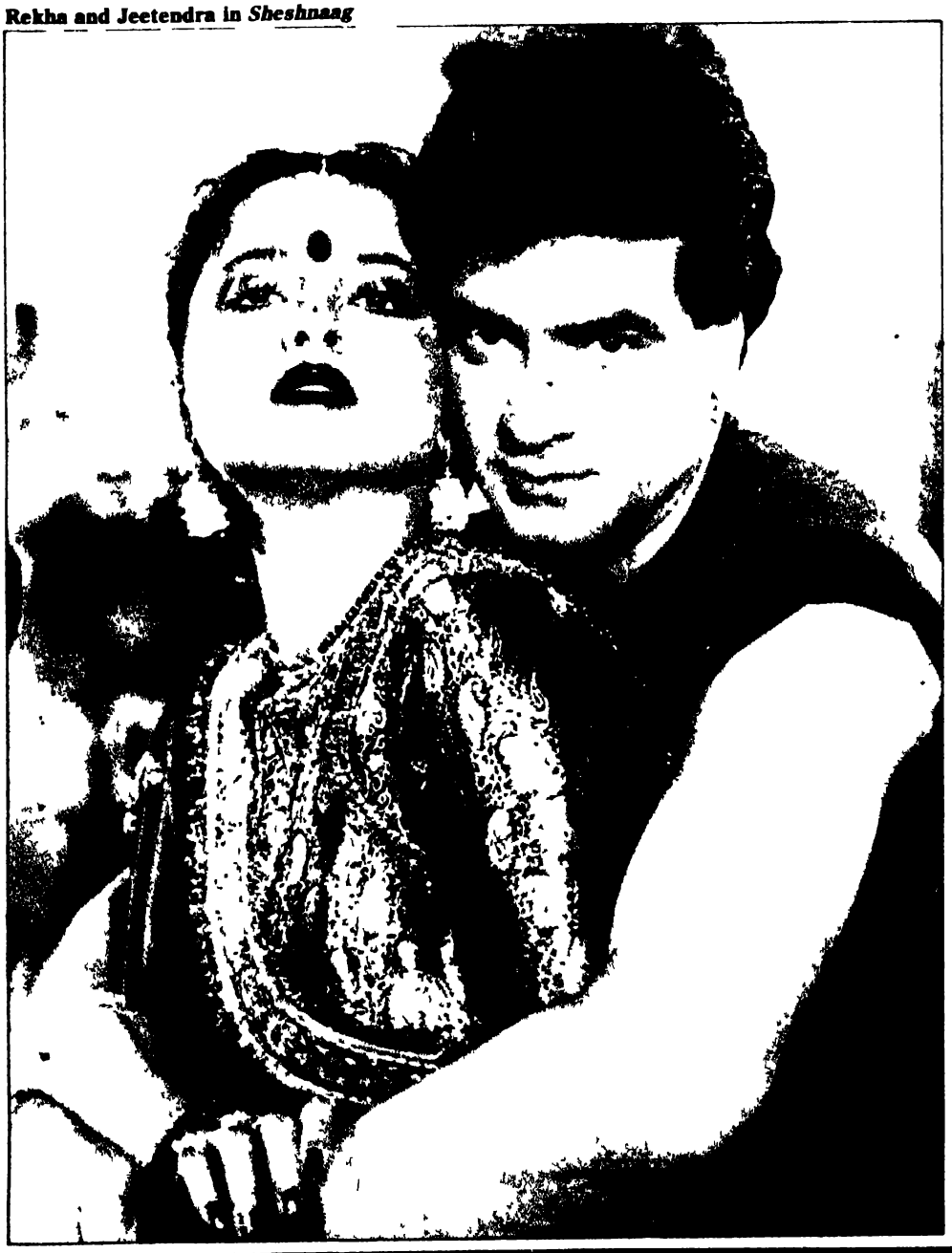
The film stars Mithun Chakraborty, Farha, Amjad Khan and Kimi Katkar

• **Nyay Anyay:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Roxy (Chowringhee Place, 284138), Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 250437), Rupali (Ashutosh Mukherjee Road, 474403)

A film by Lawrence D'Souza starring Jeetendra, Jaya Prada, Sumeet Saigal, Shilpa Shirodkar and Anupam Kher The music is by Anand Milind

• **Pratibandh:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141), Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 391090), Mitra (Bidhan Sarani, 551133), Kalika (Sadananda Road, 478141)—regular shows, Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108)—noon

Rekha and Jeetendra in *Sheshnaag*



A new film, starring Chiranjeevi and Juhi Chawla The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Shesh Naag:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road, 241383), Prabhat (Chittaranjan Avenue, 390762), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522), Purnasree (Raja Raj Kissen Street 554033)—4 shows, Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road, 363264)—3 shows, Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—noon

Directed by K R Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, the film stars Jeetendra, Rekha, Rishi Kapoor, Mandakini, Madhavi and Danny

• **Zakhmi Zameen:** Jyoti (Lenin Sarani, 241132), Naaz (Lower Chitpur Road, 277273), Liberty (Chittaranjan Avenue, 553046), Khanna (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 552932), Madhuban (Regent Park)

Aditya Pancholi and Jaya Prada are the lead pair Also starring are Paresh Rawal and Ranjeet The film is directed by Mahendra Shah and the music is by Anand Milind

Bengali Films

• **Balidaan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200)—3, 6, 9, Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680)—2 30, 5 30, 8 30, Ujjala (Russa Road 478666)—3, 6, 9, Malancha (Regent Park), Jaya (Lake Town, 573936)—3 shows

Anil Ganguly's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Raakhee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Papiya Adhikari, Nayana Das, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhishek Chatterjee, debutante Rupali and Tapas Paul The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Chakranta:** Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 274259), Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080)—2, 5, 7 45, Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—2 30, 5 30, 8

Ranjit Mullick and Moon Moon Sen are the lead pair Others co-starring are Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhijit Sen, Rabi Ghosh, Ruma Guhathakurta and Sumanta Mukherjee The film is directed by Amal Sur and the music is by Santimoy Mukherjee

• **Debata (A):** Mimar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—2 45, 5 30, 8 15

Victor Banerjee, Debashree Roy, Dilip Roy, Anup Kumar, Kali Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast. The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R D Burman.

• **Jeeban Sangee:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561),

Bharati (S.P. Mukherjee Road; 474686)—1, 4, 7.

• **Monmayuree:** Sree (Bidhan Sarani; 551515)—3 shows; Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road; 271282)—2, 5, 7.45; Priya (Rashbehari Avenue, 464440)—2.30, 5.30, 8.

Moushumi Chatterjee, Tapas Paul, Deepankar De, Sreela Majumder, Subhendu Chatterjee, Lily Chakraborty and Master Rintu are the chief attractions in this film.

Special Events

21-24 October: 3 pm-8 pm

An exhibition of paintings by Kalyan Sen Gupta in the West and North galleries.

• **Sakar** will hold an exhibition of paintings in the New South Gallery.

• **Bivas Das** will hold his paintings exhibition in the South Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302)

21 October: 6.30 pm

The Sharon Spectacular—a song and dance extravaganza by Sharon Prabhakar.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani, 449086)

21 October: 7 pm

Rangakarmee will stage *Hoh*—a play in Hindi by Mahesh Elkunchwar and directed by Usha Ganguli. Lights: Joy Sen.

At Kala Mandir (B) (Shakespeare Sarani; 449086).

24-27 October: 10 am

Lobelia '90—an all-India inter-college youth festival.

At R.G. Kar Medical College.

25-27 October: 3 pm-8 pm

Sukla Ghosh will hold her paintings exhibition in the West Gallery.

25 October onwards: 3 pm-8 pm

A week-long exhibition of paintings by Lupt Cult in the Central Gallery.

• A week-long paintings exhibition, organised by Achin Potua, in the North Gallery.

• Gopi Nath Roy will hold a week-long exhibition of sculptures in the New South Gallery.

• Bandana Roy will hold a week-long exhibition of paintings in the South Gallery.

• Santanu Bhattacharjee's week-long exhibition of paintings in the New Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

25 October: 6.30 pm

Padatik Repertory presents the Hindi play, *Baarish Wala*—a translation of Richard Nash's *The Rain Maker*. Directed by Rodney Marriott and designed by Christopher Barreca, the cast includes Rajaram Yagnik, Shakil Khan, B.M. Hada, Sanchayita Bhattacharya, Vinay Sharma, Mahmud Alam and Arun Sharma.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302).

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (1) AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300
Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240
Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai: Dep (2) AI-101/AI-743 at 0240
Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo. Arr (5) AI-306 at 1830 Dep (5) AI-306 at 1930
Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI-309 at 1825, Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935
Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (6) AI 309/AI-1101 at 1935
Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500
Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt· Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500
New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340
Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300
Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4) SU-537 at 1525
Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow: Dep (4) SU-538 at 1725
Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1 4) RJ-184 at 0730
Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep (1, 4) RJ-181 at 0830
Calcutta-Singapore: Dep (2) SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep (7) SQ-413 at 1530
Singapore-Calcutta: Arr (2) SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr (5) SQ-414 at 0920
Calcutta-Bangkok: Dep (2, 4, 7) IC-231 at 1050, Dep (1, 3, 6) TG-314 at 1355, Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6) TG-313 at 1240
Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6) IC-843 at 0755, Dep (6) IC-843 at 0855
Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115; Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215
Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep (2, 4, 6, 7) IC-247 at 1600, Dep (1, 5) RA-214 at 1530, Arr (2 4, 6, 7) IC-248 at 1915, Arr (1, 5) RA 213 at 1430
Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep (1, 7) IC-223 at 1340, Dep (2, 4, 6) IC-223 at 1640, Dep (2 3, 5, 6) BG-092 at 1050, Dep (4) BG-092 at 1130, Dep (2 3, 6) BG-094 at 1620 and BG-096 at 1940 Dep (5) BG-098 at 1820
Dhaka-Calcutta. Arr (1 7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-224 at 1840, Arr (2, 3 4, 5 6) BG-091 at 1010, Arr (2, 3, 6) BG-093 at 1540 and BG 095 at 1910, Arr (5) BG-097 at 1740
Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (6) IC-225 at 1330, Dep (2 5) BG-698 at 1415
Chittagong-Calcutta: Arr (6) IC-226 at 1550, Arr (2, 5) BG-697 at 1330
Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900 Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (7) AI-1651 at 0500
Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-1320 at 1300 Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340
Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240, Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935
Bombay-Calcutta. Arr (5) AI-306 at 1815

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225
Calcutta-Bombay. Dep (daily) IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855, Arr (daily) IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755
Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-265 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150
Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-271 at 1500, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-272 at 2025
Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1, 2, 4, 6) IC-542 at 0730, Arr (1) IC-541 at 0945 and Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-541 at 1310
Calcutta-Guwahati: Dep (daily) IC-229 at 1250 Arr (daily) IC-230 at 1550
Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) IC-201 at 1130, Arr (1, 3 5 6) IC-202 at 1245, Arr (2, 4) IC-202 at 1500
Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1030, Arr (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1540
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep (1, 3, 5 6) IC-219 at 1120, Arr (1, 3, 5 6) IC-220 at 1600
Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep (daily) IC-2211 at 1100, Arr (daily) IC-222 at 1320
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-241 at 0700, Dep (2 4) IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3, 5, 6 7) IC-243 at 0600, Dep (1) IC-243 at 1400, Arr (daily) IC-242 at 0900 Arr (2, 4) IC-244 at 1600, Arr (3 5 6 7) IC-244 at 1020, Arr (1) IC-244 at 1600
Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep (daily) IC-255 at 0600, Arr (daily) IC-256 at 1030
Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep (3, 5, 6) IC-269 at 1710, Arr (3, 5, 6) IC-270 at 2040
Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep (1, 2, 7) IC-277 at 1745, Arr (1, 2, 7) IC-278 at 2215
Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep (2, 4) IC-285 at 0545, Arr (2, 4) IC-286 at 1015
Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep (1) IC- 287 at 0545; Arr (1) IC-288 at 1235
Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-410 at 0830, Arr (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-409 at 1510

Printed here is the regular Indian Airlines schedule. This is, however, subject to change. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-727 at 0530, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-728 at 1120
Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep (7) PF-729A at 0550; Arr (7) PF-730A at 1050
Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-701 at 1140, Arr (1, 3, 5, 7). PF-702 at 1615
Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashahar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-729 at 0550, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-730 at 1040
Calcutta-Silchar-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6). PF-701 at 1100; Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-702 at 1715.
Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5): PF-716 at 0855
Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep. (2, 6) PF-709 at 0815, Arr. (2, 6) PF-710 at 1840
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep (4) PF-709 at 0815, Arr (4) PF-710 at 1750
Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep (7) PF-709 at 0600, Arr (7) PF-710 at 1705
Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar-Guwahati: Dep (1, 3, 5, 7).

PF-705 at 0915, Arr (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-706 at 1620
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-729A at 1130, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-730A at 1410

Calcutta-Aizawl-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310 Arr (2, 4 6) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Patna: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (1 3 5) PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF- 717 at 0550, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-718 at 0745
Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-707 at 0600, Arr (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-708 at 0855

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8 30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8 05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13 15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11 10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6-10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16 00	**Lucknow Express**	11-55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5-00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20-50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6 35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11 10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050

Sealdah

3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18 20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12 40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

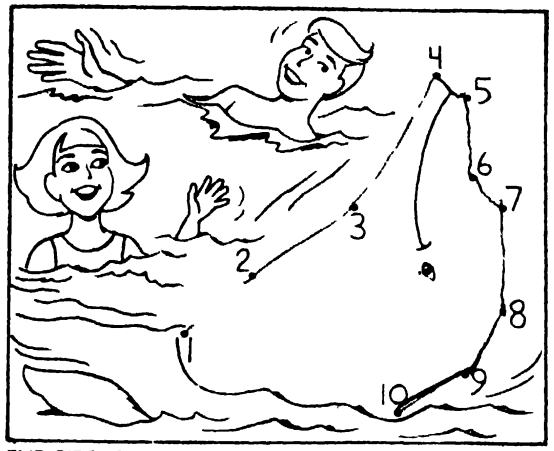
SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Howrah

Departure Up	Time		Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20 00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14 30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4 30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15 15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21 40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21 15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6 05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21 20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4 15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14-45	8046
8017	16-45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11 20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22 15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22 35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES. For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains, 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

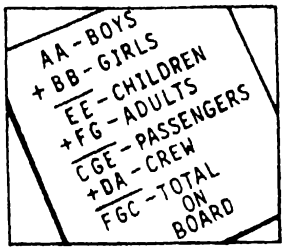
JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



FLIP SIDE! Connect dots from number to number, then turn diagram to one side to see what you've drawn What's that?

• EGGED ON! If a peacock lays an egg in a police car does the egg belong to the policeman the town or the owner of the bird?

Peacocks don't lay eggs peahens do



LETTER PERFECT HEAD COUNT
"How many on board?" asked the captain

'Sir, we left port with CGE passengers, FG of which were adults EE children AA were boys and BB girls DA represents the crew for a grand total of FGC ' replied the mate

"Could you just answer my question?" demanded the captain

Can you? What s the total number on board?

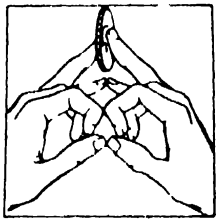
Hint Boys and girls altogether total 88, and there is an adult chaper—one for each four or five children

Try puzzling out figures above

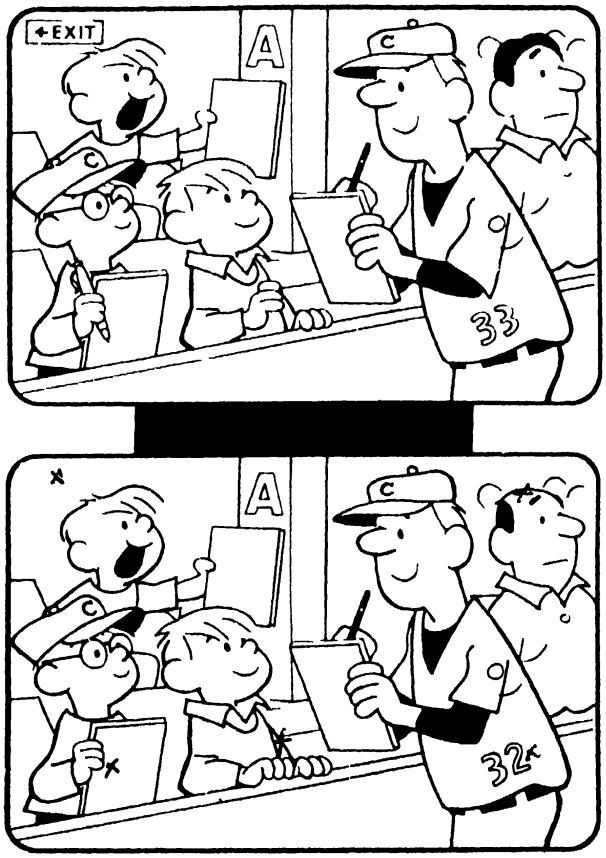
Passengers and crew total 201

• LOCK SET! Place a coin between the tips of the ring fingers of each hand, see below, while touching thumbs, bending first two fingers so that knuckles meet, and touching tips of the two little fingers.

Now, see if you can spread ring fingers, causing coin to drop.



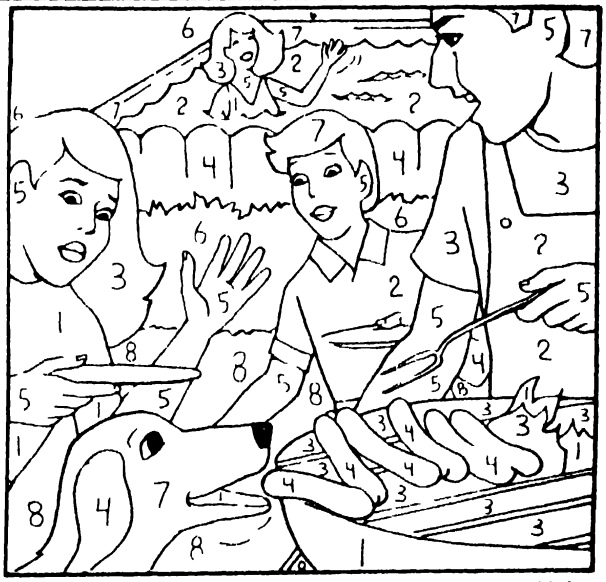
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Sign is missing 2 Pen is missing 3 Hand is moved 4 Sleeve is shorter 5 Number is different 6 Hair is different

FUNSPOT



DOG GONE! Hot or not, here's one for me," says Rover Add the following colors neatly 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk green

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

PROVINCE

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible twosome Vine crop



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

Chandan Bagchi, Calcutta writes "I read recently that Henry VIII the much married English king died of syphilis Is this true?"

Despite his having had one of the best-kept medical records in history, there still is controversy as to the cause of Henry VIII's death in 1557 An extremely cultured and accomplished young prince, he became a great and glorious ruler but degenerated into a cruel and unstable despot At the age of 22 he contracted smallpox, though he escaped being pockmarked At 33 he had his first attack of malaria, which plagued him for the rest of his life At 35, after a serious jousting accident, he began to develop chronic migraine and the extraordinarily painful leg ulcers which eventually crippled him In his late 30s, Henry underwent a major personality change From a benevolent and wise ruler, he slowly turned into an irrational and fearsome ogre whose enemies could expect little mercy

On January 17, 1536, when he was 44, Henry suffered his worst jousting accident (while showing off to the ladies) and lay unconscious for two hours His fits of blind anger became aggravated by acute insomnia, painful sore throats, and recurrent, agonising headaches One diplomat reported that Henry "was some time without speaking, black in the face," and that he (the diplomat) was "in great danger " Henry became prematurely gray and abnormally obese, in one four-year period his waist measurement increased by an astounding 17 inches until "three of the biggest men that could be found could get inside his doublet " At 45 he developed a strange growth on the side of his nose At 49 he probably became sterile or impotent During the last year of his life, before his death at age 55, he could hardly walk and was transported everywhere by sedan chair He became increasingly absent-minded, frequently issuing opposite rulings on succeeding days He spent his last eight days in bed, too weak even to lift a glass to his lips

Finally, amid the horrendous stench of his bursting ulcers, Henry died—fulfilling a prophecy made 10 years earlier by Lord Montague that Henry's "leg will kill him, and then we will have jolly stirring " It had also been prophesied that "the dogs would lick his bones as they did Ahab's " While his body was being transported to Windsor for burial, the coffin burst open during the night In the morning, sentries found dogs licking Henry's remains

Did Henry die from syphilis? All his symptoms indicate it, as do the fates of his children Edward VI died after his nails fell off and his body was smothered in an awful rash, Mary I's husband complained of the horrid stench that emanated from her nose, and Elizabeth I was probably barren The numerous still births suffered by Henry s wives and the significant fact that he had no grandchildren point to syphilis

S A Ahmed, Calcutta 16, wants some facts on Kemal Ataturk

Turkey underwent radical social change under the leadership of its first president, Kemal Ataturk Ataturk's rise to virtual dictator of a revitalised Turkey carved from the ruins of the defunct Ottoman Empire had been dramatic A soldier by training, he joined Enver Pasha's Young Turks (1908), fought Italy in Libya (1911-1912), and served in World War I He refused to recognise the peace terms which the victorious Allies had imposed on the last Ottoman Sultan Mohammed VI, and thus formed his own army and set up a rival Turkish capital at Ankara By 1923 he was the undisputed ruler of present-day Turkey One of his first acts was to expel the sultan He next set out create a modern all-Turk nation His chief obstacle the centuries-old Islamic traditions, became his prime target In dictatorial fashion, he closed down the mosques, turned out the caliph (the pope of Islam), closed the religious schools which taught subjugation to Allah's will, and replaced Islamic law with Western codes He also abolished the fez as a useless symbol of the past, violators of the hat law were hanged

Although only one-fourth Turk himself (one-fourth Macedonian, half Alabanian), the blond blue-eyed ruler restricted most businesses to Turkish enterprise His goal had been to westernise and modernise Turkey by whatever means necessary This he achieved before his liver gave out to alcohol in 1938

CBS

11th Question: **Guess whose last words were: "Once I was waxing and now I am waning." (Gaurab Bhattacharjee, Qr No. B-126, IIT Kharagpur 721302)**
Ans: **Madame Tussaud, of course!**

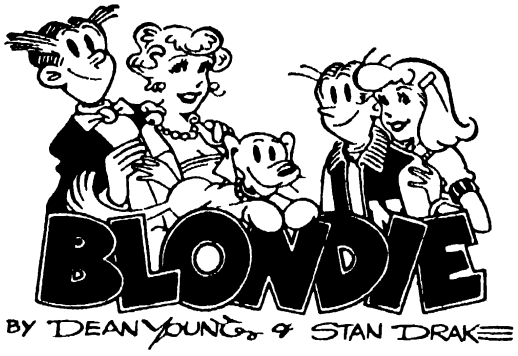
QUESTIONS

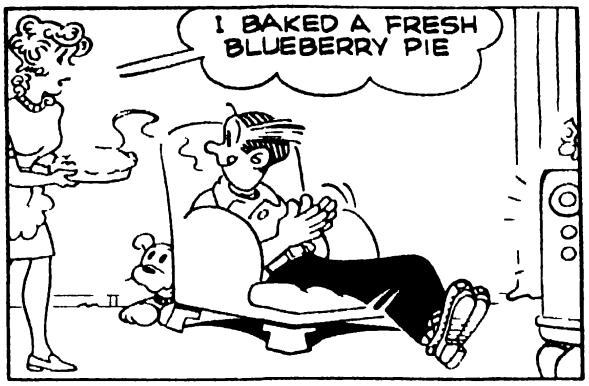
1. **How many novels did Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay write in English? (Sabyasachi Dey, Burdwan 51)**
2. **Who was the famous historian who accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni during his invasion of India? (Shabbir Ahmed, Calcutta 14)**
3. **What is common to these Hollywood films: *Megambo, Bhowani Junction, The Barefoot Contessa* and *The Sun Also Rises*? (Niraj Kumar, BIT Sindri)**
4. **What is Bamboo Money? (Othello Mazoomdaar, Boral 5)**
5. **Name the world's first vertical take off and landing jet aircraft. (J. Om Prakash Rao, Jharsuguda 2)**
6. **What is aichmophobia? (Aruna Chandrarāju, Calcutta 29)**
7. **In newspaper jargon, what is a 'jump'? (Gopal Chokhani Guwahati 1)**
8. **Which famous footballer said, "I am grateful to my father for all the coaching he did not give me."? (Mohan Kumar Agrawal, Barsarh 28)**
9. **Who wrote autobiography is entitled *The Path Taken: My Life*? (Rata Haldar, Triberi 3)**
10. **Who is the first Sri Lankan to score a double century in his Test debut? (Asit Kr Panigrahi, Jharsuguda 2)**

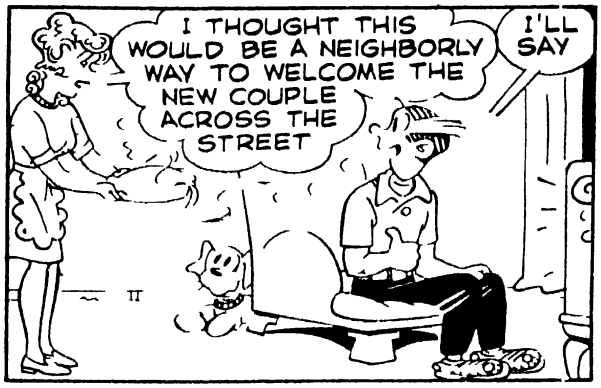
ANSWERS

1. Only one—*Rajmohan's Wife*
2. Alberuni
3. Ava Gardner acted in all of them.
4. An elongated, narrow, tablet-shaped money supposed to have been derived from ancient metal checks said to have been current in the city of Taiyuan, the capital of Shangtung, as far back as AD 1275 But later found in nearly all parts of China although they appear to have been most popular in the Yangtse regions
5. The RYAN X-13.
6. A morbid fear of anything pointing (in sense cases even being touched or pointed at with a finger could produce the phobic reaction)
7. It is the continuation of a story to another page
8. Ferenc Puskas (Hungary)
9. Hans Christian Andersen.
10. Brendon Kurupp.

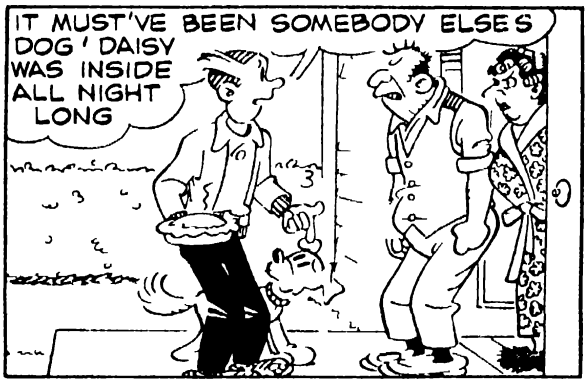
COMICS







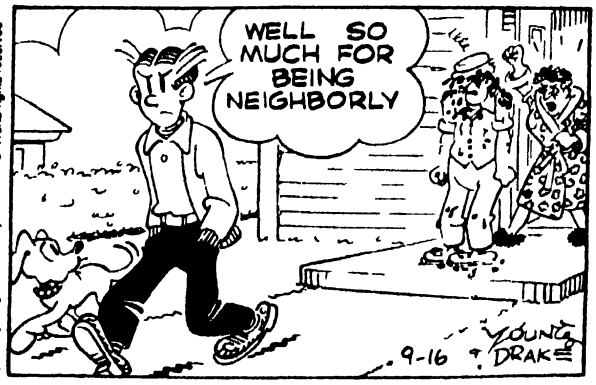




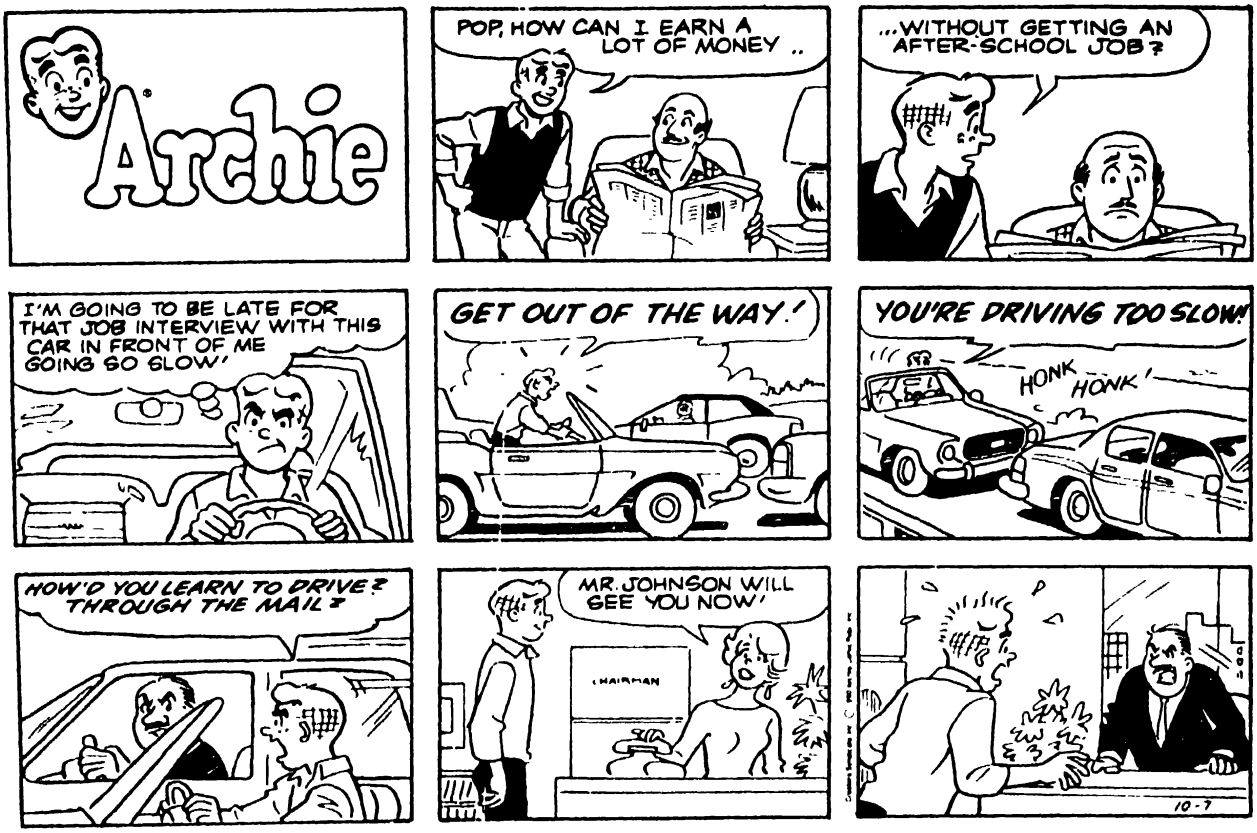




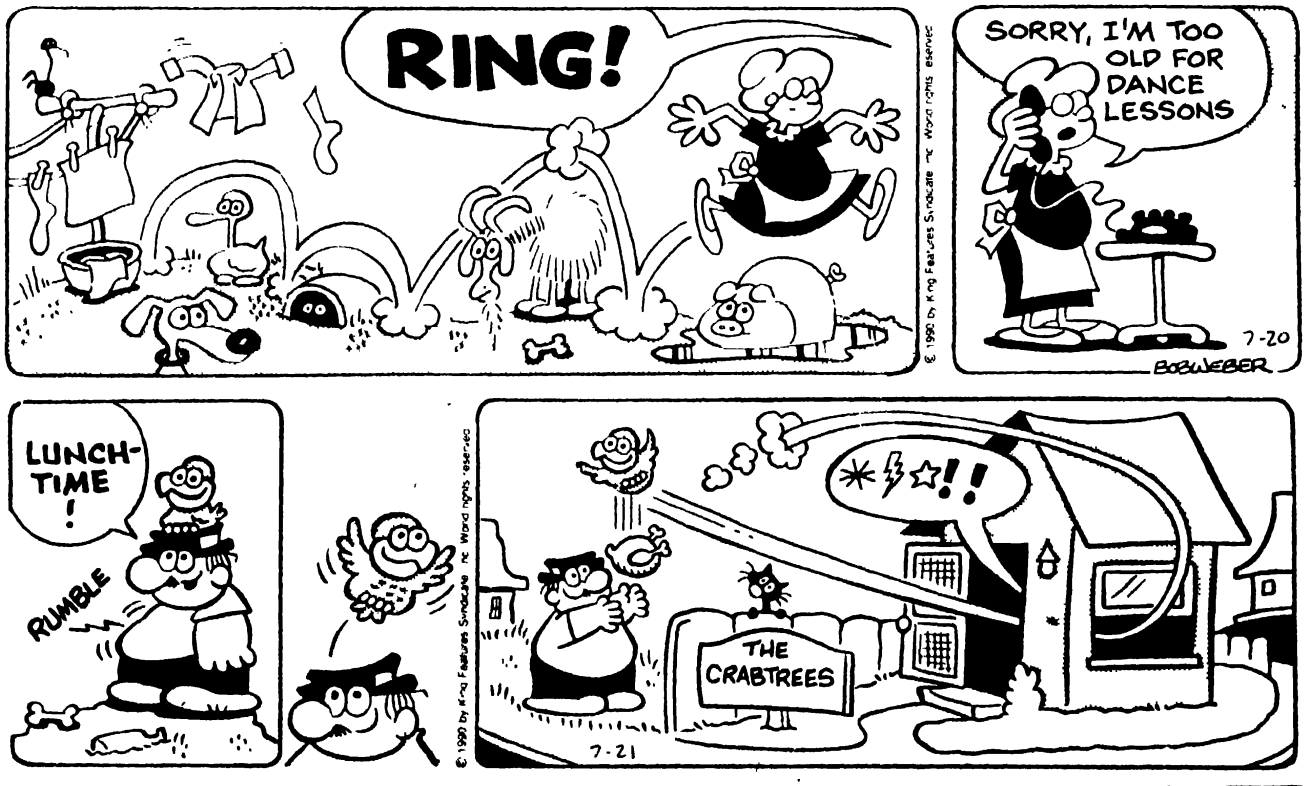
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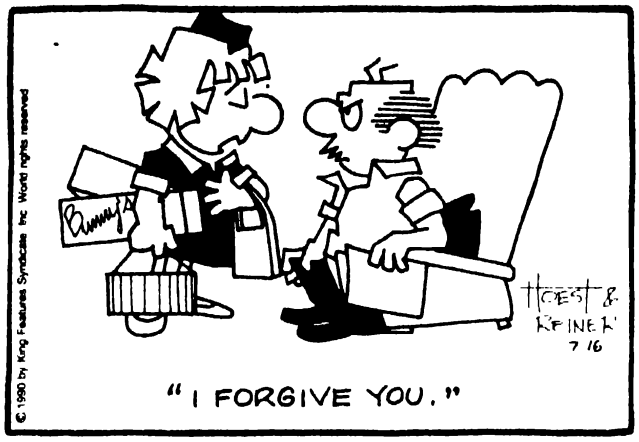
ARCHIE



MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber



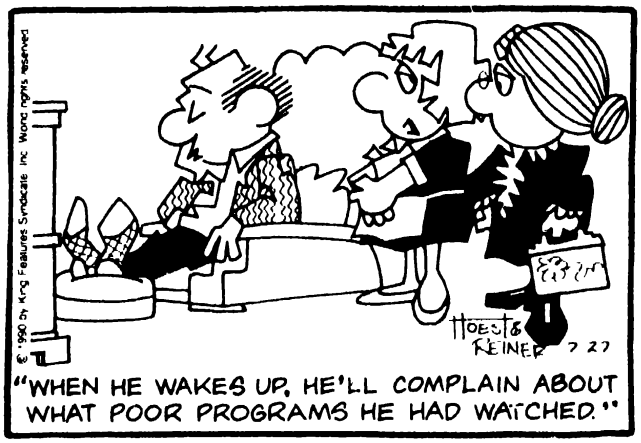
THE LOCKHORNS



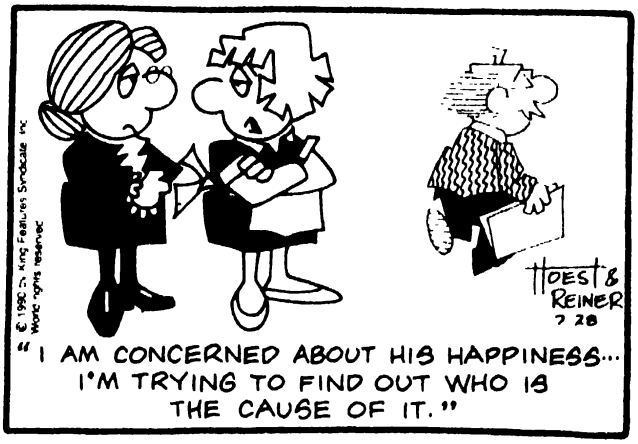
"I FORGIVE YOU."



"DINNER WILL BE SERVED SHORTLY... OR IF WE'RE LUCKY, LONGLY!"

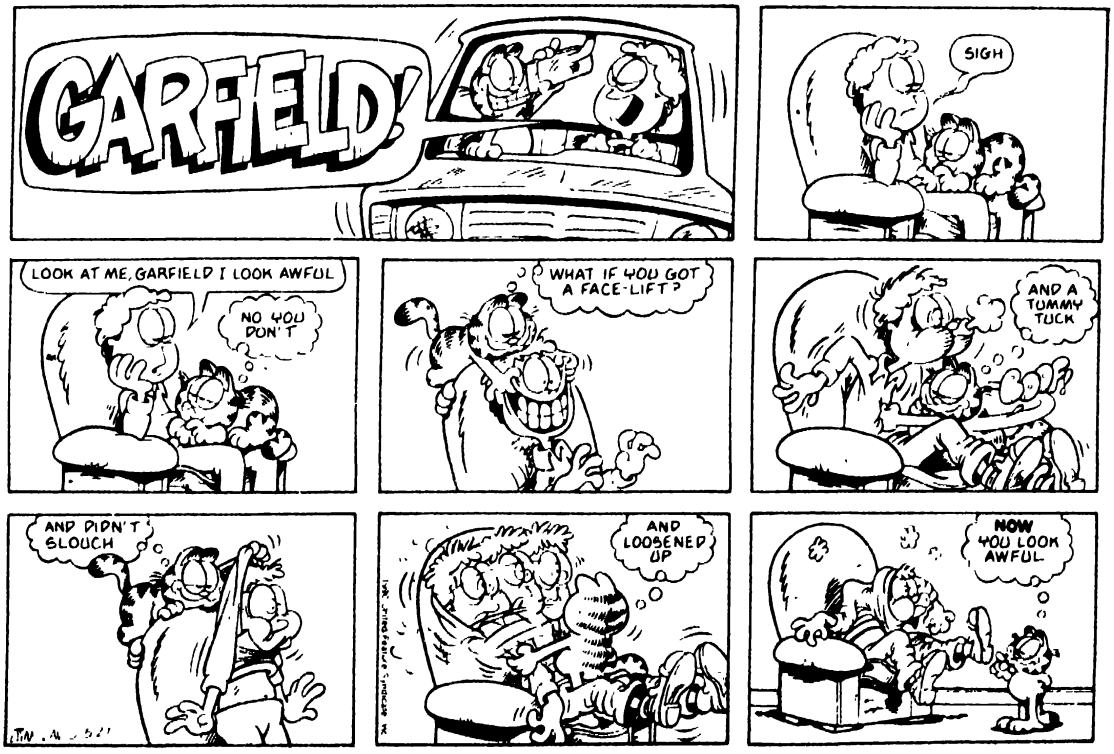


"WHEN HE WAKES UP, HE'LL COMPLAIN ABOUT WHAT POOR PROGRAMS HE HAD WATCHED."



"I AM CONCERNED ABOUT HIS HAPPINESS... I'M TRYING TO FIND OUT WHO IS THE CAUSE OF IT."

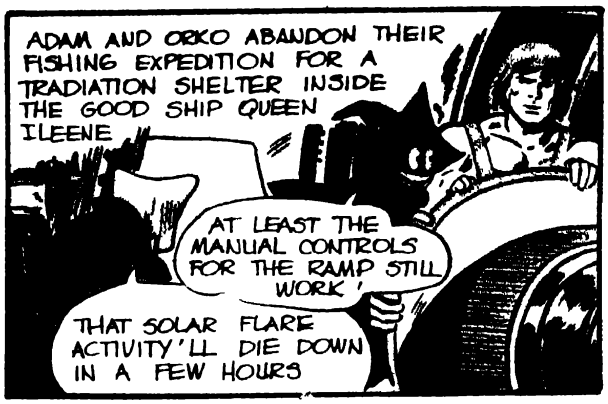
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP



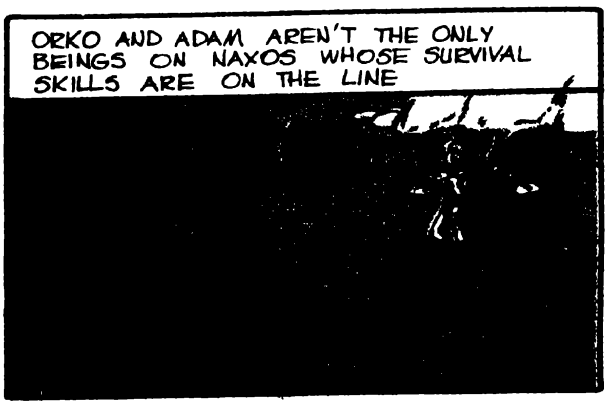














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The *rath yatra* by **L.K. Advani** is a 10,000-km move calculated to catch votes for the BJP. But the one point that rankles is that it could also add fuel to the communal fire and leave everything behind him in flames.

Photograph by RAJU SULTANIA



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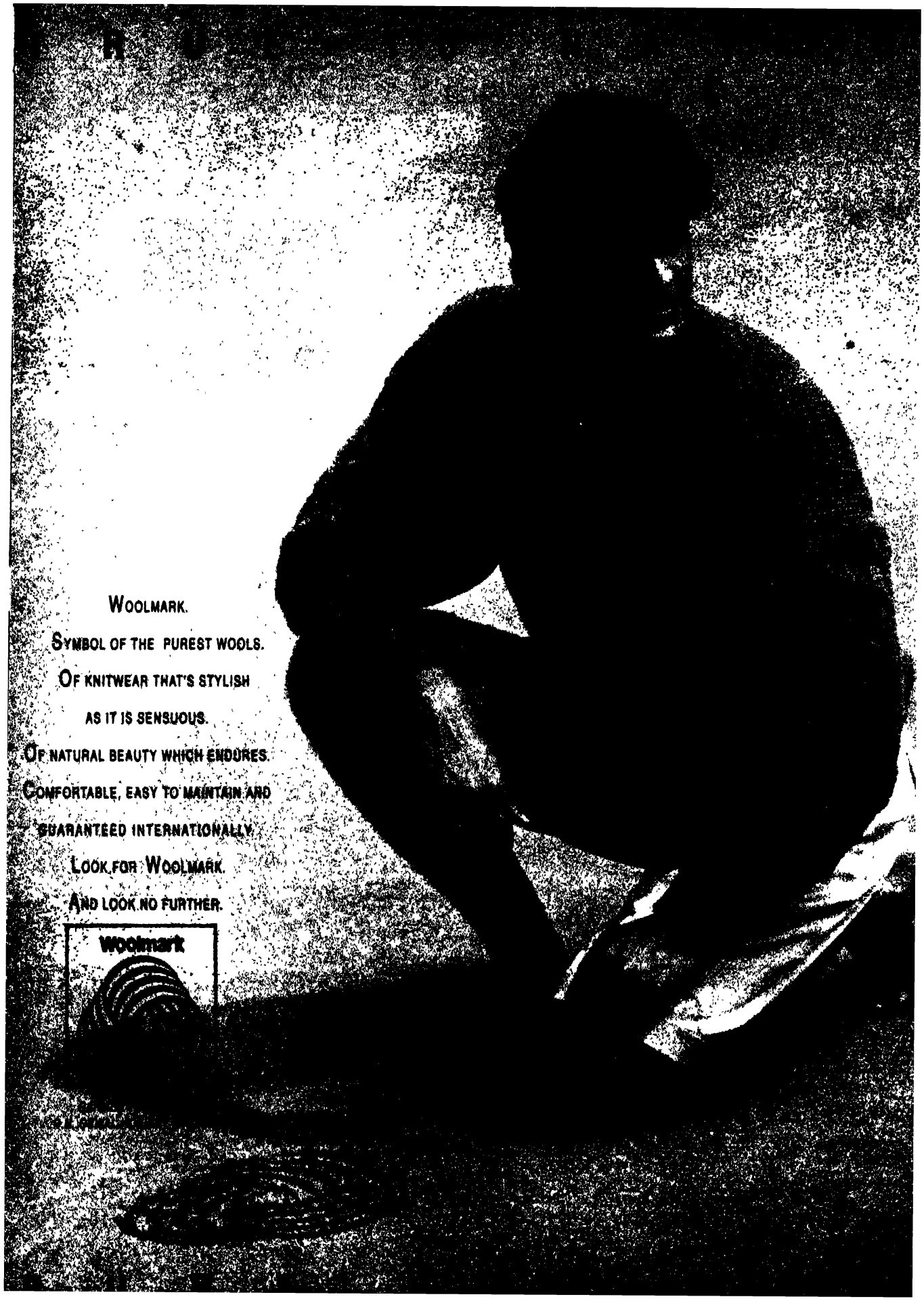
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POST MORTEM

Touche!

I strongly protest the publication of that ridiculous photograph of our honourable chief minister, Jyoti Basu, in Candid Camera (September 2)

What kind of impression will the people have about a chief minister who digs his nose in public?

Saikat Banerjee,
Calcutta

■ Please stop using politicians on your Candid Camera page. If you don't have an appropriate person to project, leave the space blank. That would be better.

S.K. Bhagat,
Chittaranjan (W B)

■ Thanks a lot for the picture of Gabriela Sabatini It wasn't as luscious as that of Steffi Graf earlier, but Sabatini is, after all, Sabatini.

K. Bhattacharya,
Shillong

Going Wild

It was very interesting to read about the lesser known Mahananda wildlife sanctuary (September 16) In fact, the whole issue was far better than any other on jewellery, precious stones, players or politicians.

Paromita Bhattacharya,
Rourkela (Orissa)

Remedy for AIDS

The cover story on AIDS (August 19) was commendable. I wish to inform you that contrary to popular belief. AIDS, too, has its remedy It lies in 'chronic miasm', a scientific study of the phenomena of disease, which although not widely practised or popularised, has tremendous potential of curing patients

As a homeopath of some standing I strongly believe that this aspect of applied science deserves immediate consideration and exploration

Dr Ashis Chatterjee,
Durgapur

■ I strongly object to the report that junior doctors in Calcutta Medical College and Hospitals vehemently protested against the setting up of a ward for AIDS patients because of their "superficial knowledge" about the disease.

AIDS is a new killer disease and the details about it are being gradually unfolded by doctors and scientists the world over It seriously weakens the immunity system and the body fails to cope with opportunistic infections, especially 'Pneumocystis carinii'. Treatment is only symptomatic and no vaccine is available yet. The anti-viral drug, Zidovudine, is sometimes given to suppress the virus

The writers should have known that in government hospitals junior doctors work under the guidance of senior visiting doctors Since the disease has no definitive treatment as yet, supportive treatment for such patients can be given by junior doctors It is not their "superficial knowledge" which hinders the opening of such wards but the lack of basic infrastructure in government hospitals Special investigations, extra precautionary measures, even isolation, would be necessary

As for AIDS not being included in the MBBS curriculum, being a medical graduate I do remember having gone through the chapter on AIDS in *Preventive and Social Medicine* by Park and Park (11th edition, 2nd MBBS course) and Davidson s *Principle and Practice of Medicine* (15th edition, chapter 19, p 726, 3rd MBBS course)

In scientific articles, I guess the essence lies in the authenticity

Dr Apurba Koomar Chatterjee,
N Bengal

■ What is most disturbing about AIDS is that an enormous number of people are already infected with the virus but as yet do not show any symptoms of the disease There is a high possibility that from five months to five years, most of these sero-positive people will become full-blown AIDS patients

Two diseases also common in AIDS patients are 'Pneumocystis carinii' (a type of pneumonia) and 'Kaposis sarcoma' (a type of skin cancer)

Mankind has never faced such an alarming medical challenge before.

Javed .Nishat,
Calcutta

The come hither look



Biswajit Chatterjee

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The Telegraph

28 OCTOBER 1990

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THE DISPOSSESSED



A shot being discussed at the Calcutta Port

One of the leaders of the art film movement, **G. Aravindaan,** concluded the shooting of his latest film in Malayalam, *Vasthuhara,* in Calcutta recently. The story, which speaks about the agonies of refugees and of a rehabilitation officer, is largely based on the eastern region. HIRAK SEN looks on



Neena Gupta outside a Shiva temple in Behala

G. Aravindaan





Neena Gupta and Mohanlal exchange notes before a shot



HERITAGE □ Rathin Mitra

JNAN PROKASH GHOSH

Born to Kiran Chandra Ghosh and Nalinibala Devi in Calcutta in the early part of this century, Jnan Prokash Ghosh, the doyen of the music world, studied at Collins Institute and did his BA Honours from Presidency College, securing a first class first. Brought up in a musical environment, he was drawn to the performing arts at an early age. When he was only 12 or 13, he accompanied dhrupad singer Ranen Biswas on the tabla at the experimental radio centre which functioned from the Temple Chambers near the high court.

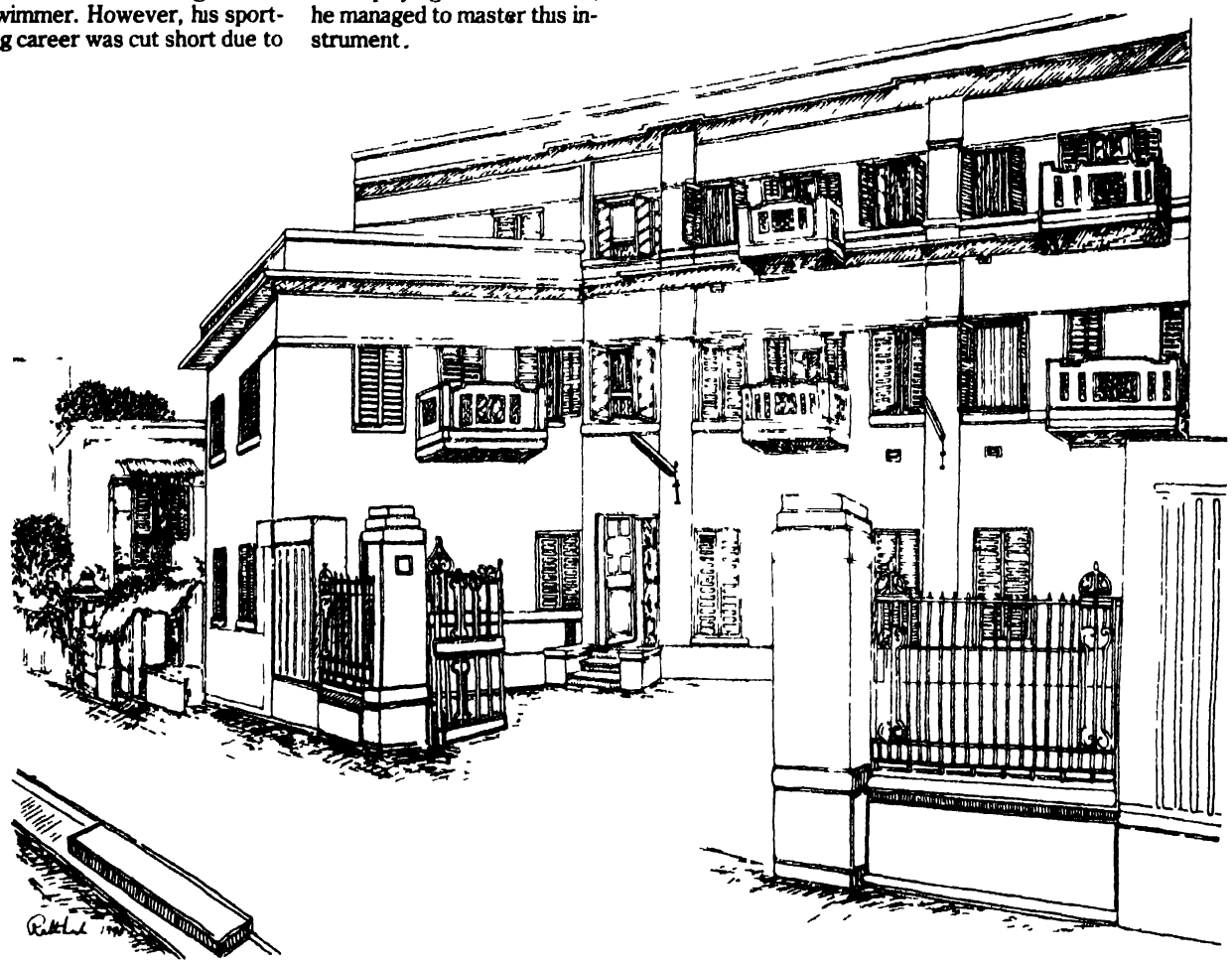
During his college days, Ghosh was a regular in the football, cricket and hockey teams. He was also a good swimmer. However, his sporting career was cut short due to retinal haemorrhage and he concentrated on music. He took his initial tabla lessons from one Tonybabu and learnt to play the pakhawaj from Bipin Ghosh. He was trained in srikhole under Nabadwip Brajabashi. His full-fledged tabla lessons began under Azim Khan and later continued under Mashit Khan and Feroz Khan. His style was further polished by Nathu Khan and Ahmedjan Therkowatah Sahib.

Ghosh was initiated into thumri by Sagir Khan and into dhrupad by Dabir Khan. Girija Shankar Chakraborty, Mehdi Hussain, Amir Khan and Bade Ghulam Ali helped him develop into a top ranking vocalist. Even without any formal lesson in playing the harmonium, he managed to master this instrument.

Ghosh's multi-faceted talents found expression through various programmes on the All India Radio with which he was associated for 15 years. His experimentation with various branches of music left many a landmark. He was the first to introduce the use of guitar in *adhunik* compositions and invented the *tal vadya* item. *Drums of Destiny, Sant Sumiran* and duets with V. G. Jog's violin and V. Balsara's piano form some of his recordings. Besides, he has composed innumerable songs that have been recorded by well-known vocalists. He was music director in three films and worked with luminaries like Ravi Shankar, Ali Akbar Khan, Bade Ghulam, Bismillah Khan, Amir Khan and Shamta Prasad.

Since 1937 Ghosh has been active in grooming young talent, and has gifted us some excellent musicians like tabla players Nikhil Ghosh, Shankar Ghosh, Kanai Dutta, Shyamal Bose, Anindya Chatterjee and Sanjoy Mukherjee, and vocalists Prasun Banerjee, Ajoy Chakraborty, Tanima Thakur and Lalita Ghosh. He has represented India in various music conferences and has been honoured with the Padma Bhushan, and the Bhuwalka and Alauddin Khan awards besides being made a Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi.

The sketch shows his present residence on Dixon Lane in central Calcutta.



BOY OR GIRL?

It must be the oldest cliche in the world, but the tension wound up in the question, "Boy or girl?" would reduce Alfred Hitchcock to one big yawn. The heart misses a beat when the lady misses her period. The gynaecologist examines her, prescribes the urine test—and the coil begins to wind itself in the guts. The test confirms that the lady is expecting and the gynaecologist's congratulatory advice is the first round of silent applause you hear for the goodness of God.

The mother feels the movements of the little one inside and the father gets the greatest kick; the crosswords are no longer done together, they have been replaced by the jotting down and cancelling of two separate lists of names: the boy's and the girl's. The blue and the pink woollen balls are all over and so is everything else in two separate colours.

By the time the mother is in her sixth month, the old wives confidently predict the sex of the little one by the amount of weight she is putting on or the vertical line down her swollen belly and the younger friends assure the parents-to-be that it will be a girl by the glow on her cheeks (more by heads-or-tails, actually). The question uppermost in everyone's mind by the ninth month *is* the oldest cliche in the world. Very very few are concerned more about the welfare of the new arrival than its sex. Rare is the father who paces the floor outside the labour room or operation theatre not wanting to know what the nurse will come out and tell him first. Then, the multiple explosions of strung-together Diwali bombs go bang-bang in the head and suddenly the prolonged pleasure of the Great Mystery is over. You know what the next set of nappies will be: pink or blue.

Science, however, is a double-edged sword. While it can unravel many Great Mysteries, it can also take over life completely so as to make the personal computer the father of man.

In the West, the inexorable juggernaut devised a test called amniocentesis some 30 years ago, mainly for the detection of genetic defects. Amniocentesis involves the insertion of a hollow needle into the uterus of a pregnant woman to draw out a sample of the amniotic fluid in which the embryo is suspended. This fluid is tested for foetal abnormalities, specially in the cases of expectant mothers who are above 34 years. The test is vital to determine the possibilities of mental retardation, haemophilia or chromosal abnormalities in the child; the chances of a woman above 34 having a mongloid baby are also higher.

> The need to know the answer while the mother is carrying has led to a boom in the sex determination test business. And, of course, to a mass murder of female foetuses...

But the bad news is that amniocentesis is now used primarily to determine the sex of the foetus and, shocking as it may sound, murder the innocent, helpless foetus if it happens to be female. At least one popular textbook of obstetrics denounces its use for sex determination, saying, "...amniocentesis...should not be offered for such trivial reasons as choosing the sex of the offspring."

In India, however, the earlier the female can be done in, the better. And what better way than foeticide? Amniocentesis for sex determination with the sole idea of aborting the foetus if it is female has been a regular practice for more than a decade now in a country where even the "broadminded" man and "liberated" woman is over the moon with joy if it is a boy and at best gulps with much bravado, "I always wanted a girl; they are much cuter." Ask the female nurse whose monetary gains outside the operation theatre are not according to the success of the delivery or Caesarian section or to the wellbeing of the mother and child, but according to the 'colour' of her announcement. Pink or blue.

Sex determination tests were widely done in Bombay, unquestionably the most 'modern' of our cities, and there was a rampant growth of such clinics in the smaller cities of Maharashtra in the decade preceding 1988. According to R.P. Ravindra, a member of the Forum Against Sex Determination and Sex Pre-selection (FASDSP), these clinics were a dime-a-dozen in places like Dhule, Jalgaon, Amravati, Nashik and Nagpur.

A study by Dr Sanjeev Kulkarni of the Foundation for Research in Community Health was commissioned by the secretary to the Maharashtra government's department of public health and family welfare. The study, *Pre-natal Sex Determination Tests and Female Foeticide in Bombay City*, discovered that most gynaecologists performed amniocentesis solely for sex determination and even when they were done for the detection of genetic disorders, they formed a very small percentage. A near 100 per cent of the 15,914 abortions done during 1984-85 by a well-known abortion clinic in Bombay were undertaken after sex determination tests. There are truths, shocking truths and statistics like this.

The turnover of a diagnostic clinic on Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road in central Calcutta ran into Rs 10 lakhs in a single month of 1987 after it started amniocentesis for the first time. Of course, in the subsequent years, its *annual* turnover was barely Rs 10 lakhs. The reason was simpler than one would think: almost every pathological laboratory in the city took the cue from the young, enterprising Dr Piyush Aggarwal of the central Calcutta clinic, and the fast buck was quickly split. It wasn't as if Dr Aggarwal's clinic ushered amniocentesis into Calcutta; the unique feature was that he introduced the test exclusively for the purpose of sex determination. His publicity literature spoke of amniocentesis solely as a test for determining the sex of the foetus.

In Calcutta, again, a women's organisation donated a foetal monitor to a hospital and the doctors there officially claim that it only informs them of the wellbeing of the foetus. But since the monitor also indicates the sex of the foetus, it is a foregone conclusion what it is used for. The doctor supervising the monitor says: "We *never* tell the parents the sex of the foetus." But it is reliably learnt that a section of the hospital staff makes private deals with the parents.

All arguments against this misuse of amniocentesis are countered by vehement statements such as Nivedita Chakraborty's. "Since I already have a daughter, why should I not be given the choice of having a son?" she asks angrily. "Maybe we will manage to pay the dowry of the first daughter; the second will probably die in a stove accident after marriage, anyway."

Many doctors also ethically justify amniocentesis and subsequent abortion as long as it is done within 20 weeks of



© Chandu Mhatre

Amniotic fluid being extracted from a pregnant mother

pregnancy, that is, merely the medical safety part Sangeeta Poddar, a mother of three daughters, heard about this test when she was carrying again "Both my husband and I did not want another daughter A male child was also necessary to run the family business'

And, then, the rasping query of Malini Kumar, 25, married and resident of the posh Ballygunge Circular Road area of Calcutta "Cut the drama, *yaar* Why should I not have the right to decide the sex of my child if I can have the right to decide whether or not to have a child?'

After nearly 10 years of relentless campaigning by various concerned groups including the FASDSP, the state government in Maharashtra enforced the Maharashtra Pre natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1988 (May 10) thus making that state the first in the country to legislate anything of the kind In effect, it attempts to regulate the use of modern medical technology in India On January 2, 1989 the State Appropriate Authority (SAA) and the State Vigilance Committee (SVC) were set up but so far only 14 have applied to the SAA for registration to conduct pre natal sex determination tests for the limited purposes permitted under the Act The SVC, too, has had just one complaint lodged with them so far about a doctor in Bombay continuing such tests, according to the Maharashtra state health department It does not mean that the picture has become rosy groups which fought for and won a legislation against these tests contend that they are still going on to a large extent

Dr Sanjeev Kulkarni s study found that the cost of the amniocentesis ranged from Rs 70 to Rs 600 and though most doctors admitted that their "market' was largely the upper income groups, advertisements like, "Pay Rs 500 now than Rs 5,000 later," did help to convince people that a sex determination test and abortion were a pittance compared to the cost of marrying off a daughter

Medical techniques like amniocentesis, chorion villi biopsy (CVB) and ultrasonography were blatantly misused, like radars to identify the 'enemy' and destroy her The Erikson Method, which entails the separation of the chromosome and artificial insemination, was also practised by five doctors in Bombay before the ban, some women's groups allege In fact, Dr Erikson, the pioneer of this method was invited to Bombay by a local doctor

At that time, apart from such clinics and abortion centres, there were at least 30 laboratories doing chromosal analysis and half of them were in Bombay alone

After the Act came into force, the whole gamut of sex determination tests were supposed to be thrown out of the purview

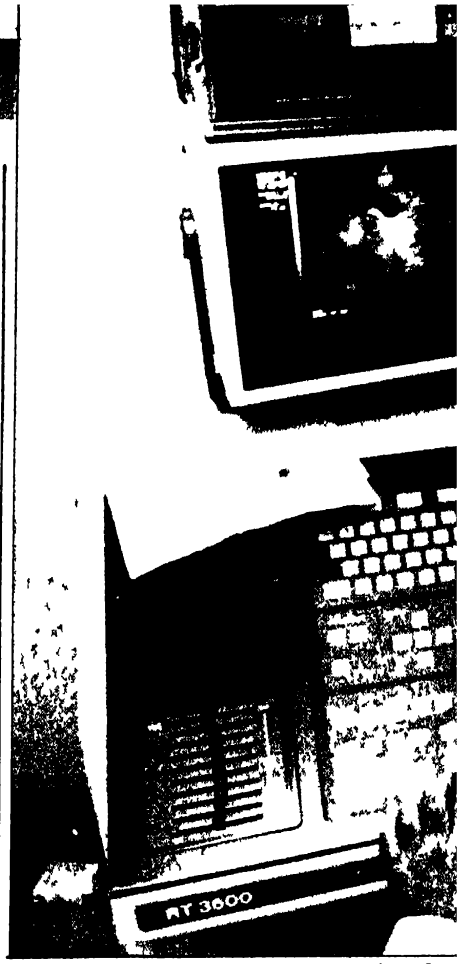
of private hospitals and clinics and be confined only to government hospitals There will, of course, be loopholes and the SAA does give permission to conduct these tests for "limited purposes" like detecting genetic disorders. How limited the purpose will be is anybody's guess, allege the women's groups.

Says Ahilya Rangnekar, the Maharashtra CPI(M) leader: "This limited purpose application can be misused The tests are going on—maybe, not openly." Rangnekar, whose Shramik Mahila Sabha campaigned against the tests, had conducted a survey six months ago and discovered 17 cases of abortion, in each case the woman admitting that she was aborting "because the distance between the first and second child is too small". Rangnekar also discovered that in each of the 17 cases, the first child was a girl. The women, when contacted, said they were "very progressive" and would not dream of aborting just because it was a female foetus. Their mothers-in-law, however, gave a clearer picture When Rangnekar questioned them, they countered, "What will we do with a second girl?"

The Marxist MLA was convinced that unless the campaign among the women was effective, there could be no change in the situation. "There is this feeling that unless there is a son, there is no chance of going to heaven," says Rangnekar.

Foetal monitor, which can be used for sex determination





An ultrasound scanner to determine the

The efficacy of the legislation in Maharashtra is extremely doubtful when you take a look at those being punished for violations. Just one complaint has come in so far. And those found guilty are liable to get terms not exceeding three years rigorous imprisonment and fines of Rs 5,000 The health department says that the SVC cannot act in the absence of complaints and there has been only one since June 1988: "This is a good excuse for the government. It thinks the people should come forward and give evidence," thunders Tara Reddy, general secretary of the Maharashtra branch of the National Federation of Indian Women. "What is the government machinery there for if it can't find out?"

Reddy claims that the ban was clamped under pressure from women's groups including her own, but feels that it has remained all paper-ink-and-file. She gives an example of some clinics in Kolhapur which have been openly advertising the tests despite the ban. "There are very obvious notice boards outside these clinics. We went in a delegation to the Kolhapur collector and brought it to his attention. But there was no action. And the government doesn't seem interested in taking action. Unless there is strict implementation, nothing will happen.

"What happens is that tests are done at the government centres and the abortion is done elsewhere after 15 days so that the



Tarapada Banerjee

alth and sex of the foetus

nexus can't be established. Abortion is one's right, and the tests are allowed for some purposes; so the chain continues to operate resulting in female foeticide."

There is another angle to the Act in Maharashtra. Sex determination clinics began fanning out in neighbouring states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. Members of the FASDSP in Ahmedabad said that 50,000 sex tests were recorded in 1987-88, specially in the south Gujarat areas bordering Maharashtra. This was around the time the Maharashtra government announced that it would introduce a Bill banning amniocentesis and other foetal tests.

Some doctors like Dr Datta Pai, director of Pearl Centre in Dadar, Bombay, were conducting these tests for six years before the ban spoilt it all. Among the reasons for Dr Pai giving it up was that he was appointed a member of the state committee formed to study sex determination methods and work towards legislation. But Dr Pai feels: "Happy and wanted children is what we desire. Low-profit, no-loss clinics must be set up. There are 200 million orphans in our country. Who cares about them? Abortion is permissible in India, but the laws don't say anything about the sex of the foetus. The idea of no more than two children per couple has to be communicated to the people. Unwanted babies must be aborted. I'm a strong protagonist of sex determination tests."

Another doctor, who prefers to remain anonymous, goes one step further. According to him amniocentesis gives 97 per cent accurate results, but with chorion villi biopsy it is 98 per cent. And CVB is an aesthetically better procedure. "I'm waiting for the opportunity to use the business principle of lower margin of error. Earlier I could have advertised this for mothers who wanted male children," he says blandly. "Now it will have to be the less effective word-of-mouth publicity."

A pathologist, who has set up his clinic in one of the elite areas in central Calcutta, requested anonymity for fear of earning the wrath of his gynaecologist friends and losing references. "I'm personally against amniocentesis used solely for determining the sex. But I have to comply with the request of the gynaecologist." Unlike most other pathological laboratories in the city, however, he does not accept cases directly.

Another pathologist confirmed that amniocentesis was not possible without the direct interest of the gynaecologist. "Ten cc of fluid is required for the test and it is difficult to extract this fluid without the help of the gynaecologist. If there are any traces of blood in the fluid, the result will be inaccurate."

Selling abortion



Tarapada Banerjee

CREATING A BOY



The Kohlis

"Plan your family. Pre-determine the sex of your child without medical test or aid. Consult Mrs Kohli, 5/1 Russell Street, Calcutta-71." This advertisement appeared in the classified columns of the city-based English dailies between mid-1987 and early 1988. Then, all of a sudden, it stopped. The newspapers had decided enough was enough. They did not wish to be party to any form of advertising that might encourage the unethical practice of aborting the female foetus.

But Kiran Kohli's business continues. She and her husband, Arvind Kohli, who assists her, argue, "What we give the couples is conception advice. We ask the couples for their dates of birth and details of the wife's menstrual cycle and after making certain calculations we tell them exactly when to conceive to have a boy or a girl. This is basically helping the couple to pre-plan their family. Though we have the expertise, we do not determine the sex of the foetus after it is conceived. Therefore, the question of encouraging abortion does not arise."

Mr Kohli, who does most of the talking, claims that till date they have done 30 cases with 100 per cent success rate. However, "out of these 30, only two wanted daughters," he admits. "But we have never come across a newly-married couple. Those who have come to us already have two daughters."

The couple describe their system of "neo family planning" as "very old wine in a new bottle." Says Mrs Kohli, "The system adopted by us is highly sophisticated. It is time-tested, and probably as old as 2000 years. I have a chart which I have decoded after consulting a lot of old books. I calculate the data provided to me by the parents on the basis of this chart and tell them when to conceive."

Asked how she got the chart, Mr Kohli replies: "We were in a joint family. It just came out of one of the files. But how it came there we do not really know." Pointing towards his wife he says, "It took two years for her to decode it."

So, what is this chart all about? Mr Kohli pauses, and then like a true businessman, says, "It is a secret. Yes, it is our trade secret. To give you a little hint, it seems to be from West Asia. There are certain words in Persian. I wouldn't like to say anything more on this."

Mrs Kohli says she first experimented with the chart among her family members as a hobby—with 100 per cent success. "Then she started doing it professionally in 1987. Now we have even started getting repeat cases. She charges Rs 500 per case," says Mr Kohli.

M.D.

Care has also to be taken not to harm the foetus while extracting the fluid and often an ultrasonogram is recommended to ascertain the exact position of the foetus prior to the extraction. In fact, the sex of the foetus can be determined in the ultrasonogram and amniocentesis done as a confirmatory test.

Doctors admit that there are three major risks in amniocentesis: (1) trauma to the foetus, to the placenta, to the umbilical cord or to maternal structures; (2) serious infections; and (3) miscarriage or premature labour. There is also the possibility of causing haemorrhage to the placenta and the amnionic sac perforation of the placenta may lead to significant transfer of foetal blood to the mother which may ultimately cause haemolytic disease in the foetus. Therefore, location of the placenta through ultrasonography is also recommended, but many doctors skip this if they want to cut costs for their cases. Most pathologists who take up cases directly also avoid ultrasonography before amniocentesis for the simple reason that the first test might provide sufficien knowledge for the parents and they migh not return for amniocentesis

Ultrasonography is accurate only afte 20 weeks of pregnancy while amniocentesis can predict the sex of the foetus with sharper accuracy in the 12th or 14th week Aborting in the 20th week is fraught with greater risks than in the 14th week an according to the law, too, abortion is permissible only within 20 weeks of pregnancy Many doctors are of the opinion that abortion even after the 12th week is risky

The Medical Termination of Pregnanc Act lays down several grounds on which abortion can be done; but as with most laws, there are as many loopholes as there are grounds. Most parents who want to kill a female foetus allege that the pregnancy was a result of contraceptive failure The pathologists and radiologists alter the medical reports to say that the mother was suffering from disease which threatened the health of the foetus and the child may have been born abnormal or that carrying the foetus was a danger to the mother' life.

In India, nearly 60 lakh abortions are carried out every year; of these, only about 10 lakh in licensed clinics. As many as 25 lakh foetuses are destroyed because they are female. The effects of such large-scale female foeticide are telling: In 1921, for every 1,000 men there were 972 women. When the last census was taken, in 1981, the number of women per 1,000 men had come down to 933. In West Bengal, the situation is still worse—the male-female ratio in the 1981 census was found to be 1,000 911

In 1971, the total number of men in the country exceeded the total number of women by 1.99 crores. By 1981, the difference had grown to a staggering 2.38 crores. Such frightening imbalances are, in turn, certain to lead to even greater social problems.

A spokeswoman of the Missionaries of Charity says: "If there can be an anti-dowry Act, why can't the government bring in national legislation to ban sex determination tests? Side by side, the aborting of female foetuses should also be checked." Another social worker attached to a government family planning clinic adds: "Every couple should be asked for a declaration stating the reason for seeking abortion. If the reason is found to be false, there should be a punishment clause." An expectant mother said: "Not banning sex determination tests in the country means the government is encouraging cold-blooded murder. It is female foeticide by the government."

Anil Grover with Lekha Dhar and Monimoy Dasgupta

DEAD ON!

The importance of being on time

Punctuality has always been a fetish in my family, and I still recall my grandfather raising merry hell whenever the syce (or the munshi) was even a minute late while he was waiting for the phaeton to come out to take him to the courts. "Fools!" he would explode. "Don't they know that time is money?" Like cleanliness, he maintained, punctuality was next to godliness.

My father was made of gentler stuff. "Punctuality is the politeness of kings," he would tell us indulgently whenever my brother and I twitted him for always wanting him to be on the dot at whatever function he attended. Then he would murmur to himself, airing the smattering of French he retained from his student days in Europe: *"L'exactitude est la politesse des rois"*.

This is how I came to acquire my one solitary virtue: looking back on the wasted years of my life, I find that I have not been a particularly virtuous man. But I have always tried, even if I have sometimes failed in the attempt. For example, I missed my own wedding reception.

It happened like this.

I got married with the usual fuss and ceremony in Lahore, where I was working as a fledgling journalist and where my bride's parents lived. At the same time my parents had arranged a garden party in our home town, Ferozepore, some 50 odd miles from the then Punjab capital. On the way I had a puncture, and although I am quite adept at other things, I had never before changed a tyre with my own hands.

So I got some villagers to push my newly-purchased second-hand Vauxhall sedan to the petrol pump three miles down the road. It was past six o'clock when these repairs were completed, and when I drove through the gates of our bungalow, situated between the old city and the cantonment, the band was playing "God Save The King" and the guests were mostly gone. My father stood forlornly in a corner, looking terribly let down.

Years later, while in the Foreign Service when posted to Mexico, on one of my usual trips to Cuba, to which country I was concurrently accredited, I discovered to my dismay on arrival at the airport that I had left some important papers behind in another briefcase. There was no question of going back for those documents, as the journey backwards and forwards would have taken two hours and the flight was about to be called.

So I made some hurried telephone calls and changed my reservation to the next plane three days later: There were only two services a week between Mexico City and Havana in those days. In the evening, at a reception which I had previously declined, I went up to the Cuban Ambassador and explained what had happened.

"How fortunate, Your Excellency!" he told me. "You cannot have heard the news, but the Aeronavis plane in which you were booked crashed while landing at Jose Marti airport. There were no survivors."

In a long career, which has taken me to different parts of the world, I have found the Dutch to be the most punctual of all people, and the Latin Americans the tardiest. At The Hague, for example, if you invite your guests for cocktails at six, they will start queueing up outside your door five minutes in advance, check their watches, and then press the bell precisely on the stroke of time.

Not so south of the border. Once in Panama City, when I had arrived the foreign minister and other senior officials from Relaciones Exteriores for luncheon at two (the Latins eat late), no one had arrived even at three, at which time the maitre d'hotel came rushing towards me with a telephone in his hand.

It was the minister. *"Senor Embajador"*, he said to me, without a word of regret. "But may we please come for dinner instead—tonight at ten o'clock, *por favor?"* I knew they wouldn't show up much before midnight, and I was mad as hell, but I replied in my blandest manner: "Of course, Excellency, it will be a pleasure."

When Jawaharlal Nehru came to Mexico on a State visit, before addressing a joint session of Parliament, he asked me in Hindi: "How long am I expected to speak?" to which I replied: "An hour or 45 minutes." A great stickler for punctuality, the Prime Minister fiddled with the dial of his wristwatch and mounted the podium.

Forty-five minutes went by, and then a whole hour, and I looked anxiously at Mrs Gandhi and M.J. Desai, the foreign secretary, seated alongside in the well of the House. The PM was hosting a luncheon in honour of President Lopes Mateos in about 15 minutes, but they seemed unconcerned.

I rushed out of the chamber and made some frantic calls. *"No se preoccupe, Senor Embajador"*, I was told. "Think nothing of it Senor Presidente, he will arrive at three instead of two." As simple as that.

The Prime Minister's speech lasted exactly an hour and 45 minutes. He looked at his wristwatch with a pleased smile. Then he descended from the dais and we left in a procession of limousines towards the Hotel Del Prado, where he was staying and where the banquet had been arranged.

The function was an outstanding success.

P.L. Bhandari



ARIES

March 21—April 20

Give equal importance to work and play, but better finish your pending chores. Perks and promotion are on the cards. Romance will be available in bits and parts. Your financial graph shows an upward trend. Unless absolutely essential, do not travel. Minor health ailments caused by over exertion and indulgence are possible. Do not neglect your home even if you are a working woman; if necessary, delegate responsibility.

TAURUS

April 21—May 20

Journey, ceremony, publicity, communications and success are the main trends of the week. It is time to negotiate and settle. It is also the right time for romance as your charm will be devastating. Those in business, commerce, commission and profession do tremendously well. You might suffer from some throat problems. Travel and communications make an ideal team.

GEMINI

May 21—June 20

The trend this week is in two directions. home, house and family, and buying, selling and a creative cycle. You will make the right financial moves; try to be firm and positive. Expect good news in romance. Either you visit folks or they descend upon you. Minor health problems like fever, boils, congestion and constipation are likely, but nothng to really bog you down.

CANCER

June 21—July 20

Work and rewards for crabs. It is time to sally forth and take a few risks if you want to. This week promises an exciting romance; the next week even better. Your hard work ensures money and assignments. The next week is important for travel, but it could very well begin now. Take time off to relax. There is no serious health problem at present.

LEO

July 21—August 21

Travel, trade, sales, collaborations and deals are favourably signified. Those in import-export, finance, sales, distribution and management do an excellent job of it. In romance, you will sing, dance, eat and charm your way through.



Ceremonies, meets, conferences and functions propel you into a trip. No major health hassles are indicated, but minor irritations and chronic complaints are possible

VIRGO

August 22—Sept 22

Funds, loans, transactions, mortgage and security will keep you mighty busy. Romance will be bittersweet, but most enjoyable and thrilling. In health matters there are too many irons in the fire for your comfort. Shifts and transfers are more than possible.

LIBRA

Sept 23—Oct 22

There will be considerable opposition to your plans, but you will hurdle over it, enjoy yourself, have sparkling company and make remarkable progress in your work. The mid-week is ideal for loans, funds, new ventures and enterprises. The moon's quarter guarantees an exciting romance. You will travel for business-cum-pleasure or others might drop in for the same reason.

SCORPIO

Oct 23—Nov 20

A job-hop, focus on work, promotion and perks, and relationships with subordinates and colleagues are the week's main trends. November 1 and 7 are ideal for visits, interviews and conferences, and that may require a trip. Immigration is possible, if so interested. Learn to relax and enjoy a bit if work tires you out. The home calls for alterations and improvements.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 21—Dec 20

Buying, selling, investing and a tremendous urge to achieve will keep you busy. Expect some opposition and ill-health. Always give your work the first priority, romance can wait. See that you do not run out of energy and ideas. Work might compel you to travel. Changes in the home and office are predicted.

CAPRICORN

Dec 21—Jan 19

Wine and roses, friendship and money, and travel and ceremonies constitute the week. Push with all you have. Those in publicity, sales, acting, media, and business make an absolute killing. Finance and romance make a lovable pair. It is time to move and reach out to people and places.

AQUARIUS

Jan 20—Feb 18

Dinners, parties, get-togethers, loans, funds, mortagage, lease and plenty of action are promised. Your passion will scream and have the last word. Take appropriate health precautions; it is time for a medical check-up. Travel is advisable and is vital as well. Expect visitors to drop in. In the family, there will be a meeting and a separation, paradoxically enough.

PISCES

Feb 19—March 20

Guard your health. Expect sweeter times in your job and profession. Pets and kids take control of your life. Romance is favourably signified. Gains will accrue in December, so work extra hard this month. No major health upsets if you exercise care and moderation. Travel is an important feature,

BIRTHDAYS

November 1

Those in hotels, fashions, acting, travel, trade, housing and interior decoration win laurels and will be much in demand. Friends and supporters will help you. This is the right birthyear to push forward with the blessings of elders and well-wishers. That is the astro way to make it.

November 2

Victory and triumph will crown your efforts. So, give it your best. Changes in the family and on the home front are absolutely certain. Be not afraid of opposition and upsets. Face them boldly. Journeys and ties prove lucky. A birthyear to pick up courage and have faith in the Almighty.

November 3

A possible wish-fulfilment for Sagittics. Those in travel, the arts, research and business do remarkably well. Romance blossoms and kids give joy. Be on the move.



From the desolate sea off Alaska to the rain forests of Papua New Guinea, the hunt for oil is now really on. **Michael Woods** looks at the global scenario following the Gulf crisis

Under deserts and icecaps, below mountains and oceans, the endless quest for more oil—lifeblood of the industrialised world—suddenly has taken on a new sense of urgency.

Long before the latest crisis in the Middle East, oil companies already had dispatched prospectors into some of the most remote regions of the globe.

The promise of new and more secure sources of oil led them from the snow-swept desolation of Alaska's Beaufort Sea to the steamy rain forests of Papua New Guinea.

"We're looking for gnats where we once used to look for elephants," says veteran oil explorer Bob Laing. Laing, chief geophysicist for Caltex Pacific Indonesia, echoes the words of others engaged in the quest.

In the 1950s and '60s oil companies were searching for bonanzas—new fields that contained at least a billion barrels of recoverable crude oil. But the trend has been toward discovery of smaller fields. Some petroleum geologists despair of ever again making huge strikes such as those of past decades.

Their pessimism emerges from current understanding of the geography and economics of oil exploration.

It teaches a bitter lesson to everyone hoping for major new oil strikes outside the Middle East, a region perennially torn by political instability and strife—and, for the foreseeable future, the world's principal repository for "black gold."

"Oil is our bounty from Allah," the late King Faisal said of the Arabian Peninsula in 1966. "Our coffers are full and we are thankful."

The most recent estimates of world oil reserves, made last January by the US department of energy, clearly indicate that Faisal, who ruled Saudi Arabia from 1964 to 1975, was wrong. The coffers are not just full, they are overflowing.

World crude oil reserves, deposits recoverable with existing technology, total 1,002.5 billion barrels—lies under the Persian Gulf trouble spots of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Iran. Most of the remaining one third is spread out among the Soviet Union, Venezuela, Mexico and the United States.



Experts agree that important new oil fields will be discovered in the future, bolstering world reserves But no expert predicts a discovery of the magnitude of Middle East fields

Deposits of oil and natural gas, to be sure, exist under every continent and ocean Many remote regions of the planet have not been thoroughly explored

Petroleum deposits formed from minute marine plants and animals that died millions of years ago Their carcasses settled to the ocean floor and mixed with sand, mud, and other sediment raining down from above Over the eons the sediments thickened, producing pressure and heat that transformed the organic matter into petroleum and natural gas

Much of the oil, which is naturally buoyant, seeped up onto the surface and was destroyed by exposure to air and sunlight But some became trapped under rocks that halted its ascent This oil accumulated in reservoirs, some of which remain undiscovered today

Big new oil deposits almost certainly will be found in traditional oil-producing areas, where governments sometimes are highly conservative in estimating actual reserves

In 1989, for instance, Saudi Arabia acknowledged that its actual reserves were 50 per cent larger than previously announced Likewise, experts say, there is great potential for discovery of rich new oil fields in the Soviet Union and China

The Soviet Union already is the world's largest oil producer, pumping about 11 million barrels a day—twice as much as Saudi Arabia Estimates put Soviet reserves at a relatively modest 58 billion barrels

But additional reserves are believed to exist in interior and continental-shelf areas of that vast country Fields in the Timan-Pechora region near the Arctic Circle, for example, may hold five billion barrels of oil, experts say Another region near the Caspian Sea may contain 20 billion to 25 billion barrels

Saddled with economic problems that have hindered development of such areas, the Soviets are turning to Western oil companies for help The Soviets recently signed cooperative agreements with Texaco, Chevron and the French oil company Elf Aquitaine The infusion of Western money and technology could result in significant new oil supplies in a few years

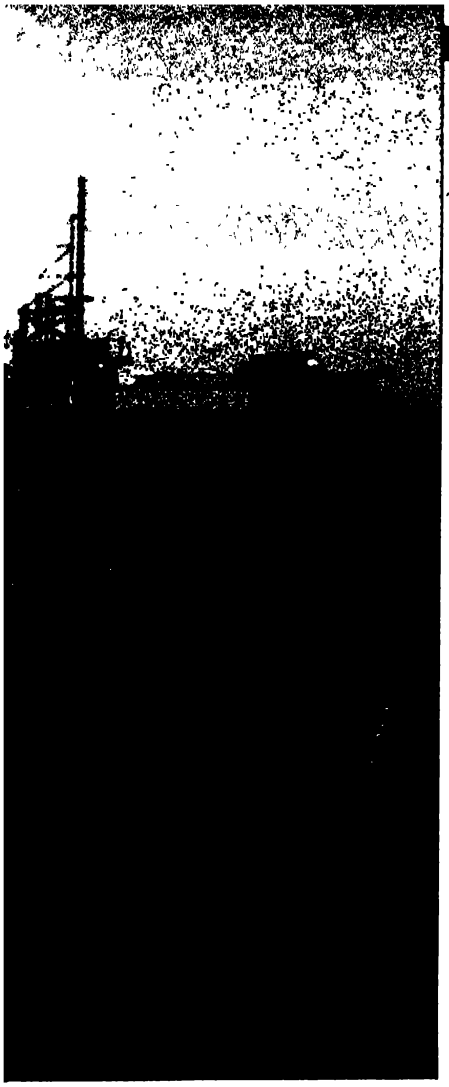
China, which now produces 2 8 million barrels of oil a day—as much as Iraq—likewise may have huge undiscovered petroleum reserves But exploration by foreign oil companies has been limited by political problems

New oil strikes also are likely in countries not usually regarded as energy producers A group of oil companies drilling off the northwest coast of Australia, for instance, recently struck a field that contains an estimated 100 million barrels of oil Other continental-shelf areas in Australia and New Zealand may contain similar reserves

In South America, the five Andean nations of Colombia, Peru, Chile, Ecuador and Bolivia already produce a total of almost one million barrels of oil daily New exploring efforts are under way in the region.

In Africa, oil companies are exploring or preparing to explore areas of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Chad

In Southeast Asia, several big Western oil companies are exploring or producing



on the Indonesia island of Sumatra, in Myanmar (formerly Burma) and even in Vietnam.

Geologic features that hint of enormous reservoirs of oil—perhaps multibillion-barrel fields—have made the rugged highlands of Papua New Guinea in the Pacific the focus of one of the most intensive searches. US companies such as Mobil and Chevron have sent exploratory teams into these backwaters, some of which are accessible only by helicopter.

Working in such areas is a herculean undertaking. Local labourers must first hack helicopter landing sites out of the wilderness. The helicopters haul in personnel and tons of supplies, including explosives to level the rugged terrain for drilling sites.

Next come bulldozers—flown in piece by piece and assembled—to clear away the debris. The drilling rigs arrive by the same route. It may take more than 100 helicopter landings to deliver all the components of a single rig.

The potential for discovery of major new oil reserves also exists in the United States—but at a risk that environmentalists view as too great.

The most promising site is the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which extends for about 200 miles along the Beaufort Sea in northeastern Alaska.

Energy Department studies indicate the area may contain anywhere from 600 million to about 9.2 billion barrels of oil. It thus could prove about equivalent to Alaska's Prudhoe Bay fields, where production already has begun to decline.

But concern about possible adverse ecological effects has led Congress and President Bush to keep the area off-limits to oil exploration.

How much more oil, recoverable with conventional technology, remains undiscovered in these and other areas of the world?

Nobody knows the answer. But 500 billion barrels—about twice the reserves of Saudi Arabia—is a frequently mentioned estimate. At current world petroleum producton levels of 61 million barrels a day even that woud last barely 23 years.

There are, however, vast reserves of other forms of petroleum that could help supply an energy-hungry world well into the 21st century.

Contrary to popular belief, petroleum occurs not just as a liquid but in solid form in certain rocks and sands. Known deposits of these materials in North America contain more oil than all the Persian Gulf countries combined.

Trapped in rock called oil shale underneath Colorado, Utah and Wyoming are an estimated 600 billion barrels of recoverable oil. Oil shale contains kerogen, a waxy substance that yields oil when heated.

In the 1970s oil shale was envisioned as the centrepiece of an American synthetic-fuels industry that would reduce dependence on foreign oil. But today deposits remain virtually untouched.

A single company, Unocal Corp. of Los Angeles, is extracting the oil. Its plant, located near Parachute, Colorado, processes only enough shale to produce about 7,000 barrels of oil a day.

Extracting oil from shale takes an enormous toll on the environment and gulps vast volumes of water.

The oil industry's lack of interest in shale is strictly economic. It costs more than $40 a barrel to extract oil from the rock. Conventional crude oil was selling for less than $20 a barrel before Iraq invaded Kuwait. The shale plant thus relies on a federal subsidy.

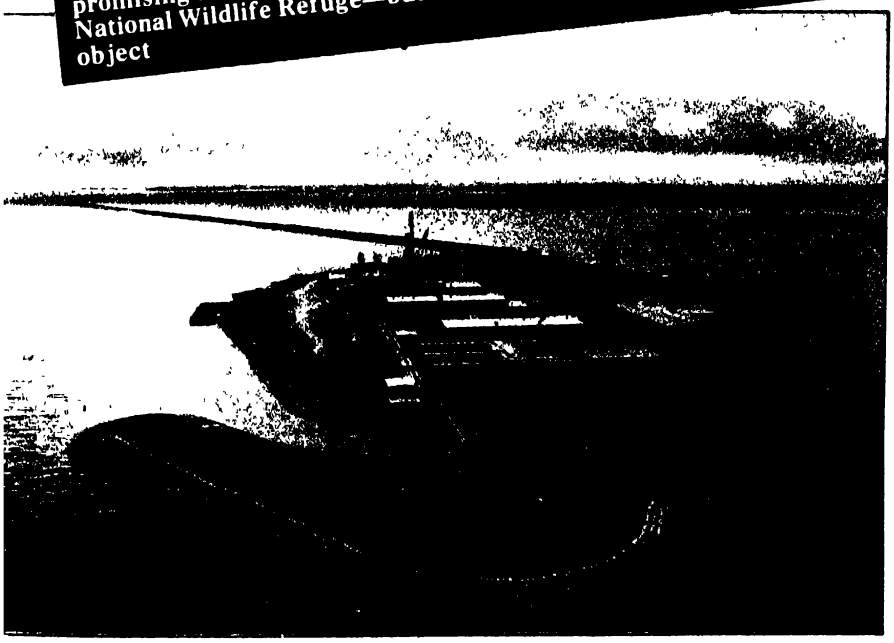
Low prices for conventional oil also have hampered development of oil from petroleum-soaked "tar sands."

The world's biggest expanses of tar sands stretch along the Athabasca River in Alberta, Canada. The deposits contain at least 300 billion barrels of oil that could be recovered by mining and heating the sand.

Several US and Canadian companies are producing about 60,000 barrels of oil a day from the Athabasca sands. Low world oil prices have hindered their full exploitation. The extraction process is economically competitive only when world oil prices are more than about $25 a barrel.

(National Geographic New Service)

An example of state-of-the-art offshore drilling is the Endicott field, a man-made island extracting 100,000 barrels of crude oil a day from the Beaufort Sea off northeastern Alaska. Another promising source of Alaskan oil is the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge—but environmentalists strongly object







The Beijing Games are over and home is the champion. Golden Girl **P.T. Usha** may not have gone in a blaze of glory, but she will always remain up there in the annals of Indian athletics. Lensman UTPAL SORKAR caught some glimpses of the woman behind the runner

OFF TH





TRAC



Is Cuttack really 1000 years old?

Sudhansu Mohanty wonders

While the origin of Job Charnock's Calcutta, 300 years ago, is beyond doubt, the founding of Cuttack is fraught with uncertainty and an indubitable distortion of history. The question that should confound anyone with a sense of history is simple: Is it historical to turn a Nelson's eye to the recent researches, which with unimpeachable evidence traces Cuttack's foundation to the 12th century instead of 989 AD. Unfortunately, the city's claim to millennium status has been based with cunning deliberateness on an obsolete document called the *Madalapanji*, the temple chronicle of Jagannath Temple.

The recent TV documentary on Cuttack city's millennium celebration was to say the least, a sentimental run-through of its "history," sadly bereft of that historical legitimacy which ought to have been made the basis for deciding upon its origin The historian with remarkable insouciance at historical documents, trotted out the two reasons why the founding of Cuttack can be traced back to 989 AD. the *Madalapanji* speaks about its founding by one Raja Nrupa Kesari in that year, and second, because of its location between the two rivers, Mahanadi and Kathjori, the necessity of constructing the embankments on the two rivers by one Raja Markatkesari, Nrupa Kesari's successor.

The logic is flawed because it is invalid. No historian true to his profession today accepts *Madalapanji's* averments without a pinch of salt The distortions of historical details as enumerated by the *Madalapanji* are legion. There are lapses in chronology, the rulers whose names and numbers are often confused, and the contents about them which appear a later addition. This is largely due to the fact that the *panji*, contrary to its pretension and popular belief, is not a running document maintained over a period, written piecemeal, with chapter upon chapter added with the passing of time Of late, it has been established by historians without a shadow of doubt that the jugglery of historical facts embodied in it is the result of it being written sometime in the 16th century AD as a one time work This is apparent not only from the language of the *panji* which is the usage of the 16th century but from the phantasm indulged in it about certain kings which at once are at variance with history reconstructed from epigraphic records.

Unfortunately, the initial reconstruction of medieval Orissan history by British historians like Stirling and Hunter drew heavily from *Madalapanji*. But to be fair to them, their studies conducted as it were in the 19th century had literally no other sources to draw upon, and they made use of the *panji* though with serious misgivings about its authenticity. With the benefit of hindsight it can perhaps be said that the 19th century historiography would have endorsed this history writing.

Not so, certainly in the late 20th. For to such study has been brought a plethora of epigraphic findings which has with undoubted certitude upset the 19th century historical applecart. This has not only corrected the chronology which on the basis of the *Madalapanji* was found to be awry, but leavened up the details of history of the medieval period. R.D. Banerjee's *History of Orissa* represents the first attempt at history writing on scientific lines. This prompted Hare Krishna Mahatab to rescind his earlier views.

The emendments to chronology and facts were many and varied; a simplistic modification could be cited here. Whereas the *Madalapanji* had listed 23 Ganga kings who ruled Orissa between the 11th and 15th century, copper plate inscriptions pointed to a mere 15. Apart from restructuring the chronology, it led to an inevitable straightening of facts and details. These discoveries based on modern researches, made *Madalapanji*'s content, chronology and veracity all the more suspect in the eyes of the genuine historian.

This background information on *Madalapanji* and history writing is relevant as the attempt to confer millennium status on Cuttack is hooked to this document. The British historian Stirling in his article *Orissa. Chronology and History* published in 1822 credited one Raja Nrupa Kesari of the Kesari dynasty as the founder of a city on the site of the modern city of Cuttack, about 989 AD

Recent studies have shown the speciousness of this claim Far from Cuttack being established as a capital-city by Nrupa Kesari, it is doubtful if any ruler by that name ever ruled Orissa, circa 989 AD. History reconstructed from recent findings suggests one Dharmaratha who ruled between 980 to 1005 AD. Even details about this ruler are still not available. This is a period of Orissan history which is still shrouded in mystery.

The veil of uncertainty however is lifted from the period when the Gangas held sway Anantavarman Chodaganga, a scion of the Eastern Ganga dynasty was instrumental in the conquest of the whole of Orissa and founded the Ganga dynasty which ruled in an unbroken chain of succession till 1435 AD He ruled from 1078 to 1150 AD and his dynasty is credited with some of the brilliant architectural remains of today· Konark's Sun Temple, Puri's Jagannath Temple, and many others

Modern historians, namely K.C. Panigrahi and N.K. Sahu have written about Anantavarman Chodaganga shifting his ancestral capital from Kalinganagara, identified with modern Mukkalingam, to *Kataka* which was more centrally located in his vast empire. This happened around 1135 AD. Doubtless Chodaganga built numerous forts in and around his capital-city, at Jajpur, Amaravati, Choudwar, Cuttack and Sarangagarh. But in view of the fact that etymologically *kataka* refers to a canton-



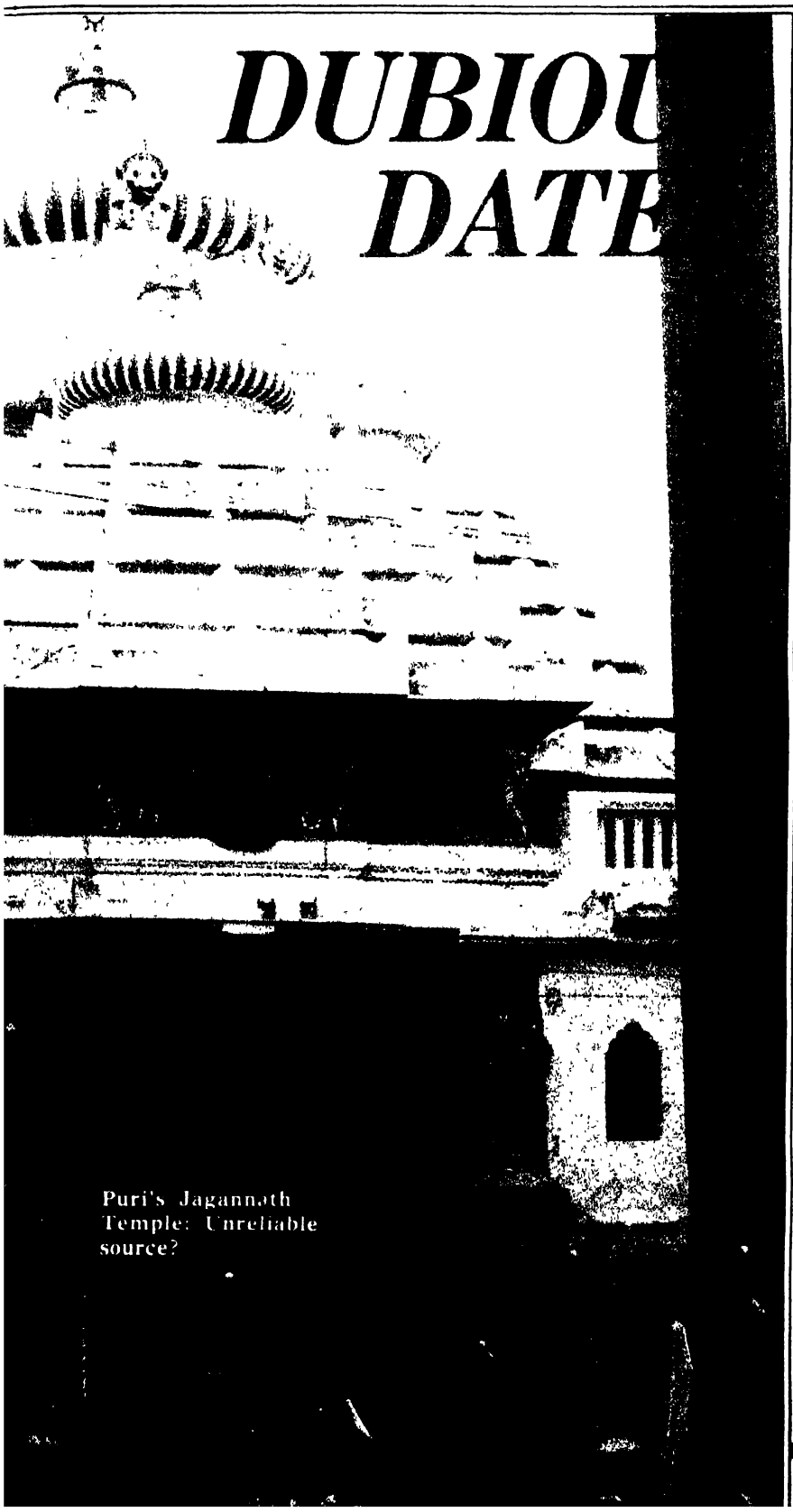
ment and a city and since it was was suffixed to all places boasting of a fort then as evidenced in Choudwar kataka, Sarangagarh-kataka, Varanasi-kataka, Barabatikataka, it is doubtful if Chodaganga's capital refers to the present Cuttack city.

It is more likely that Chodaganga's capital Kataka refers to Sarangagarh (near modern day Baranga) on the river Kathjori, not far from present day Cuttack. It was perhaps Anangabhima III, the sixth ruler of the Ganga dynasty who constructed the fort at Barabati and founded his capital at modern Cuttack. Anangabhima III ruled from 1211 to 1238 AD and Cuttack was obviously founded sometime during this period. The Nagari Plate of Anangabhima III refers to the erection of a massive Jagannath Temple within the fort at *Abhinava Varanasi kataka* in the Saka era 1152, which corresponds to 1230 AD. Since the king considered himself a devout servant of Lord Jagannath, it is plausible that he would have ordered construction of the temple immediately after shifting his capital to the new site. Unfortunately this temple at Cuttack has not come down to us; it was most likely demolished by Firuz Tughluq during his invasion of Orissa.

In view of the foregoing it maybe seen that the modern city of Cuttack was established as a capital-city by Anangabhima III in the first half of the 13th century. It would be hazardous of us to exactly spell out the year when Cuttack was founded as the capital-city; with the excavation of the mound at the Barabati fort—the work undertaken by the Archaelogical Survey of India—perhaps some tell-tale details of history would be available which might lead to chronological accuracies and niceties.

In the eyes of the namby pamby, it may perhaps appear blasphemous for one born and educated in Cuttack and who taught History at Cuttack's Ravenshaw College to question the very historical basis of its founding as a capital-city. Traducers would be apt to berate this point of view as unbecoming and an indulgence in the old game of nitpicking; a spoilsport in this hour of millennium celebration. A niggling question of conscience though prompts one to voice one's reservation at such cavalier treatment of history. Twisting historical facts in the face of evidence to the contrary is reprehensible to say the least, and to base one's chronology on an antediluvian document like *Madalapanji* reeks of an obsolete outlook on the one hand, and a wilful winking at history and recent research on the other.

History should not be made a handmaid of sentimentalists, propagandists and administrators. Nor should it be trifled with to pamper the uncertain ego of those who relish to vicariously ride high as questionable jockeys. Tinkering with history has its own inherent hazards. And when such "misadventure" has apparent design to steal the thunder of such parallel celebrations of other cities notably Calcutta, the objective can be only sinister and mischievous. While opinions are free, facts should be sacred for all intents and purposes, as the liberal cliche would have us believe. ■



Puri's Jagannath Temple: Unreliable source?



Moon Moon Sen and Ranjit Mullick in *Chakranta*

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

• **Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917)—12, 3, 6, 9

Mahesh Bhatt's tribute to young love, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy The music is by Nadeem Shravan

• **Agneekaal:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849), Crown (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 244822), Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808), Moonlight (T C Dutta Street, 254956), Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522)

A tale of mass revolt, starring Jeetendra, Raj Babbar Madhuri Dixit, Sonu Walia and Sadashiv Amrapurkar

• **College Girl (A):** Lotus (S N Banerjee Road, 242664)— 4 shows

Directed by Surendra Gupta, the cast includes Virendra Singh, Amita Nangiya, Pankaj Berry Sudhir Pandey Ajit Bhaswani and Tiku Tulsiana

• **Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141)- noon

One of the recent big hits starring Aamir Khan and Madhuri Dixit The film is directed by Indra Kumar and the music is by Anand Milind

• **Jamai Raja:** Paradise (Bentinck Street 285442) Gem (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 249828) Grace (Mahatma Gandhi Road 391090) Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road 365108) Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270) Indira (Indra Roy Road, 471757), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417), Malancha (Regent Park) Ragini (Beliaghata Main Road 363264)

Directed by A Kodandarami Reddy and with music by Laxmi kant Pyarelal the film stars Anil Kapoor Madhuri Dixit, Hema Malini and Shakti Kapoor

• **Maalamaal:** Majestic (Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, 242266), Krishna (T C Dutta Street, 250437)

Directed by Kewal Sharma and with music by Annu Malik, the chief attractions of this film are Naseeruddin Shah, Aditya Pancholi, Mandekini, Poonam Dhillon and Amjad Khan

• **Pratibandh:** Metro (Chowringhee Road 280141)—3 shows

A film by Ravi Raja starring Chiranjeevi and Juhi Chawla The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

• **Shesh Naag:** Elite (S N Banerjee Road 241383) –4 shows

Directed by K R Reddy and with music by Laxmikant Pyarelal the main cast includes Rekha Jeetendra Rishi Kapoor Mandakini Madhavi and Danny

Bengali Films

• **Aasrita:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani 553413) Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561) Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 474686)—1, 4, 7

Mithu Mukherjee, Kanwaljeet, Manoj, Shashi Puri, Prema Narayan and Manjula comprise the main cast of this film, directed by Chandra Barot The music is by Hridaynath Mangeshkar

• **Balidaan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200)—3, 6, 9, Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 350680)—2 30 5 30 8 30, Ujjala (Russa Road, 478666)—3, 6, 9

Anil Ganguly's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Raakhee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar Papiya Adhikari, Nayana Das, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee Abhishek Chatterjee debutante Rupali and Tapas Paul The music is by Bappi Lahiri

• **Chakranta:** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani 558080)—2 5, 7 45

Ranit Mullick and Moon Moon Sen are the lead pair Others co starring are Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury Biplab Chatterjee, Ruma Guhathakurta Rabi Ghosh, Sumanta Mukherjee, Amrik Singh Arora and Abhijit The film is directed by Amal Sur and the music is by Shantimoy Mukherjee

• **Debata:** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753) Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road 473462) Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740) 2 45 5 30, 8 15

Victor Banerjee Debashree

Anil Kapoor and Madhuri Dixit in *Jamai Raja*





Sreela Majumder and Master Rintu in *Monmayuree*

Roy, Dilip Roy Anup Kumar Kali Banerjee Indrani Halder Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the music is by R D Burman

• **Monmayuree** Sree (Bidhan Sarani 551515) 3 6 8 45 Prachi (Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road 271282) 2 5 7 45

Moushumi Chatterjee Tapas Paul Deepankar De Sreela Majumder Subhendu Chatterjee Lily Chakraborty Sunil Mukherjee and Master Rintu are the chief attractions of this film directed by Biresh Chatterjee

Special Events

28 October-3 November 3 pm to 8 pm

Nirmal Chandra Roy will hold his paintings exhibition in the West Gallery

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road 284302)

29 October 6.30 pm

West Bengal Natya Academy presents Girish Chandra Ghosh's play *Balidan*

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road 289978)

31 October 6.30 pm

Sarathi presents *Biraha Milaner Gaan*— a programme of Tagore songs by Shantidev Ghosh and Suchitra Mitra

At Mahajati Sadan (Chittaranjan Avenue 388009)

2 November 6.30 pm

Padatik Repertory presents the Hindi play *Baarish Hai* a translation of Richard Nash's *The Rain Maker* Directed by Rodney Marriott and designed by Christopher Barreca the cast includes Rajaram Yagnik Shakil Khan B M Hada, Sanchayita Bhattacharya Vinay Sharma Mahmud Alam and Arun Sharma

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road 284302)

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Calcutta-Delhi Arr (1) AI-132/AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai Dep (2) AI-101/AI-743 at 0240

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr (5) AI-306 at 1830, Dep (5) AI-306 at 1930

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (5) AI-309 at 1825, Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (6) AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London. Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-135 at 0500

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta. Arr (1) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta: Arr (4) SU-537 at 1525

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow. Dep (4) SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1 4) RJ-184 at 0730

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep (1, 4) RJ-181 at 0830

Calcutta-Singapore Dep (2) SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep (5) SQ-420 at 1315

Singapore-Calcutta Arr (2) SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr (5) SQ 420 at 1215

Calcutta-Bangkok: Dep (2, 4, 7) IC-231 at 1050, Dep (1, 3, 6) TG-314 at 1355, Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-232 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6) TG-313 at 1240

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6) IC-843 at 0755, Dep (6) IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115, Dep (6) IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep (2, 4, 6, 7) IC-247 at 1600, Dep (1, 5) RA-214 at 1530, Arr (2, 4, 6, 7) IC-248 at 1915, Arr (1, 5) RA-213 at 1430

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep (1, 7) IC-223 at 1340, Dep (2, 4, 6) IC-223 at 1640, Dep (2, 3, 5, 6) BG-092 at 1050, Dep (4) BG-092 at 1130, Dep (2, 3, 6) BG-094 at 1620 and BG-096 at 1940 Dep (5) BG-098 at 1820

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr (1, 7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-224 at 1840, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) BG-091 at 1010, Arr (2, 3, 6) BG-093 at 1540, and BG-095 at 1910, Arr (5) BG-097 at 1740

Calcutta-Chittagong. Dep (6) IC-225 at 1330, Dep (2, 5) BG-698 at 1415

Chittagong-Calcutta Arr (6) IC-226 at 1550, Arr (2, 5) BG-697 at 1330

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Printed here is the regular Indian Airlines schedule. This is, however, subject to change. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-1320 at 1300, Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240, Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935

Bombay-Calcutta: Arr (5) AI-306 at 1815

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily) IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855, Arr (daily) IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-265 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150.

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-271 at 1500, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-272 at 2025

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1, 2, 4, 6) IC-542 at 0730, Arr (1) IC-541 at 0945 and Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-541 at 1310

Calcutta-Guwahati. Dep (daily) IC-229 at 1250, Arr (daily) IC-230 at 1550

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) IC-201 at 1130, Arr (1, 3, 5, 6) IC-202 at 1245, Arr (2, 4) IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta. Dep (3 5, 7) IC-213 at 1030, Arr (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur. Dep (1 3, 5, 6) IC-219 at 1120, Arr (1, 3, 5, 6) IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta-Bagdogra Dep (daily) IC-2211 at 1100 Arr (daily) IC-222 at 1320

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-241 at 0700, Dep (2 4) IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3, 5, 6, 7) IC-243 at 0600, Dep (1) IC-243 at 1400, Arr (daily) IC-242 at 0900 Arr (2, 4) IC-244 at 1600, Arr (3, 5, 6, 7) IC-244 at 1020, Arr (1) IC-244 at 1600

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep (daily) IC-255 at 0600 Arr (daily) IC-256 at 1030

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep (3 5, 6) IC-269 at 1710, Arr (3, 5 6) IC-270 at 2040

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep (1, 2, 7) IC-277 at 1745, Arr (1, 2, 7) IC-278 at 2215

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep (2, 4) IC-285 at 0545, Arr (2, 4) IC-286 at 1015

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep (1) IC- 287 at 0545 Arr (1) IC-288 at 1235

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep (1 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-410 at 0830, Arr (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-409 at 1510

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal. Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-727 at 0530 Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-728 at 1120

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep (7) PF-729A at 0550 Arr (7) PF-730A at 1050

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta. Dep (1 3 5 7) PF-701 at 1140, Arr (1 3 5 7) PF-702 at 1615

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashahar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-729 at 0550 Arr (2, 4 6) PF-730 at 1040

Calcutta-Silchar-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar-Calcutta Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-701 at 1100 Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-702 at 1715

Calcutta-Rourkela. Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600 Arr (1 3, 5) PF-716 at 0855

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu. Dep (2, 6) PF-709 at 0815 Arr (2, 6) PF-710 at 1840

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep (4) PF-709 at 0815, Arr (4) PF-710 at 1750

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep (7) PF-709 at 0600, Arr (7) PF-710 at 1705

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar-Guwahati: Dep (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-

705 at 0915, Arr (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-706 at 1620
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-729A at 1130, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-730A at 1410

Calcutta-Aizawl-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Patna: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-725 at 0550, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF- 717 at 0550; Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-718 at 0745
Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep (2 4, 6, 7) PF-707 at 0600, Arr (2, 4 6, 7) PF-708 at 0655

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

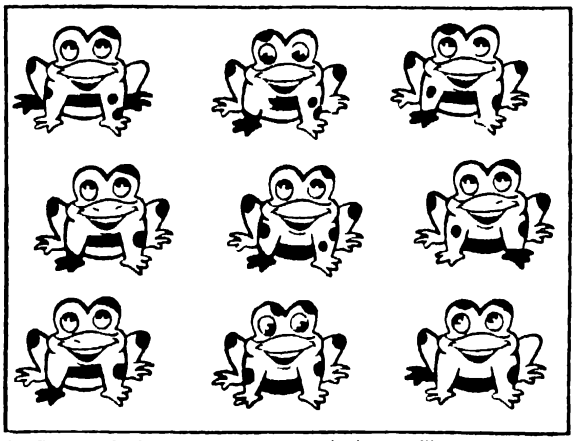
Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep—Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express** Dep—Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4 15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7-20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18 15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15 45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5 30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10 30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6 00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15 40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7 30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7 30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Saral Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Lalgola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Arrival Time	Dn
6003	20-45	**Madras Mail**	6 45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14-45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr—Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21-45	8012
8005	21-40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22-15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19-20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7 45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep—Except Saturday Arr—Except Sunday	11 20	8018
2602	22 35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22 15	—
—	14 10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13-45	2601
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22 35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	—
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr—Tues & Fri	13-45	2651
2674	22 35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
—	14 10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES. For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).

JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



FIND TWINS! Two of this group of nine smiling frogs look enough alike to be twins Point these two out, if you can

• HEADS UP! Beware of me behead! Don t look listen instead! Behead again to find what Noah left behind Find three words to comply

Talk Talk Talk Walk !

1 COIN
2 _
3 _ _ _ _ _ _
4 _ _ _ _
5 _ _ _
6 _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

ADD A LETTER STEP WORDS!
Beginning with the word COIN add one letter in each step and rearrange letters as necessary to form new words in accordance with the following definitions

1 Item of change (already in place)
2 Energy or appetite bracer
3 Public sign
4 Took note of public sign above
5 Tenet or tenets of belief
6 East or west, for instance

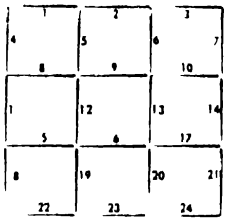
Remember one letter is added to each word

Coin join notice noticed doctrine direction order

• **PICK-ME-UP!** A batch of toothpicks—24 to be exact—are required for this exercise Place toothpicks in the configuration below, to form squares (14 in all, of assorted sizes)

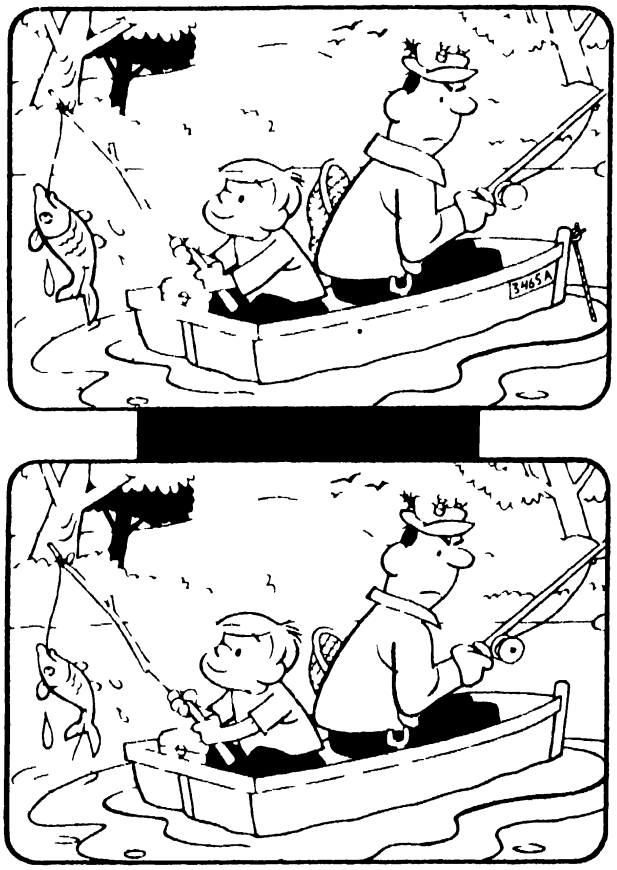
Now, see if you can remove six of the toothpicks and have just three complete squares remain

How can this be done?



Remove toothpicks 5 6 8 13 15 and 16

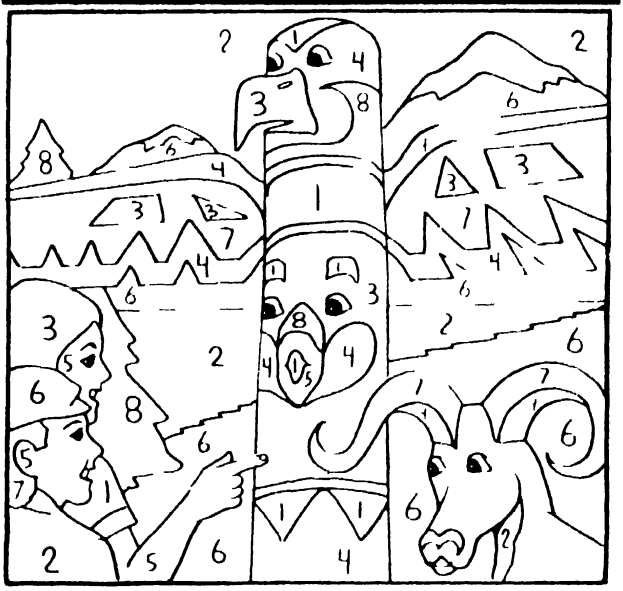
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Fish is smaller 2 Sleeve is shorter 3 Net is moved 4 Collar is smaller 5 Boat number is missing 6 Anchor rope is missing

FUNSPOT



EYE SITE! Hey here s looking at you — visitors totem and nosy bighorn sheep Add colors 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh tones 6—Lt green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk green

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

OUTBOARD

- - - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible anagram Road boat



QUIZ □ Neil O'Brien

"The Battle of Britain celebrated 50 years this year Please write about it," says B R Rao, Calcutta

The Battle of Britain, fought out between the air forces of Britain and Ger many, was one of the deci sive battles of the Second World War It lasted from July 10 to September 27 1940

The German air force, or Luftwaffe, made a series of small-scale air attacks on Britain during June 1940, after the fall of France but on July 10 they increased the offensive, sending over 64 aircraft (Messerschmitt 109s and Dorniers) in two formations, apparently with the object of attacking shipping off Dover The British fighters, Supermarine Spitfires and Hawker Hurricanes, which engaged them, bore the brunt of the entire battle This engagement was followed by other encounters, mostly near Channel ports, during which Dover itself and many merchant ships and small naval vessels off the Channel coast were damaged

The next phase of the battle was a long, sustained effort by the Luftwaffe to cripple Fighter Command On August 15 the British fighters flew 974 sorties and fought five major actions during the day The Germans then switched their attack to London with a night bombing raid, followed by intensive attacks on Thames estuary airfields The *blitzkrieg* proper (German for 'lightning war') began on September 7, when the Germans succeeded in reaching the Thames-side docks and starting fires On that day about 400 German aircraft were used, and the RAF and anti-aircraft artillery destroyed or disabled 53 of them Low clouds and intermittent rain interrupted the operations, although the civilian population was kept on the alert by a series of small raids under cover of cloud

On September 15 the climax of the battle was reached After some preliminary patrols the Germans launched two major attacks—against London and against dockyard installations and other targets in the area of Southampton and Portland The battle, which spread over the greater part of southern England, continued through the morning and afternoon against a bright lightly clouded sky At the time the Royal Air Force claimed to have destroyed 185 of the total enemy force of over 900 aircraft , though in fact enemy losses, including those shot down by anti-aircraft guns, amounted only to 56 The Royal Air Force lost only 27 aircraft in the entire day's fighting It was thought in England at the time that, had these attacks succeeded, an invasion by sea would have been attempted The battle ended on September 27 when 850 German aircraft attacked in four massive raids Twenty-five British squadrons engaged the enemy, some of them more than once, and the losses they inflicted were sufficient to deter the Germans from attempting attacks of such magnitude for the rest of the war

The Battle of Britain is of historical importance as being the first clear-cut contest between a defensive and an offensive air force, both working independently of the army or navy. Britain had the advantage of well-developed Rader, of which the Germans were ignorant until too late, a well-trained system of observer posts, and a continually improving force of anti-aircraft artillery It also had two types of fighter aircraft of high technical merit On the other hand, it was greatly out numbered and desperate efforts had to be made by the Ministry of Aircraft Production to maintain supplies of aircrafts and equipment during the actual fighting

The German attacking forces were well handled and their tactical methods were ingenious, but they had to operate far from their bases Their bombers, although fast in comparison with other bombers of the time, had to be escorted by fighters if they were to penetrate the British defences. But the fighters, either because they were working far from their bases and had to carry heavy loads of fuel, or because their performance in speed and climb was inadequate, failed to hold off the attacks of the British fighters The German fighters usually flew in formation well above the bomber formations, and dived to attack the British fighters as these approached the bombers The RAF replied by sending up layer formations, the upper layer to engage the fighters while a lower layer dealt with the bombers. The fighting proved yet again that the movable guns of a bomber are no match for the fixed guns of a fighter.

CBS

***11th Question*: What is the 'Mango Census'? (Indrajit Ghosh, c/o. L.I.C. of India, Raghunathganj Branch, P.O. Raghunathganj, Dist. Murshidabad, PIN 742 225).**

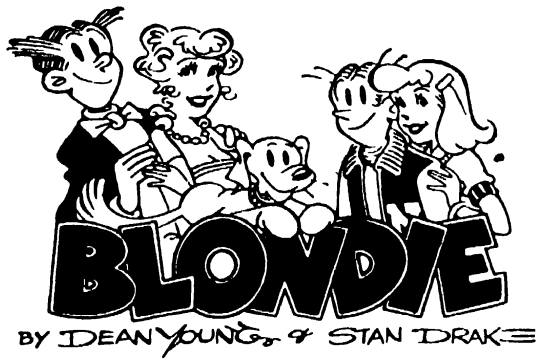
***Ans:* At Similpal National Park, Orissa, the counting of elephants is performed when the animals gather in a lonely part of the forest for consuming mangoes in April.**

QUESTIONS

1. Who is the 431st and last victim of Sir Richard Hadlee? (Rachana Gambhir, Calcutta 9)
2. What is the 'blackboard jungle'? (Tanmoy Dutta, Calcutta 6)
3. Who played the role of Ghatotkach, son of Bhim and Hidimba, in the TV serial *Mahabharat*? (Manoj Kumar Singh, Hazaribagh)
4. Nadia Comaneci was the first gymnast to score a perfect 10 in the Olympics. Who was the first to do so at an Asiad? (Mohan Kumar Agarwal, Bargarh 28)
5. What was a griffin? (Pradip Kumar Das, Calcutta-65)
6. What is meant by auld-farrant? (Sheikh Abdur Rab, Burdwan 51)
7. Which soccer star said, "A penalty is a cowardly way to score"? (P. Surendra, Nawadah 10)
8. What is a loss leader in business? (Othello Mazoomdaar, Boral)
9. Of the Nazi war criminals still believed to be at large, Martin Bormann is number one on the wanted list. Who is number two ? (J. Om Prakash Rao, Jharsuguda 2)
10. Italy was invaded by an army of "Scippatori" during the recent World Cup. Who were they? (Gaurab Bhattacharjee, Kharagpur 2)

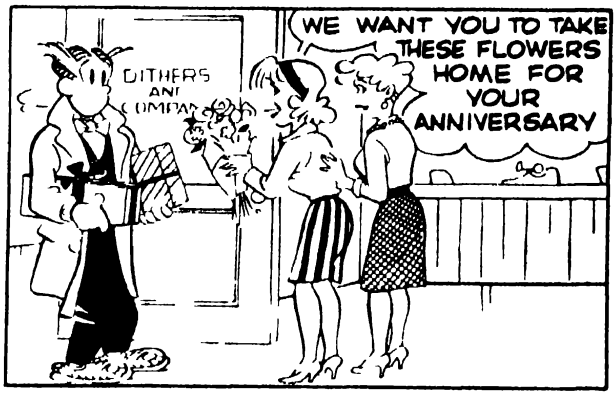
ANSWERS

1. Devon Malcolm (England). He was claimed on the last ball bowled by Hadlee in his test career.
2. A school in which discipline and lawlessness exist.
3. Razak Khan.
4. Wu Jiani (China) on the balance beam (New Delhi, 1982).
5. A mythical animal with the body of a lion and the head of an eagle.
6. Wise beyond one's years.
7. Pele. His 1000th goal came from the spot.
8. An article deliberately sold at a loss for the purpose of drawing customers to other articles.
9. Heinrich Muller, Chief of Gestapo.
10. An army of pickpockets.

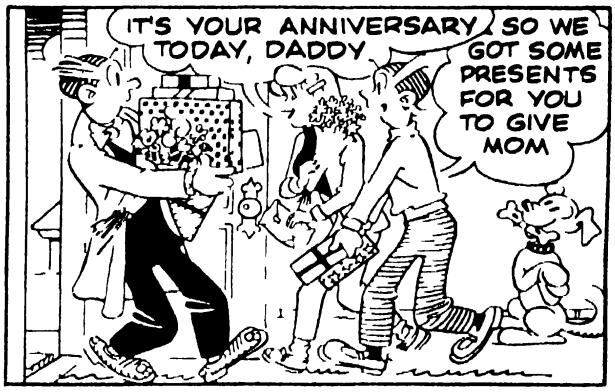


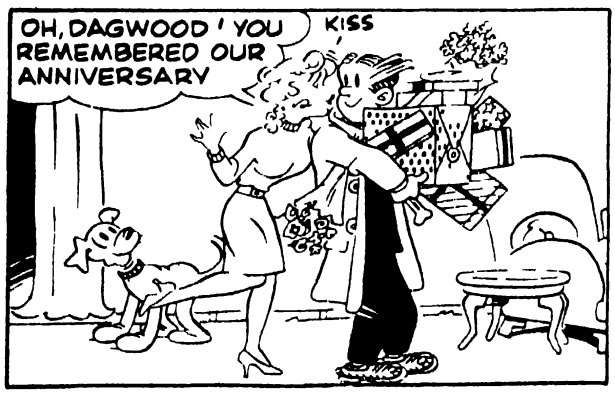




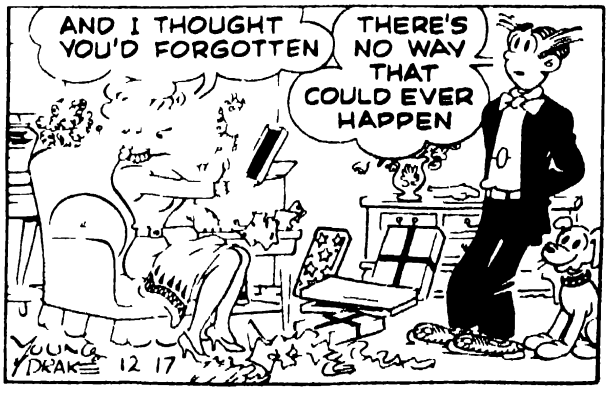




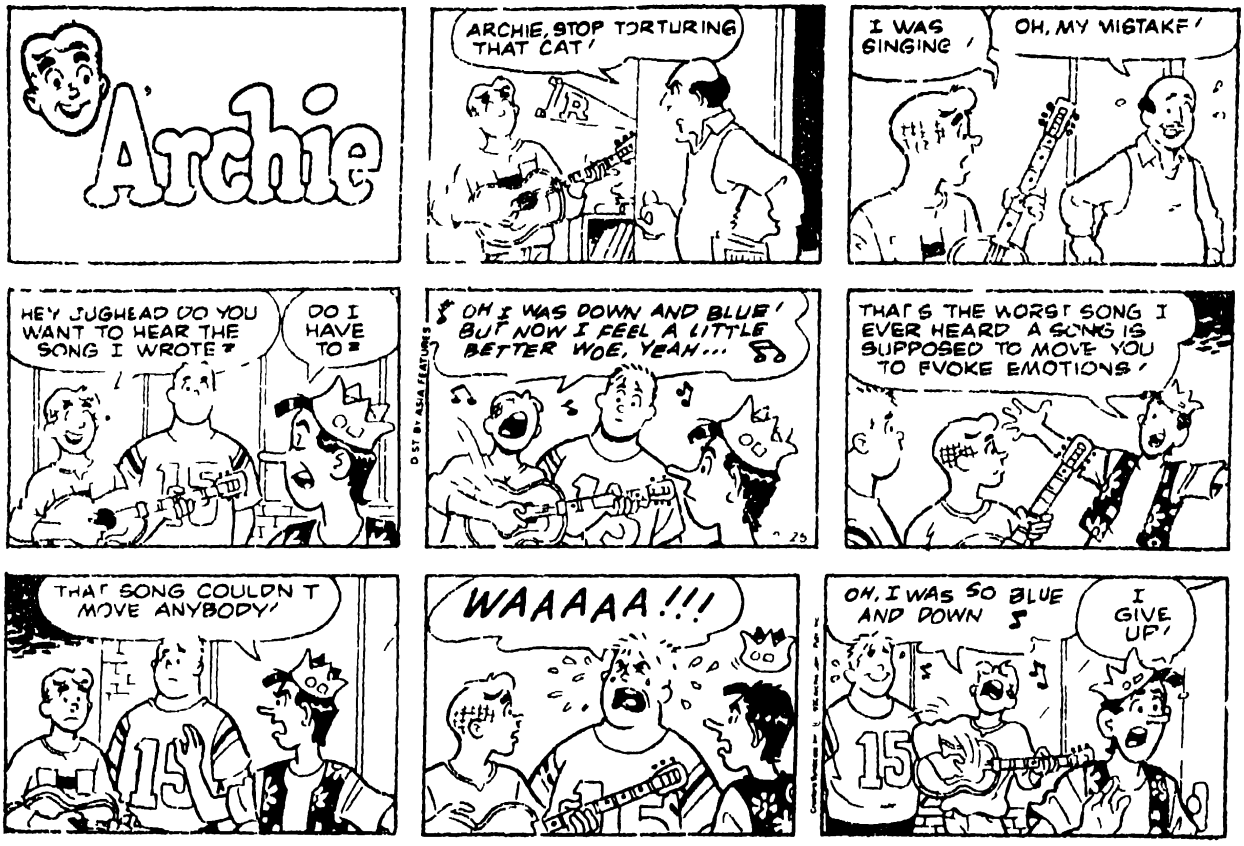




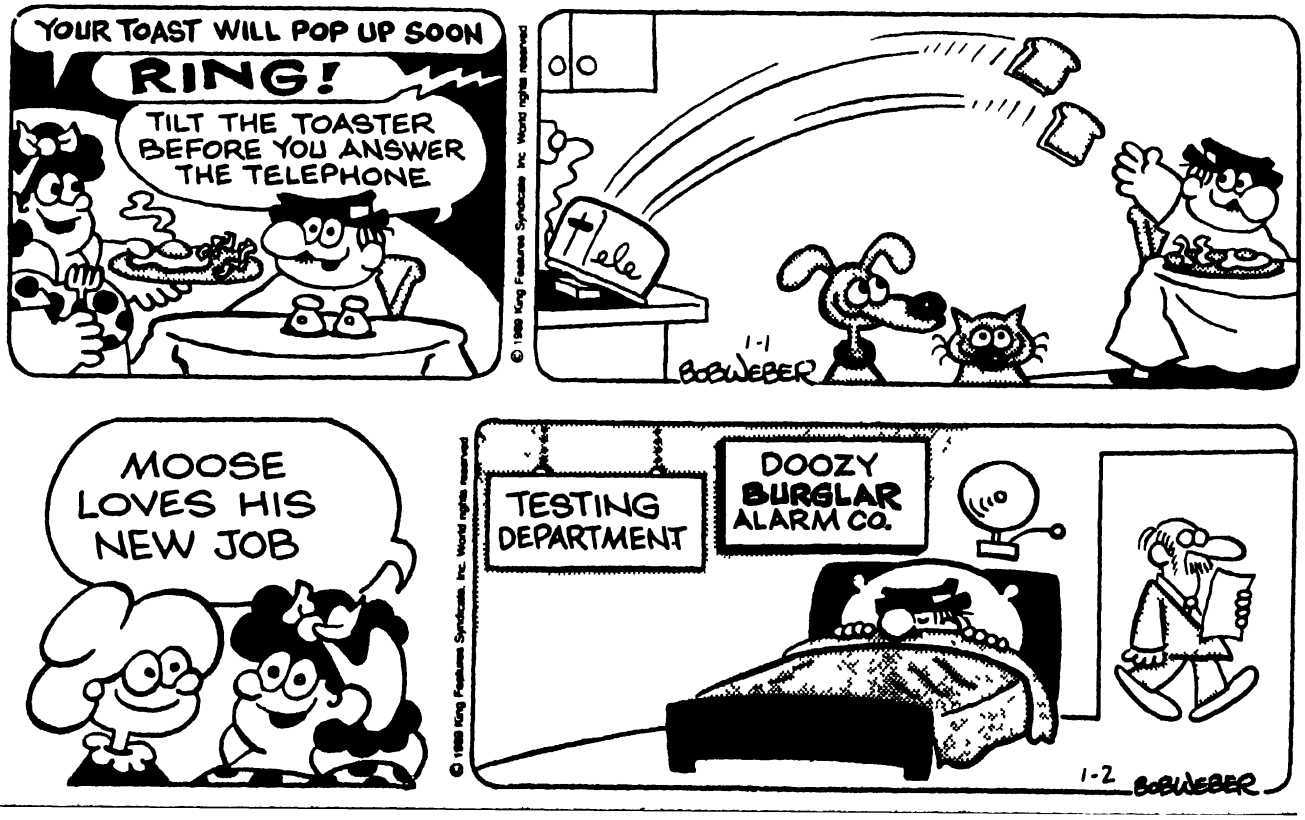
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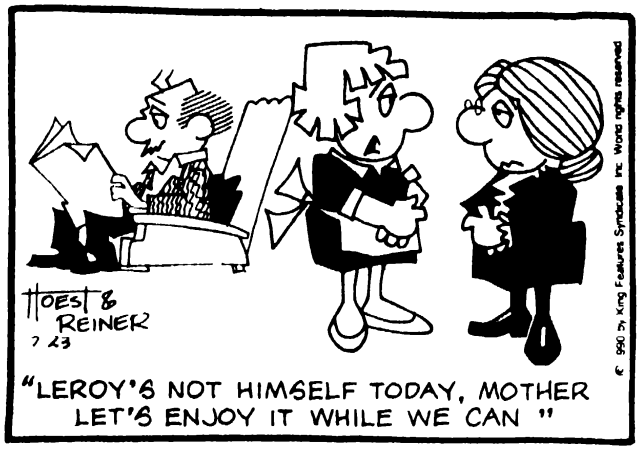
ARCHIE



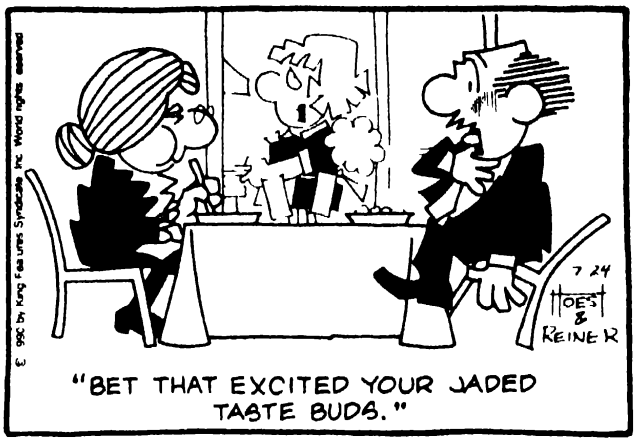
MOOSE MILLER By Bob Weber



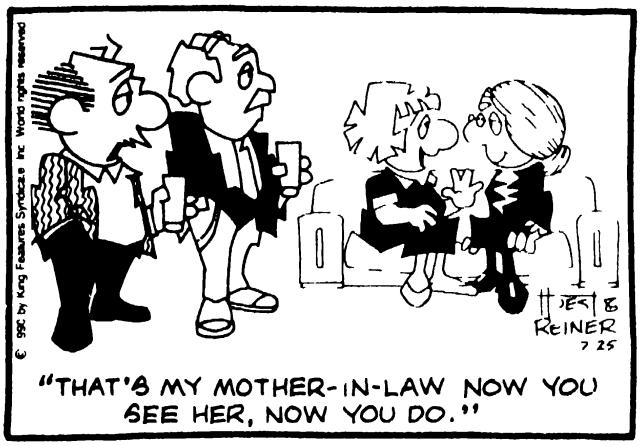
THE LOCKHORNS



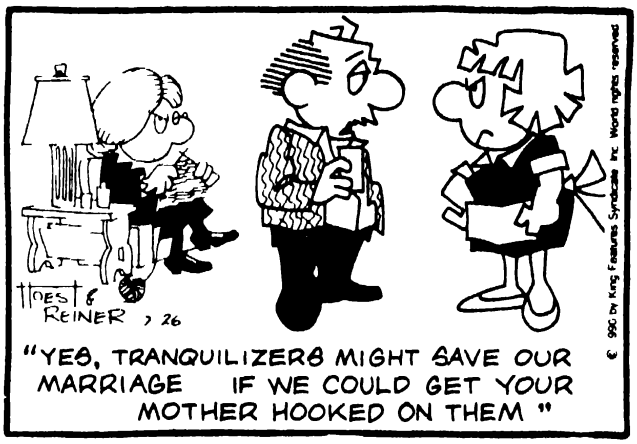
"LEROY'S NOT HIMSELF TODAY, MOTHER LET'S ENJOY IT WHILE WE CAN "



"BET THAT EXCITED YOUR JADED TASTE BUDS."

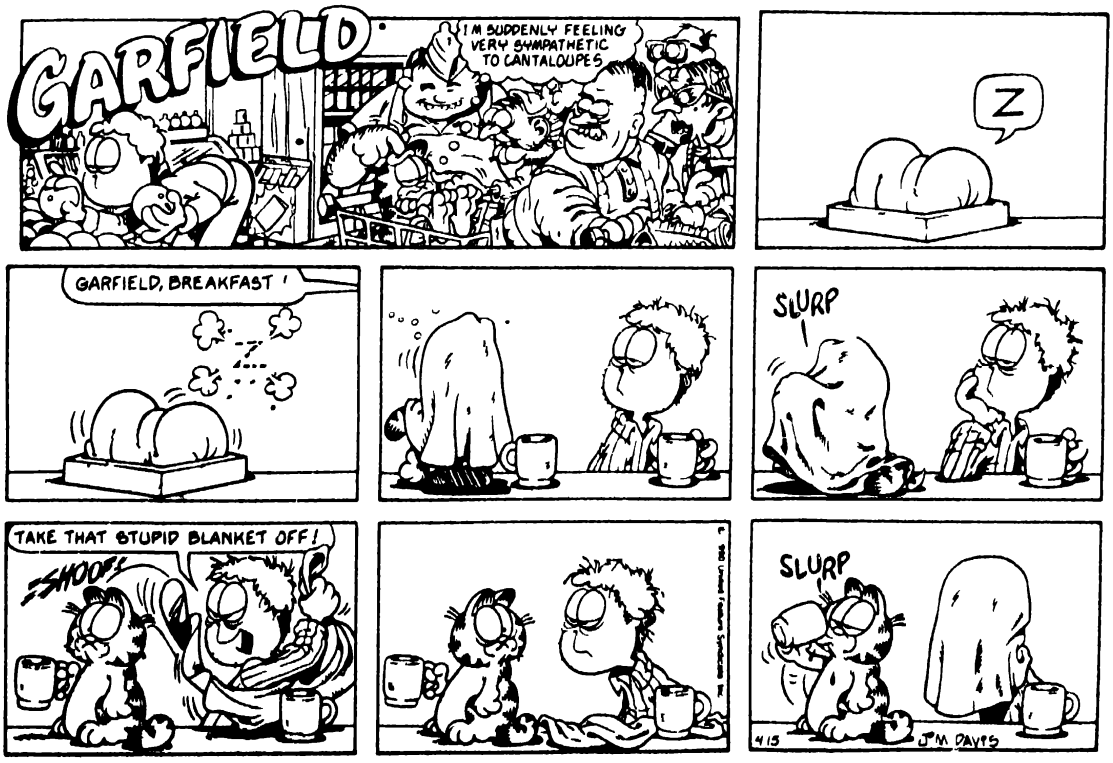


"THAT'S MY MOTHER-IN-LAW NOW YOU SEE HER, NOW YOU DO."

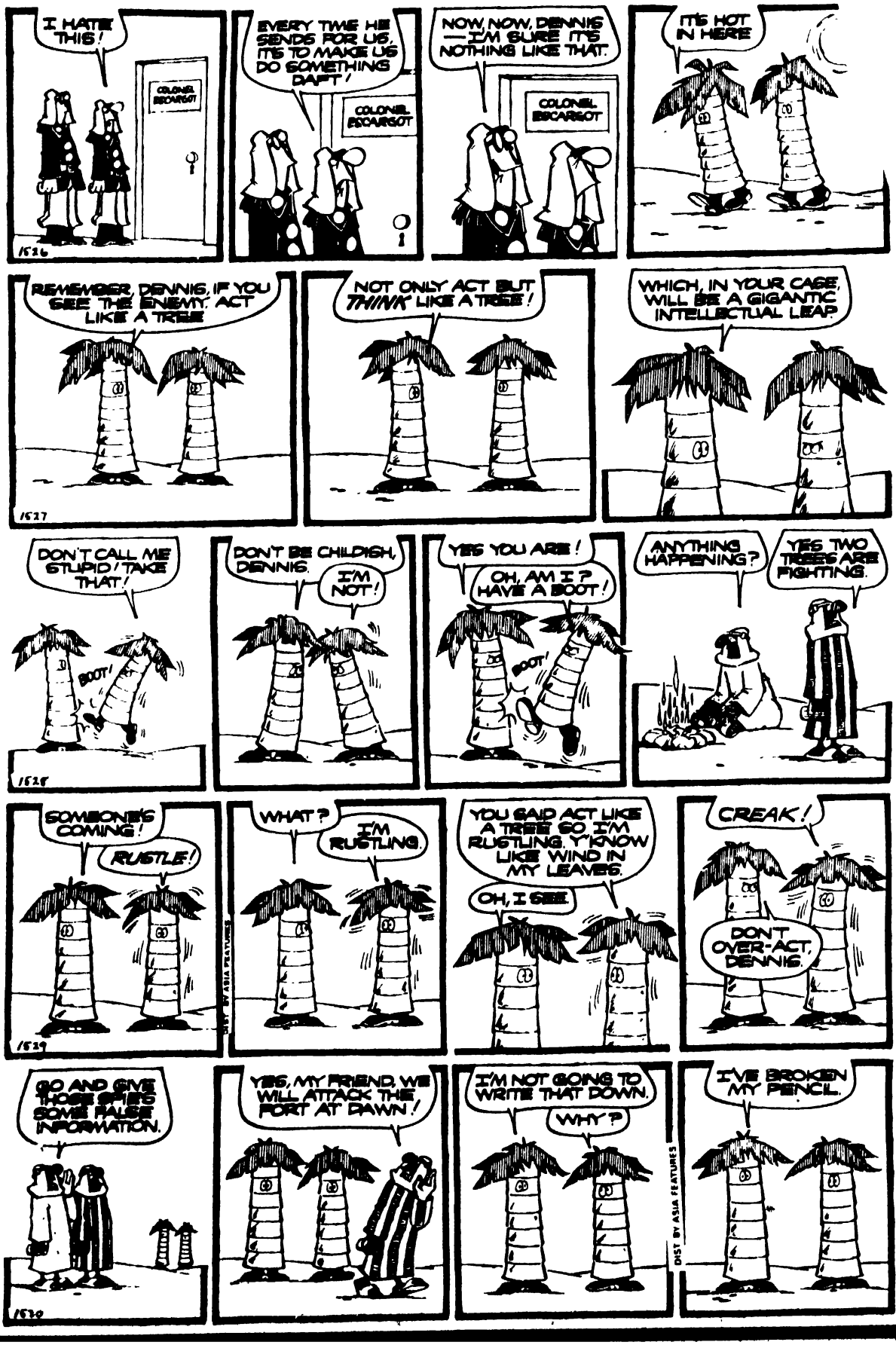


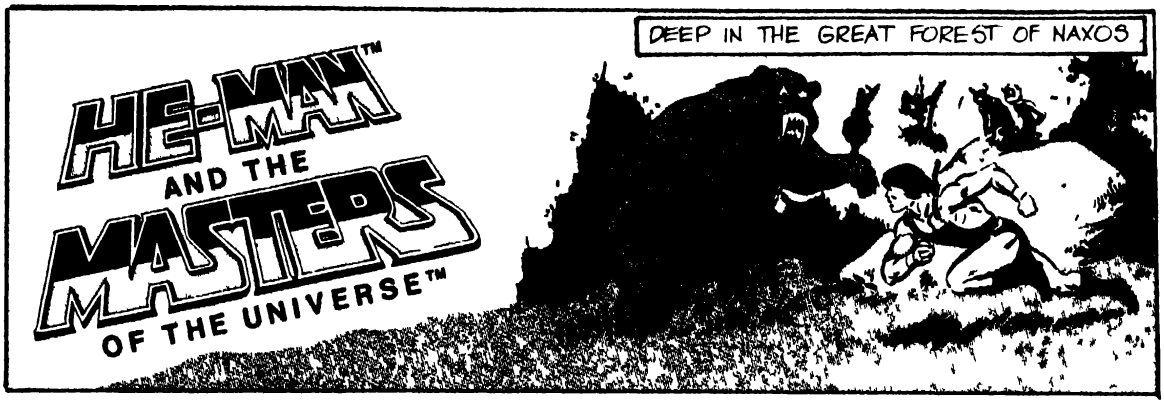
"YES, TRANQUILIZERS MIGHT SAVE OUR MARRIAGE IF WE COULD GET YOUR MOTHER HOOKED ON THEM "

GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE BEAU PEEP




HE-MAN™
AND THE
MASTERS
OF THE UNIVERSE™
DEEP IN THE GREAT FOREST OF NAXOS


A DEADLY BARNIT THREATENING THE LEONATS RUNS HEAD LONG INTO THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL


FRIENDLY FELLA


WHEN PEOPLE INVITE ME OVER TO EAT


THEY DON T MAKE ME THE MAIN COURSE


A DIP IN HAZZARD LAKE LL COOL YOUR APPETITE


THE CLICKS AND WHISTLES OF THE LEONAT RING WITH THE SATISFACTION OF AN ARGUMENT SETTLED
10/8



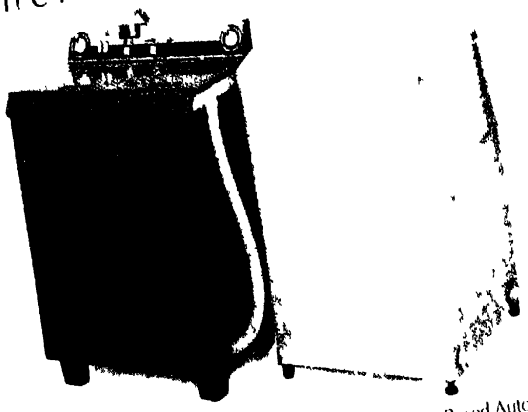
In a head-on collision with the Congress high command, the Karnataka chief minister, **Veerendra Patil,** was left nursing a black eye. Well, if you are sacked on the riots issue and you refuse to budge from your seat because you think you too are a heavyweight, whom will the whole thing reflect upon?
Photograph by ASHOK VAHIE

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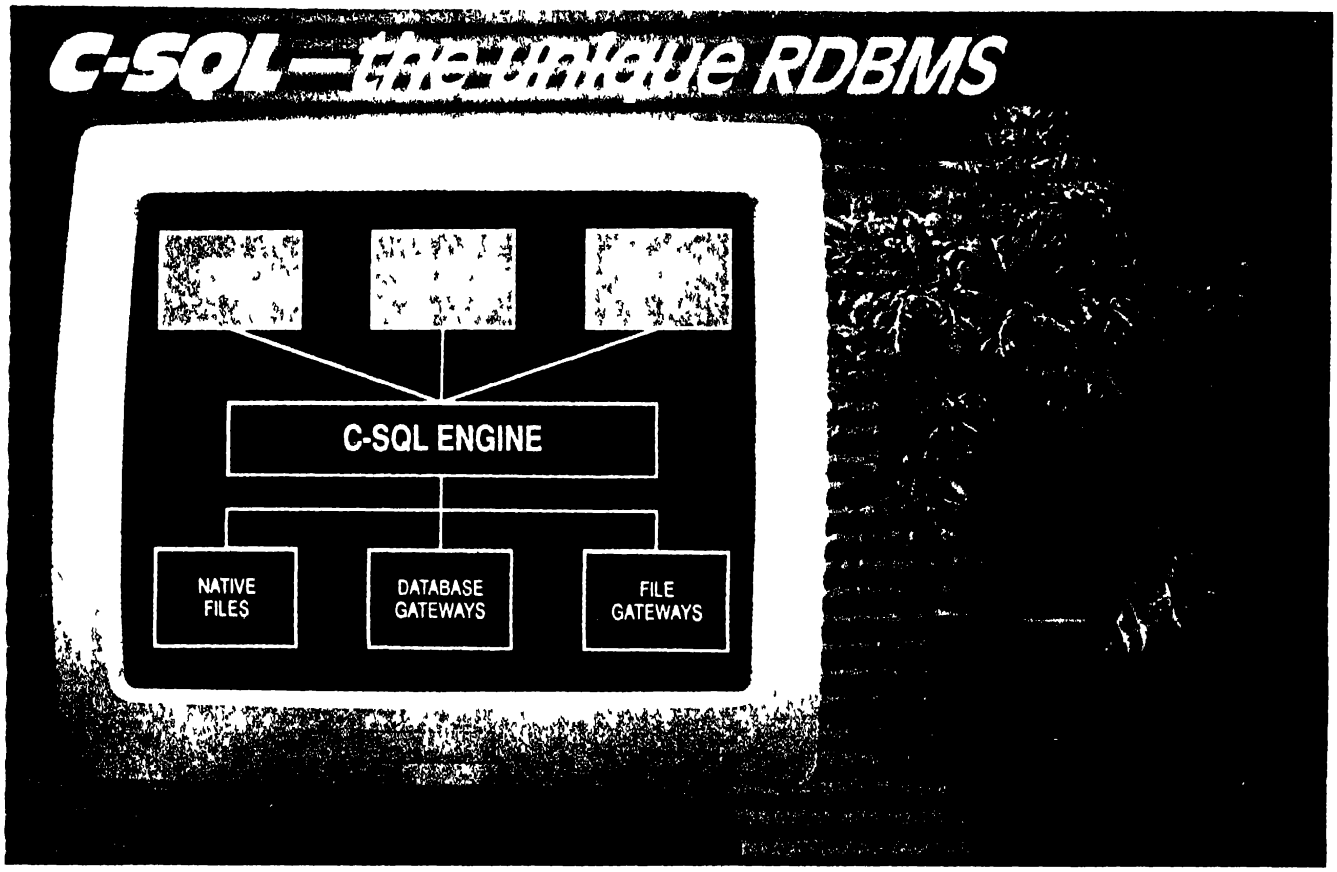
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Printed and published for Ananda Bazar Patrika Ltd by Pabitra Kumar Mukherji at
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Editor Aveek Sarkar

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WHEN THE BUG FAILED TO BYTE

Once upon a time, not so very long ago, a chip was usually preceded by potato Computers were unheard of, if you needed to compute you did it with paper and pen, preferably fountain pen, since the Fathers frowned upon the new fangled ball point as not being conducive to a graceful hand They also lay great stress on multiplication, perhaps in a sublimated attempt to fulfill the Lord's command Go forth and multiply!

Unfortunately, despite their ecclesiastical fervour, my writing never improved beyond resembling the footprints of a slightly inebriated spider while my mathematical efforts involved taking off both shoes I welcomed the calculator as Texas Instrument's great gift to mankind and, with time, learned to draw it out with the easy nonchalance of an expert

Computers, however, are another story In the world of ROMs and RAMs, I'm an OBC Slightly superior to those who think computers are people who travel to work but quite incapable of distinguishing between an algorithm and subroutine To me there's no such thing as software, it's all pretty hard and wearing

My first acquaintance with the species occurred during the Neanderthal days of the Computer Age It was a giant mainframe that looked impressively omniscient The atmosphere too was suitably devotional with everyone taking off their shoes and speaking in whispers At regular intervals the God would swallow punch cards and occasionally spit out answers I found it a profound learning

SUDIP MALLIK discovered he was IBM incompatible long ago

experience I learnt where the peculiarly perforated bus tickets came from"

In the subsequent years, many of my friends sought self actualisation in making small rectangular holes in large rectangular cards Some of them perhaps, actually found it Sadly, where I was concerned the computer bug failed to byte The idea of spending the rest of my life debugging programmes in an incestuous relationship with a machine lacked punch I resolved that in my dealings with Artificial Intelligence I'd restrict myself to a polite "Hi". I was not IBM compatible

Little did I know I was up against the forces of history An inexperienced pilot had the urge to steer the country into the 21st century and tripped over the 19th In the resulting confusion non-working clerks in most offices were found to have been replaced by non-working computers It was also found that while to err is human, it takes a computer to really foul things up

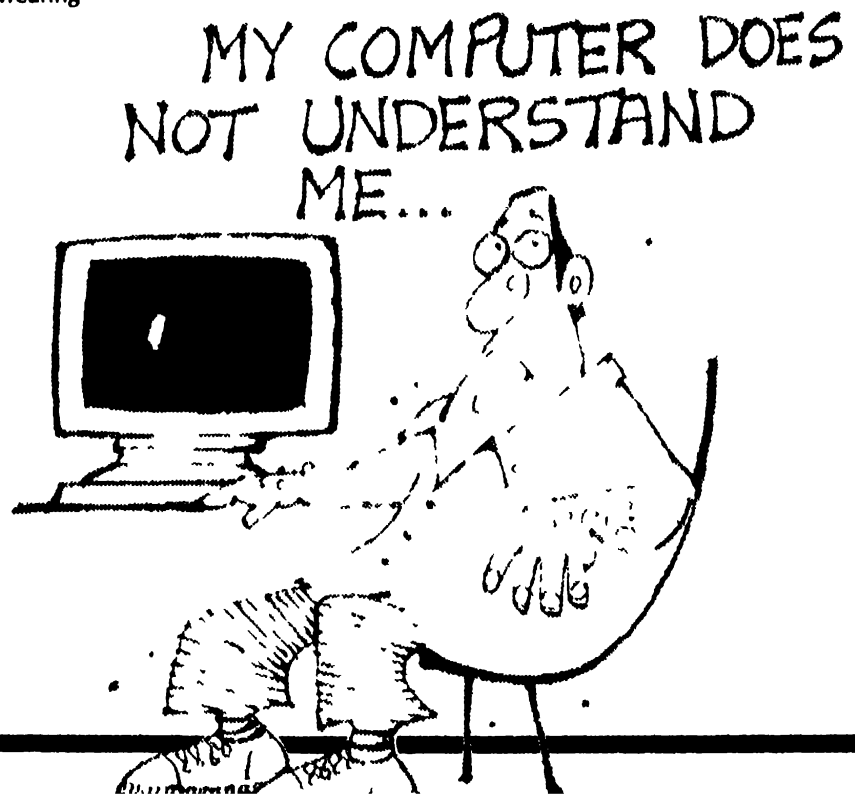
In the bureaucracy what could earlier be achieved with a bit of connection and corruption now could not be done at all In the corporations, managers held agitated meetings to sort out computer glitches while the staff agitated against their introduction The familiar excuses of loadshedding, incompetent subordinates and dead relatives or telephones gave way to the inscrutable "We're having a little trouble with our computer " And when computers have a little trouble, the *hoi polloi* have a lot

At railway and airline counters, man and machine stared blankly at each other while queues elongated Electricity bills began to sprout inexplicable zeroes Bank account numbers expanded beyond human memory to suit the electronic one Where systems used to be evolved to help the customer they were now devised to aid the Systems Manager The computer was the King!

The Machine became the icon of the Eighties Its high priests spoke in strange tongues such as Pascal or Cobol and invested upon it an aura of infallibility Like all zealots they made themselves totally incomprehensible and so convinced us of their god's divinity Anything blessed with the computer's magic touch began to be regarded as superior Someone even advertised a brand of cigarettes as being designed by a computer! If you wanted to get married you no longer relied on the heavens, the computer would find you a spouse or your money back

Talking of spouses mine, till recently, had a near complete faith in the power of the PC Since she has the same faith in astrology it followed that I must get a Computer Horoscope Or rather, she led and I followed. The computer predicted a long and happy life It also predicted romance with a beautiful young maiden from across the seas Which in turn led to a lot of unpleasantness

In fact, she was still in the process of demonstrating that a woman's memory is superior to the CPU's when I stepped off the kerb and was immediately run over by a bus.



ANOTHER ~~ACE~~ CASE UP THE CMS SLEEVE

We, at CMS, have been holding the trump card, in the strategic communication and computer industries of India. Be it in installing Computerised Traffic Signals, trendy Point of Sales terminals, Self-ticketing Machines, ATM s, LANs & UNIX based solutions. Or manufacturing state-of-the-art Micros & Super Micros.

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Of course, with these diversified spectrum of activities, the role of CMS as a fountainhead of knowhow and consultancy, and an organisation which is dedicated to provide total solutions to the end-users, continues to be consolidated.

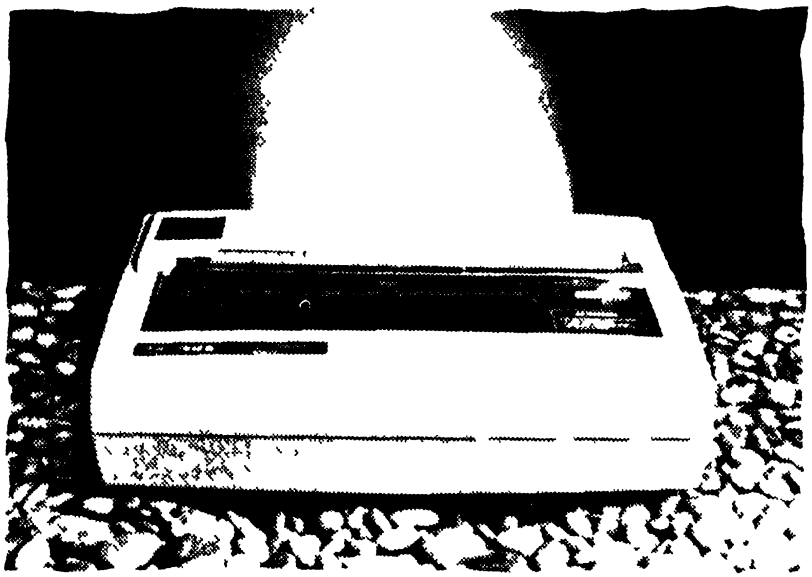


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IMAGINE...

There is a story of a man who always came home on time, looking well-kempt and confident. Then, one day, he returned very late, tired and harassed. "What happened?" asked his wife, anxiously "The office computer broke down", the man replied "I had to think".

Today, the computers are everywhere and we don't even notice them anymore. Almost everyone, whether it is the harassed housewife, the overworked executive or the conscientious student, depends on the computer In fact, they cannot imagine life without the silicon chip marvel In the West, the computer is the benevolent big brother, always alert, always keeping an eye on the citizenry Every citizen has a social security number and can be traced immediately With the flick of a wrist or a press of a button a man's blood group, his medical history, even his credit rating flashes on the screen

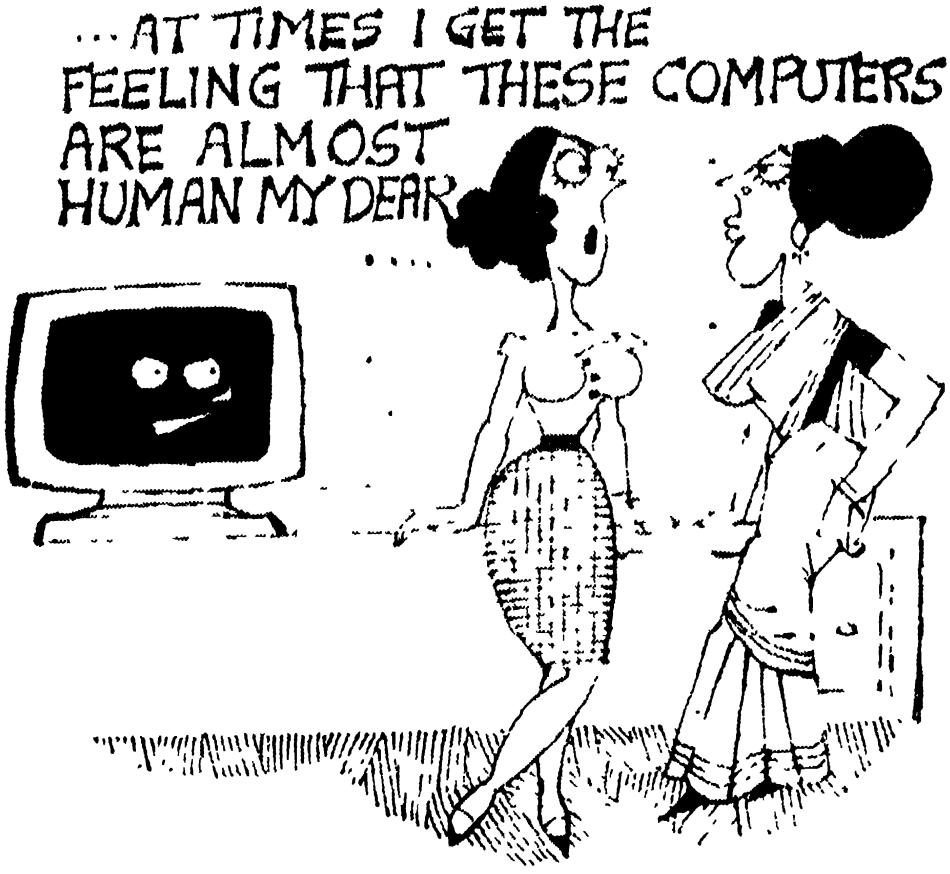
... a life without computers. It's hard, even if you try. VEER SAGAR on man's new best friend

Before a housewife turns in, she activates the computerised wake-up system At a pre-determined time, the alarm clock rings and 10 seconds later, the electric kettle is whistling—and the radio, set off automatically, is providing cheerful early morning music

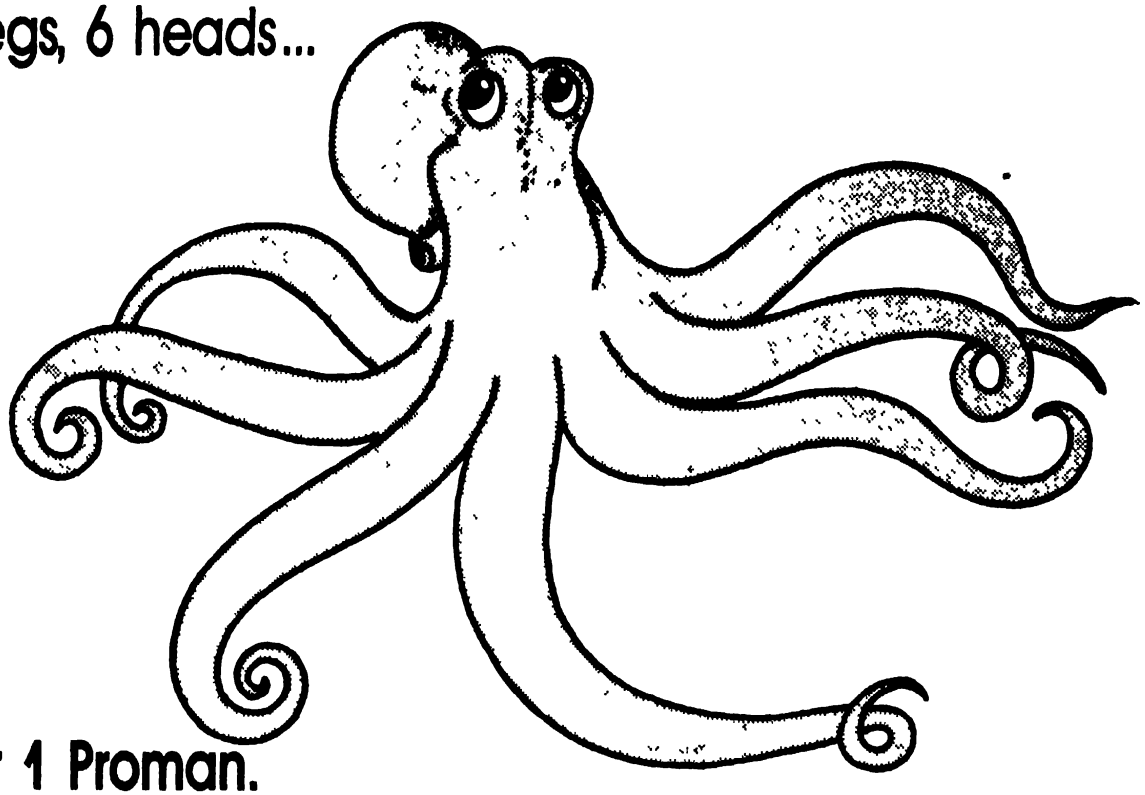
On the doorstep waits a copy of the newspaper, typeset and printed with the help of a computerised system Everytime the housewife picked up a newspaper in the past, her hands were tinged with printing ink, the bedsheets stained black. But the new newspaper is better printed. It is also more newsy, the computer being responsible for better, more efficient coverage.

Washing and cooking are no longer endless nightmares for the housewife who doesn't want to be at the mercy of the domestic help or the *dhobi*. She has her washing machine and her microoven, which make sure that the clothes are washed properly and the cake is baked (not burnt)—with the minimum effort. Both these gizmos have built-in microcomputers which take care of time cycles, temperatures and all the other variables.

Even the electricity and telephone bills mailed to her house are, in general, more accurate and up-to-date. If the housewife thinks someone is tapping her STD line or wants to know whom her husband has been calling regularly, a quick perusal of the bill will suffice.



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... or 1 Proman.

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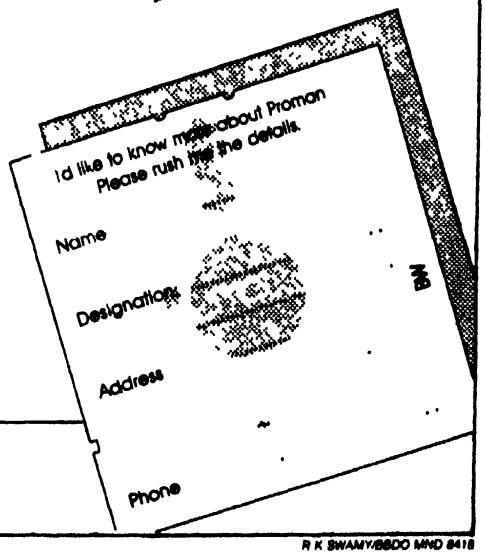
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Gone are the days when you had to wait in a dirty crowded space to book your train tickets. Now, there's an air-conditioned 'No Smoking' booking hall and you can line up at any of the numerous counters with computer terminals, regardless of your destination. You can even get confirmed return reservation (from most cities) there and then. No more suspense and worry over whether the telegram for return booking has reached and whether seats are available. The same with most long-distance bus reservations. Besides, booking facilities are now available in different parts of the city, so you don't have to go all the way to the main station. Since these booking stations are linked there are no quotas for different stations. That used to create imbalances in bookings.

As for the airlines, you can book your entire itinerary from one terminal and if seats are not available you can allow yourself various options of getting waitlisted on different days and flights. With the travel agents also getting hooked to the network the need for long waits at the Indian Airlines offices will also disappear.

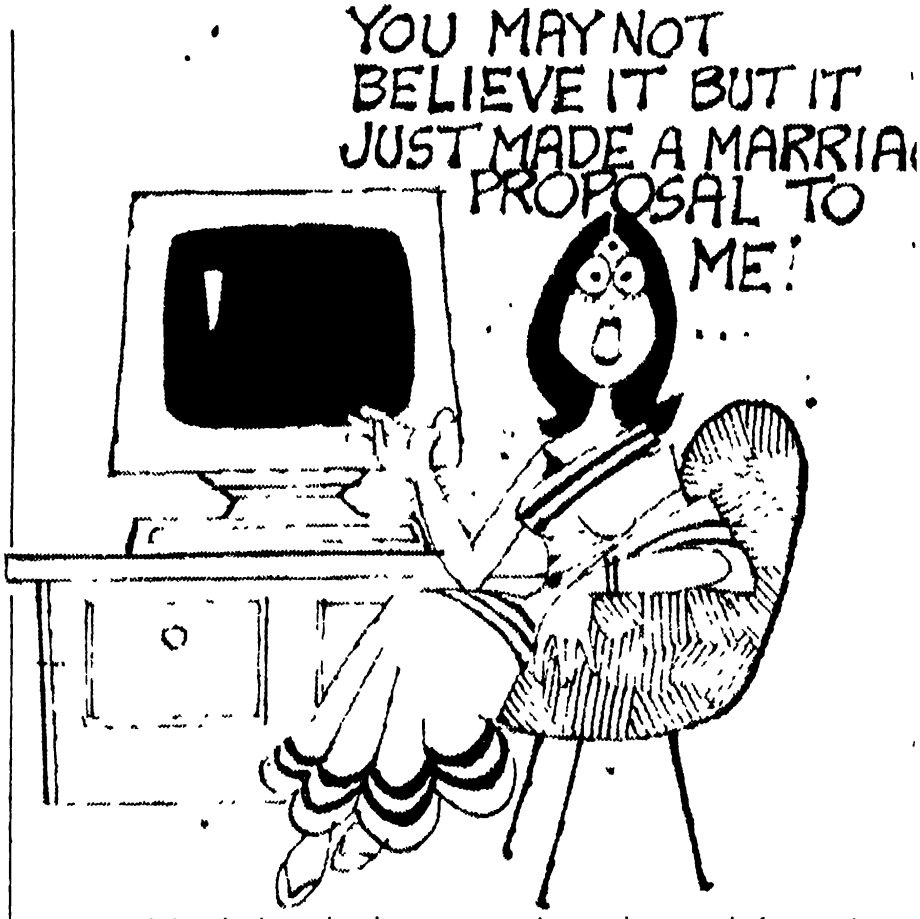
Ever since banks have been computerised, going to them for any transaction is no more a grudge. Even withdrawals take very little time. The bank clerk keys in the account number and checks the balance. No more lengthy ledgers to fill, slips to move around, cards to check and signatures to tally before you get your money.

Shopping has become faster as most large shops have personal computers at their point of sale, which print out clean, quick and accurate bills. In restaurants you can now read what you've eaten—thanks to the computerised and legible bills—and get indigestion at the high price.

When a lady walks into her doctor's chamber for a visit after a long time and he greets her and says, "How is that stomach ulcer now?", you could knock her down with a feather. Her ego is tickled at the thought that the busy doctor remembered her problem—she already begins to feel better. The fact is that the doctor did not remember her at all he did was see patient's history on his computer terminal.

Similarly, when you are checking in at a hotel and the pretty girl at the reception counter tells you, "Ah, but you are coming after almost three months," you forgive the hotel for its killing room charges. Once again, the girl has made you feel nice by recalling your record from the database at her disposal.

The teenaged girl can now walk into a beauty parlour and try out every conceivable hairstyle without having her hair



touched. All that the hairstylist does is take in the girl's image and superimpose different styles for her to see how she would look—without actually having to go through the long and painful process of trial and mostly error. The visual on the screen in front can be even modified till an acceptable style is reached. The stylist can then physically reproduce this.

There was a time when if the met office predicted a heavy downpour on a particular day, you could safely stay out without fear of any rain! Try doing that now and you will almost certainly come to grief! This year, computers have helped weathermen forecast storms and even the amount of rain with deadly accuracy, and in the process have helped save a lot of lives.

Well, you've got your train tickets (from the friendly neighbourhood booking station) and you also know exactly what kind of weather to expect. So, you're ready for your holiday, right? But wait, there's that heavy traffic to think of. You might leave your house with all the time in the world left and yet reach the railway station to see the train chugging out of the platform. The solution to that problem may not be very far away. The traffic police is experimenting with a computerised road network so that motorists can be warned of congestions in advance. Traffic signals can even be fine-tuned to allow for optimum movement of traffic.

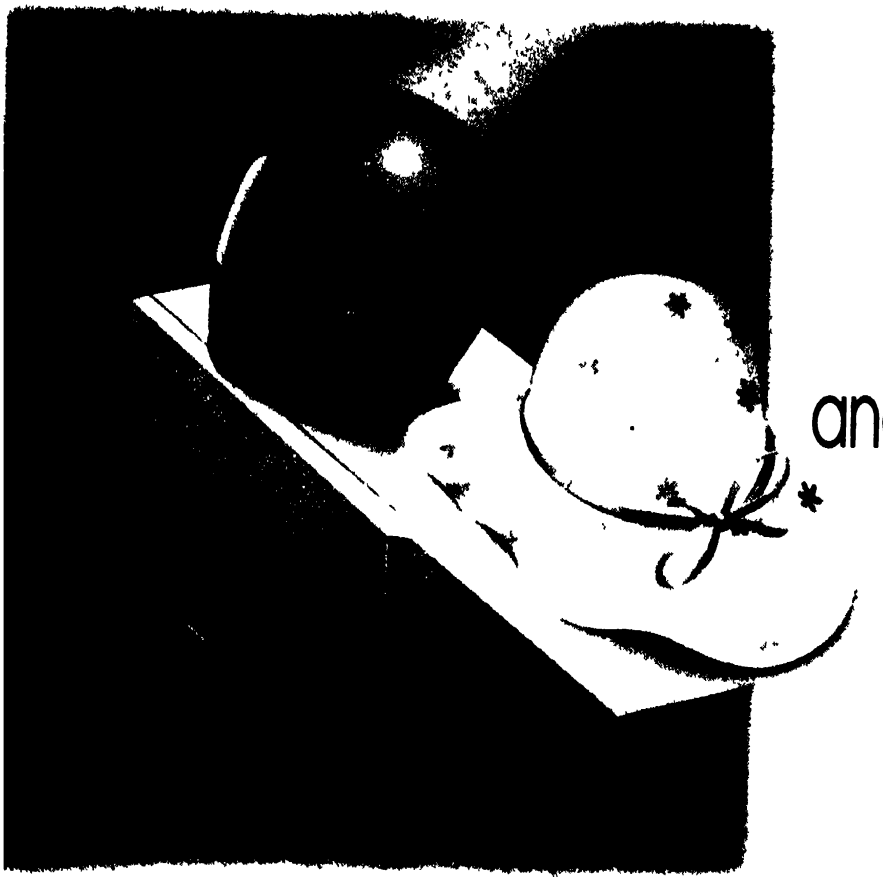
How many times has this happened to that stretch of road outside your house? The water supply people have come, dug up the road and everything around it, laid some water pipes, and gone away. They haven't even turned the corner when you find your telephone's not working. After many days, the telephone people land up. They dig around some more and then tell you that the water supply people have damaged the cable to which your phone is connected. Eventually, after making much heavy weather, they bring your dial tone back. And, hey presto! Your house is in darkness...Is there a way out?

Yes, computers are now even going underground, in a manner of speaking. A master layout can be worked out on the control computer with detailed and updated locations of all the telephone/electricity cables, water/sewage pipes, etc. so that every agency knows what's where underground.

By the way, if you are building a house and you want the architect to show you exactly what it's going to look like once it's completed, don't worry. Well, you've guessed it! The computer will...

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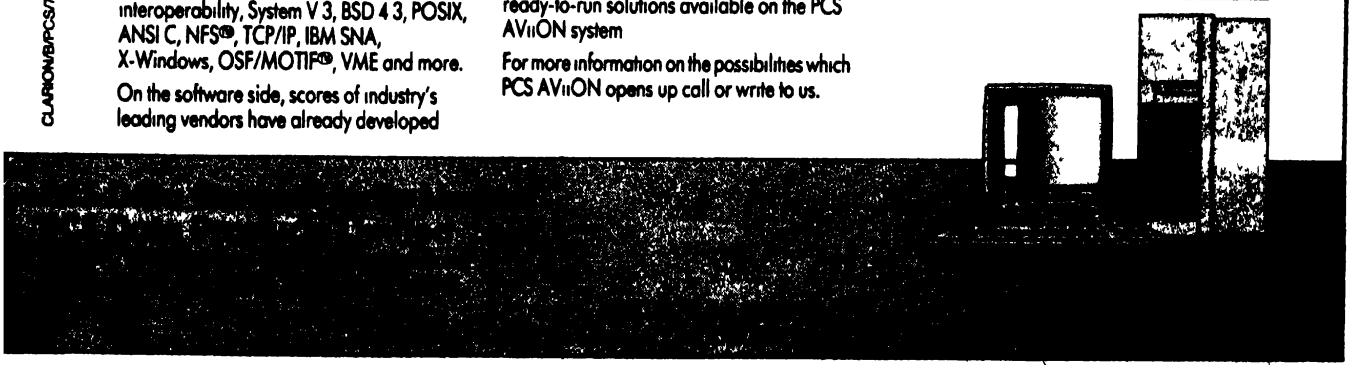
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KID STUFF

We walk into a classroom. There is no teacher—just a lot of computer terminals and monitors manned by children of various shapes and sizes. Our attention centres on an eight year old. He is asking the computer to tell him about volcanoes. A series of spectacular displays are flashed on the screen.

He starts asking why? Diagrams flash on the screen and a *Sigma City*-type synthesised voice answers his questions. After a while he gets bored and asks why apples fall off trees. The computer starts to tell him about gravitational theory.

Is this science fiction? Not really. Similar things are already occurring in the farflung stations of the Australian Outback for example, where children attend school by radio. What is so effective about this technique?

Well, the child in question may be handicapped and incapable of speech or movement. He may be a Christy Brown or a Stephen Hawking. In that case the only way for him to communicate may be by moving his eyelids or working the cursor with his left foot.

This is just one example of how effective computers can be as teaching or communiction aids. There are other reasons as well why computers could be truly effective in educating children.

A lot of research has gone into the learning process of children, and for that matter, adults. According to Dr Michael Billing of Leicester University a child starts by asking simple visual or tactilely-oriented questions about its own experiences.

Really small children build up to "good" or "bad" conclusions. For example a child hates getting drenched in the rain because she feels cold. She decides rain is "bad".

Later the child perceives patterns The same child realises others also dislike getting drenched because they too feel cold. She realises that feeling cold in the rain is a common phenomenon. The concept of generalisation arises.

Finally, she learns to develop the concept of different viewpoints. She learns that rain is necessary for the growing of food. Hence rain is both "good" and "bad". The capacity for abstract thinking develops.

The "process of interior argument" is the learning process according to the late Jean Piaget, the doyen of child psychology. Also there is a general consensus that creativity is a chaotic process triggered by allowing the mind to play with the facts at its disposal. According to Edward De Bono, lateral thinking is literally a playful process.

To a child a picture is truly worth a thousand words. Since the attention span of children is limited—especially if they are bright or creative—they have to be kept interested and surprised. Any decent kindergarten teacher knows this of course.

Children have never had better toys for learning. D. DILTON on the new revolution in the classroom

On the other hand, an intelligent child of six could easily be interested in, say, jigsaw puzzles, lego, music, geology, geography, zoology, astronomy, the weather, etc., to take a random sample He has to interact with the information presented and it should be heavily visually-oriented to have the maximum impact

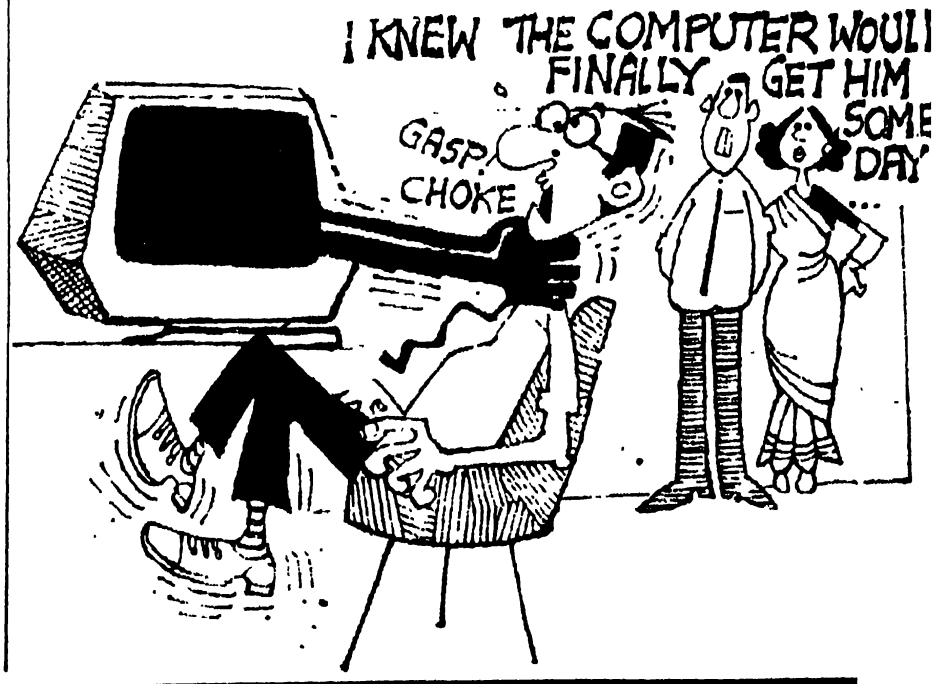
It must also be presented at a pace which will be somewhat different for every child and he must be allowed to play with it. Here the computer is the best learning tool ever devised.

A computer cannot lose patience, it can keep an exact record of the child's progress, and it allows the child to switch from topic to topic as he desires. A computer joystick and keyboard allows the child to be actively involved.

Brainplan is a program developed at Loughbourough, UK which recommends an ideal learning process. The child must be taught to keep asking questions, many of which will be "silly". His powers of invention must be tested and his fantasies must be developed logically. For example a *Secret Agent* game which allows the child to invent a code could be the best way to develop his linguistic skills.

Desirable personality traits such as altruism or leadership qualities can be developed by playing out role models in *Quest* type situations. Undesirable qualities could also be developed by *Great Dictator* type programs, of course. One shudders to think of Ghenghis Khan with a computer.

A large number of languages have been developed specifically for the use of children. Chief among them would be *Logo, Pilot* and *IQL*. They all have simple command structures like "left" "right" "up" or "down". Even in India





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children are now being taught these at school from age eight upwards

Then there are the traditional video games. Incidentally, the Israeli armed forces have always used these rather than flight stimulaters to discover flying ability Starting with the standard *Grand Prix* and *Space Invader* they are proliferating at the rate of 300,000 a year

You have computer chess, bridge and draughts programs You also have games like *Braino*, which tests spelling ability and the entirely new concept of "participatory adventure" The *Quest, Dragon* or *Dungeons* sort of program tests a child's ingenuity and creativity in the most exciting way possible

There are also the programs which test and develop a child s artistic ability Using light pencils a child can draw pictures involving upto 256 colours and 16 million shades He can also use animation to draw cartoons These tech niques were developed in the movie industry

Music is another sphere of activity which has benefitted Computer music has added a new dimension to one of mankind s oldest recreational activities Computers which can produce sounds and tones that are impossible in nature and give a notational readout of a piece composed by a child are now common place

The limitation is that a computer has no judgement or creativity While a budding Mozart or Da Vinci would be inspired to do great things a tone deaf child may just drive his parents crazy Creativity cannot be programmed at least not yet

Coming back to the Indian classroom computers are gradually becoming part and parcel of the school curriculum In the upmarket ICSE schools they are now compulsory from about class three to class eight After that students can opt to take them at both the class 10 and 12 levels. This is all to the good as the younger one starts, the better one is likely to get

Unfortunately, the concept of using computers for teaching other subjects has not really caught on yet However a start has been made Programs de veloped by schoolchildren at Computer Fairs are now being used occasionally at government aided schools to illustrate physical and mathematical theories

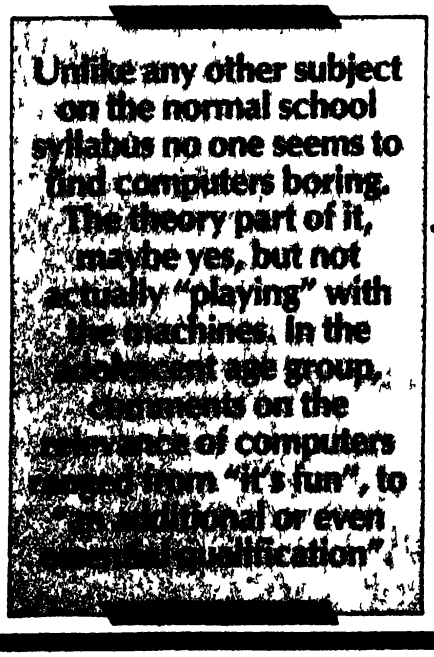
They are however, expensive Students who decide to study computers at the class ten level, pay around Rs 150 extra per month for computer time In the lower classes there is probably too much emphasis on theory and the history of computers rather than "hands-on" practice which is the best, maybe the only way, to really learn

This is because computer time is at a premium Also, one grouse, that is frequently heard from bright children is that the machines generally available in schools are specially designed for children That is, they are limited in scope and don t allow those who possess a real flair for the subject to do themselves justice

Children at these schools learn a lot about computer terminology and the history of computers and their applications They play a lot of video games and also learn some simple programming Creative children can further develop their programming skills by participating in Computer Fairs However it is possible, Pranab Mukherjee a class XI stu dents and BITM winner feels for a student to score 80 per cent in an ICSE computer exam without knowing the first thing about programming

There is however a refreshing differ ence in attitude noticeable when one talks to schoolchildren about computers Unlike any other subject on the normal school syllabus no one seems to find computers boring The theory part of it maybe yes but not actually playing with the machines In the adolescent age group, comments on the relevance of computers ranged from it s fun to an additional or even essential qualifica tion Quite a few girls and boys stated they were sure their future lay in compu ters

Those who get hooked on them seem to talk of nothing else Teenage hack ers are a fast growing if still rare breed in the Indian urban context The horror stories one reads of children tapping into CIA and Pentagon defence networks could soon become a possibility in India



that is if the telecommunication services improve

Ideally a lot of school subjects could be better taught and absorbed if the teaching was computer aided Unfortunately, most schools lack the resources Also a lot of teachers would need to undergo familiarisation and orientation courses Programs and modules would have to be developed on a large scale

This is probably the largest growing service sector with employment opportunities increasing nearly 40 per cent annually It is more than likely that as people become more and more familiar with computers the market will expand still further The demand for computer education at the school level will also rise and there will be a greater emphasis on teaching computers and computer assisted teaching

Given the way computers are finding new applications in field it is conceivable that in the near future computer literacy will be not an asset but a simple neccessity In the 21st century a computer illiterate will probably be as handicapped as a blind man

For one thing as the sum of human knowledge doubles every 20 years and the deforestation rate continues to be 16 million hectares a year we will soon run out of paper Computer storage will be the only option Also computers will be the lingua franca very soon—the only universal language in a global village In sheer self defence children will have to master their use

This will be a less painful process than traditional means of education where a child has to learn a lot of things by rote and out of context All parents bemoan the fact that their children would rather watch boring rubbish on the idiot box than read an interesting book For that matter most adults react the same way Computers are a lot more fun than TV because you can also participate

Another good thing about computers is that they can help clear mental blocks A child who is frightened by probability theory or economics may well be thrilled to play a horseracing game or see a visual demonstration of the 'guns and butter concept

Dr Isaac Asimov once wrote a story about a world so computerised that the worst punishment was not the death penalty but simply denying a criminal access to computers As the good doctor points out in another decade or so this may well be a reality given the new uses being discovered every day Also at the cutting edge of science, in all probability the problems that can be solved without computer aid have already been solved So, "I don t fear the computer—only the lack of it is probably going to be the slogan of the future

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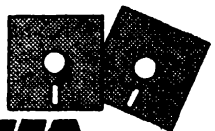
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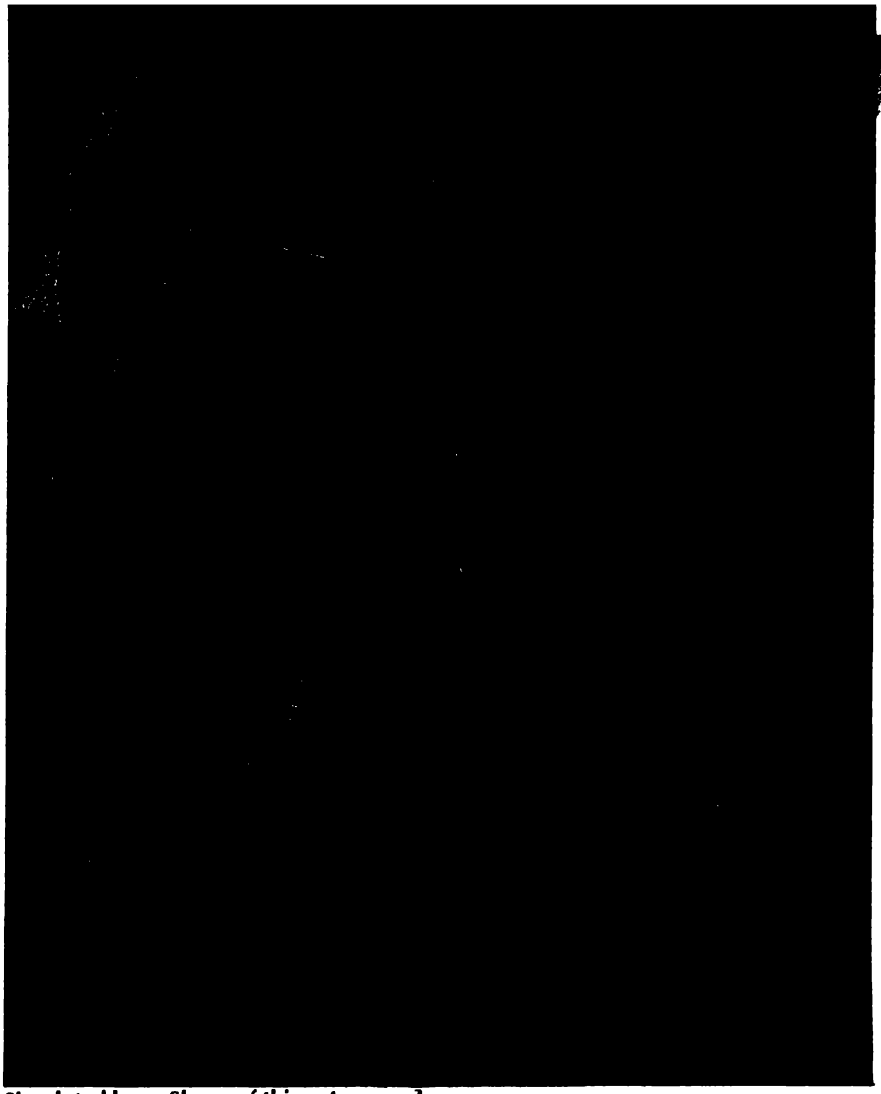
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INTERFACE 7008



Simulated love: Shape of things to come?

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD DIMENSION

If make-believe seems too real, don't forget: life's like that. And if the future shocks, here's a happy thought: you don't have to be a guinea pig anymore for the nervous young surgeon or the pilot making his maiden run. ARUN SINGH fast forwards—artificially speaking, that is

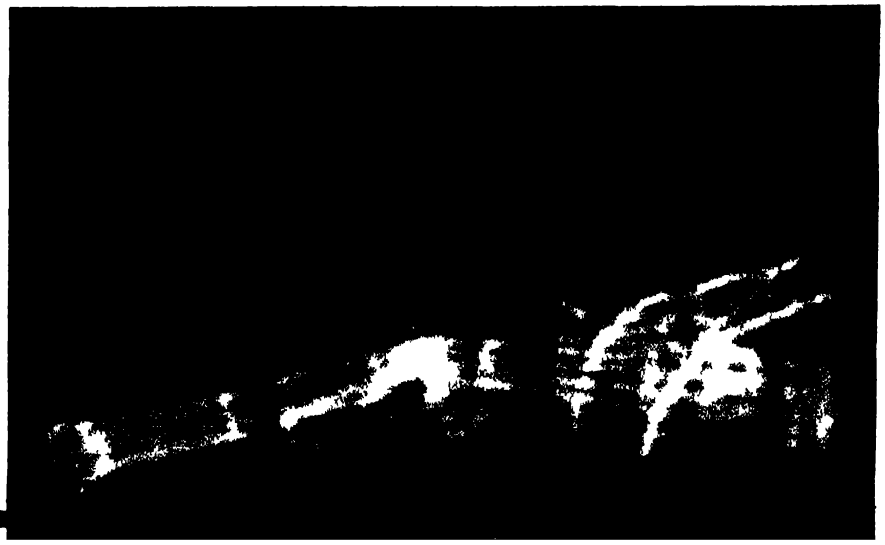
The hands shook ever so slightly as they pulled on the gloves and grasped the scalpel It was her first surgery—an appendectomy—and though a senior surgeon was there to guide her, the young medical student was understandably nervous But as she made the first incision in the skin, the hesitation was forgotten, and the scalpel moved quickly, slicing through tissue leaving in its wake a red trail of blood Suddenly, however, the nervousness assailed her senses once again and it was then that it happened The scalpel strayed from course and neatly punc tured a nearby vein The blood began to spurt out and she watched in horror for a few moments, till the senior surgeon's quiet instructions brought her back to her senses She reached out and quickly closed the cut in the vein, pinching her fingers together to join the broken tissue, doing it so neatly that it looked like it hadn't been cut at all

In fact, it hadn't really been cut In fact, there wasn't even a real appendec tomy, or even a real patient The whole affair was simply a computer simulation of surgery, and all that the young surgeon was doing was to cut up an artificial patient with an artificial knife She was merely participating in artificial reality

That oxymoronic term is no longer the stuff of science fiction for a number of computer programs are being devised to dispense the sights and sounds of the real world, complete with stereoscopic, 3-D

(Continued on page 29)

A computer-generated simulation of a head-on crash at over 40 kms per hour, to test the behaviour of the seat belt





By Mark Lindquist

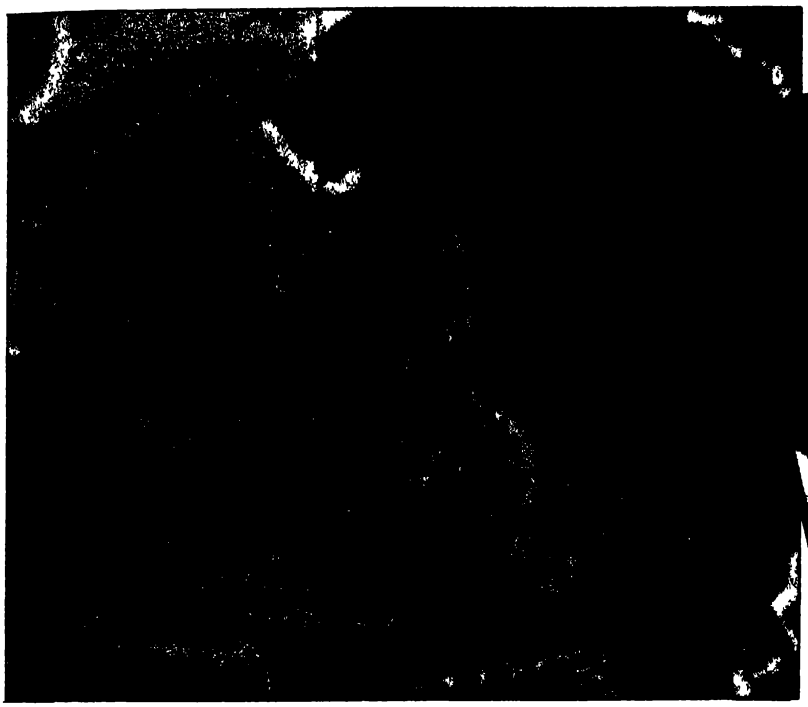
Photographs Courtesy Time-Life Books



STATE OF

By Melvin Prueitt







THE ART

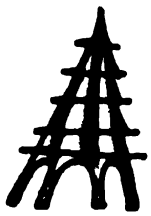
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M88K	35 7	7 0	1 2	10 1	8 9
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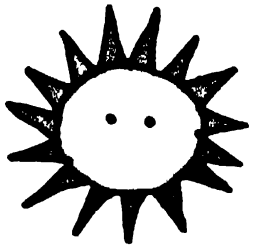
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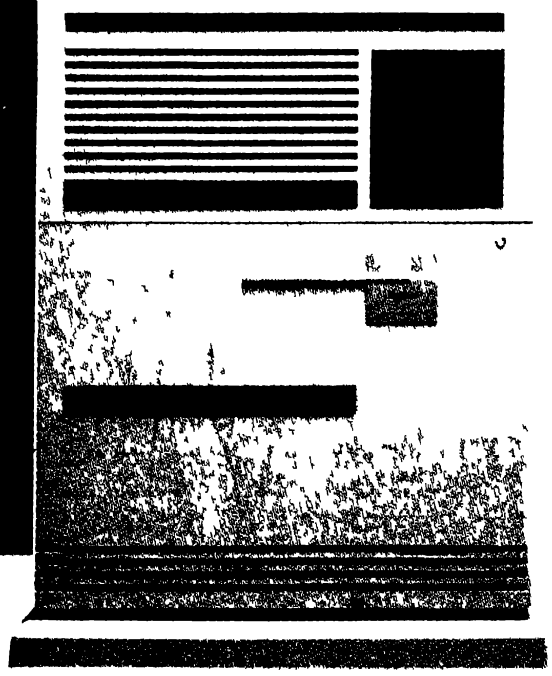
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GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

Live dangerously. And don't worry if your Ferrari flies off the hairpin. You'll survive—your ego, the only casualty. ARUNAVA SINHA on a not-so-fatal attraction

The CIA has just got in touch with me. They have a problem which only the keenest computer whiz can solve and since that's me who else could they have gone to? There's a top secret document that has to be rescued from a maximum security safe in the bowels of a fortress somewhere deep in enemy territory. What I have to do is hack my way through the computer network in the fortress avoiding security and get through to four robots stationed there by the CIA. Using a remote signalling system from my computer I have to guide them through to the safe open it and remove the document. There are countless guards surveillance cameras and hidden traps all of which have to be eluded. I can scan the fortress through a detailed map as well as four video screens monitoring actual action in different parts of the building. This is one



of the biggest challenges of my life, involving precise timing, foolproof strategy and razor-sharp reasoning...

Welcome to *Hacker II*, one of the top-selling computer games created for the Commodore. With games like these, who needs diplomatic intrigue and espionage? For that matter, with games like *Uninvited*, devised for the Apple Mackintosh, who needs Stephen King? In this game, the player's car breaks down on a lonely road, and he walks over to a nearby house. No one answers his knock, and he enters. Then begins a long-playing adventure saga, in which mysterious things start happening, bringing to life a veritable house of horrors. The course of the game is directed by a set of options at any given point—one can examine something in a room, talk to someone or (brr!) something, hit an adversary or consume something—guaranteed to give a player several rounds of gooseflesh before he reasons or mumbles his way through to a happy ending.

In *Ballyhoo*, now... but wait a minute!

Computer games are just for aggressive adolescents with time to spare, right? Kids who can sit at a terminal for hours, manipulating amoeba-shaped objects and blasting away until the invaders have all been killed, or 999,999 points have been reached, whichever is earlier—they're the people for whom all those games with dazzling colour graphics and stereophonic sound effects were built, right? Adults don't play computer games, right?

They don't? Then what makes *Uninvited* one of the most popular programs ever devised for the Apple? After all, kids don't own Macs. Truth be told, while the parlour variety of video games—*Space Invaders* et al—are strictly for teenagers with hyperdrives, the much more complicated, role-playing games produced for the computer, taking advantage of the machine's prodigious memory and fast computing ability, are directed specifically at the adult market

On the best of these games, a combination of logical, visual and intuitive skills, plus quick physical reflexes, is what gets a player to the average level. And since most of them are designed to throw insulting comments at subnormal scores, self-esteem demands a good performance. Take the case of *Test Drive*, which offers you a heartbeat-skipping collection of sports cars—the Ferrari Testarossa, the Lamborghini Countach and the Lotus Turbosprit, among others—to drive over five stages of a mountain road with curves that get progressively wickeder. Knowing that you'll almost certainly never get to drive those cars in real life, you start off with great gusto. Several accidents and a measly average speed of 70 miles an hour later, you're told: "You drive like my grandmother." Who needs humiliation like this? Who has the time?

...an hour later, you're told: "You drive like my grandmother." Who needs humiliation like this? We all do—few people can give up a game with the burning knowledge that they drive like the computer's grandmother

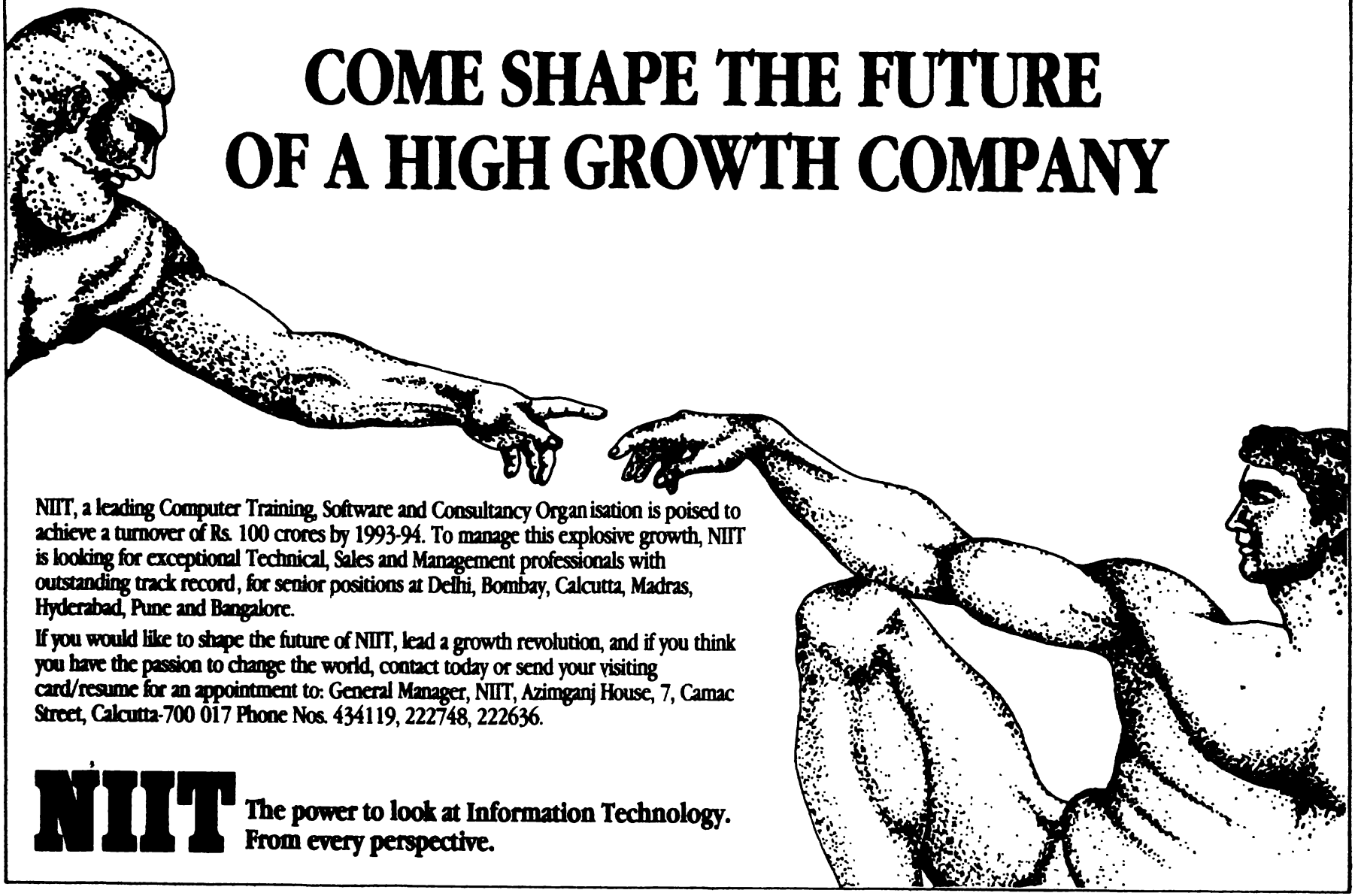
We all do—all of us who've ever played a computer game, that is. For—and this is a frank, manly confession—they're totally addictive, and few people can give up a game with the burning knowledge that they drive like the computer's grandmother; the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is an appreciative "Pass any low-flying planes back there?"—and the ultimate high is to inscribe one's initials in the list of top-scorers. Failing which, to at least flatten a few pedestrians, as in the glorious racing-car-ride-from-hell through the crowded streets of San Francisco in the top-selling *Vette*!

The best part of it all is the minimum physical effort involved. *Mean 18* takes you around 72 of the toughest golf holes possible, and you don't even have to shift from your chair. *Pool* allows you to play the fanciest possible shots, pocketing the balls at will and running up huge scores (the secret is the P key, which automatically points the cue in the exact direction required to pocket a ball) without a backache. And all the while, glorious full colour video and marvellous sound-effects complete the illusion. So who can be blamed for spending hours at *Karateka*, where the intrepid young black belt downs sentry after sentry with kicks and chops (available in three varieties each, through the Q,A,Z,W,S and X keys) in an effort to rescue the lovely princess Marika from the clutches of the evil Akuma, in a fortress set against the Zen-like silent Fujiyama.

The world's most successful video game company is Nintendo Entertainment Systems (NES), whose blockbusters include *The Legend of Zelda I* and *II*, *Super Mario Brothers I*, *II* and *III*, and the near cult status *Double Dragon*. Close on their heels are the games manufactured by Sega, among which are *Space Harrier I and II*, *Shanghai* and *Fantasy Zone I* and *II*. While their parlour varieties as well as the video adaptations—to be played using the TV set in conjunction with the game-playing console and cartridges—are high on popular appeal, there's much more competition when it comes to games for the PC. Companies like IBM—with their *F-19 Stealth Bomber*, a flight simulation package, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade Adventure Game*, in collaboration with Lucasfilms—have a good chunk of the market. With prices being as high as $60, the games have to be really complicated to attract buyers. NES also provides its own hardware, and many companies produce Nintendo-compatible versions of their games. In fact, NES has just released a portable version of its video games hardware, complete with a small carry-anywhere monitor, so that addicts needn't despair while on long journeys. Other accessories include goggles for 3-D vision, special guns to vaporise meanies directly by pointing at them on the screen, and systems for rival players to hook up via telephone lines.

The real pleasure, however, lies in defeating not human adversaries, but foes like Ganon, the very embodiment of evil, who holds the lovely Zelda imprisoned. *The Legend of Zelda* involves travelling through 128 stages of the Overworld and nine mazes of the Underworld, destroying along the way Aquamentus, Dodongo and Manhandla, Ganon's henchmen. There are more twists and turns in the narrative than one can imagine, with magic shields, secret doors, vials with the water of life and suchlike contrivances all over the place—adding up to a game of delicious complications, subplots and shortcuts. Little wonder that Samurai TV Games, which markets Nintendo's games in India, gets agonized letters saying: "But the question is, how to find out the letter of the little old lady who gives us the water of life? And, how to play after level 3, or, where are the other levels?" Replies are considerately sent by the Samurai Fun Club to its members, with cryptic solutions: "Go where the power bracelet was in the first quest and go up..."? But who has the leisure to write out so many explanations? Time and *Weird Dreams* wait for no man. In this game, I enter the subconscious mind of a patient undergoing surgery, and encounter surrealistic dream images and symbols like carnivorous rose bushes and psychotic lawn mowers, and how well I deal with them will determine the patient's mental health; so excuse me while I... plinka! shabooh! waka-waka-waka...

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(Continued from page 19)

vision and stereophonic sound The world created by such a program is not the usual collection of computer graphics to which we are accustomed, but a faithful, naturalistic reproduction of whatever is being depicted, down to the last detail And, most important, just as we are not merely observers in the world around us, but actually take part in it, changing some of its elements in the process, in these programs, too, a computer user enters the artificial world, interacts with it, and sees the resultant changes unfolding before his eyes This reality is totally consistent with the real world outside, with cause and effect following one another in the expected order And people who enter it are undergoing what computer scientists have dubbed artificial experience—which can range from driving a car to walking through a house

These are, in fact, some of the precise uses to which artificial reality programs will be put For instance, a prospective houseowner will be able to 'walk' through a house he intends to construct, find out if he likes the arrangements and fittings, and change anything that he wants—an unwanted window can be removed with the wave of a hand a new one can be 'created' by taking up a saw and 'cutting' through the wall Another program will allow medical students to perform operations, making mistakes but still causing no damage of any kind, perfecting their science until they are ready to start work on real tissue

At the heart of this futuristic software lies an extremely powerful library of visuals, which can whistle up views of every scene from any angle—the perspectives having been specially created from a combination of photographs and the laws of physics, with foreshortening and the movement of objects through physical space having been worked out in precise detail Users sit down at a console, put on a special glove—or step onto a treadmill to create the feeling of actually walking—and a special pair of goggles, and voila! they're inside the artificial domain

The goggles consist of tiny video monitors in front of each eye, with the image suitably delayed between the right and left eye, as in real life, to produce a 3-D effect. Sensors in the goggles pick up head movements as one looks around, and the view on the monitors changes appropriately The glove, or the treadmill, has its own sensors as well, and hand movements—like in the case of the surgery—are relayed to the computer, which responds accordingly. A hand on the screen mimics the movements of the user's hand, if he reaches out and mimes grasping something, so does the hand on the screen—only, it actually picks up something in the room

Apart from its obvious payoff in terms of being a teaching and testing tool, artificial reality—and its associated artificial experience—also holds therapeutic potential Psychoanalysts feel that a frustrated, angered or unbalanced individual, who might in normal circumst ances run amok with a car or a gun killing people can now do the same thing on a computer—hurting no one but still working off their aggression and depravity

At the moment the visuals available with the artificial reality software are obviously simulated computerised im ages despite their closeness to reality But a new development which is now being worked on will soon remove that feeling of simulation as well That development involves the use of 3 D holography in which laser beams are made to intersect with one another to produce images that are marvellously lifelike With the marriage between the compact disk (CD) and the computer having been consummated, the offspring have been endowed with the enormous storage capacity of the CD as well as the powerful data processing ability of the computer With laser technology replac ing conventional video visual displays will not be limited to naturalistic colour graphics seen through goggles—operat ing theatres and house interiors will be created by huge holographs in empty space, the images being stored in CDs instead of the present day hard disks

The quantum leap in memory offered by the CD is being put to use in specialised software as well, where vast amounts of data have to be stored Because visuals take up a lot of space—a conventional CD that can carry 10 million words of text or 72 minutes of music can store only seven minutes of video (giving new meaning to the adage 'a picture is worth a thousand words')—the new technology is particularly helpful in programs like *Face*, which police forces around the world will soon be using to construct the faces and physical characteristics of criminals *Face* can not only create a drawing instantly from available data on body type, gender, race and information from witnesses, it can also match partial details, like teeth or eyes, with photographs in its bank And, given a face, the program can create its appearance at a particular time in the past or future. (A simpler version, called *Sherlock Holmes*, is already used by Indian Police.) Work is now in progress to bring in the laser technology here as well, so that detectives can create holographic images of suspects at the very scene of crime and show them to witnesses for identification

Another program where the CD is proving vastly useful is a computerised travelling software named *Timetravel* Intending visitors to London, for instance, can choose from a huge variety of historical periods in which they would like to visit the city—from medieval times to the present A choice of circa 1600 brings up on their monitors London in the time of William Shakespeare, complete with roads, houses and people Visitors can 'walk' down a road, 'turn' left and enter Globe Playhouse to watch Shakespeare's latest production As in the artificial reality software, an enormous library of meticulously designed images give a feel of the real thing

Not that the CD has managed to solve all problem for software designers Creativity for instance, continues to elude computer programs, although brave attempts have been made At Cambridge, a computer, after much preparation, produced a haiku which went "All white in the buds/I flash snowpeaks in the spring/Bang the sun has fogged " Despite being a bit short on meaning, as is evident here, computer programmes have the advantage of being quick, an ability used in the program named *IdeaFisher*, developed by a professional comedian to generate ideas for jokes When given a word, it provides a list of associated words and concepts, out of which a good humourist can spin puns, wisecracks and punchlines "Red", for instance, elicits, among other things Scarlett O Hara" and "tickled pink" —

Real computer creativity admittedly lies somewhere in the future of silicon, but we can always dream, can't we? And in case we can't there's—you guessed it!—a computer program to help us More specifically, *Dream Machine* can be hooked up to monitor a sleeper's eyeball movements during sleep, after a few minutes of rapid eye movements, which indicate that the sleeper is dreaming, the program sets off an alarm so that he can wake up and jot down what he has just dreamt *Dream Machine* helps him by flashing archetypal dream images and icons across the screen, and keeps track of recurring dreams, at the same time questioning him about his experiences, helping to make connections between those experiences and the dreams

What's next? How about a little electronic chip imbedded behind every person's ear, connecting them to a giant, sentient computer that science fiction? Thankfully, yes—as yet!

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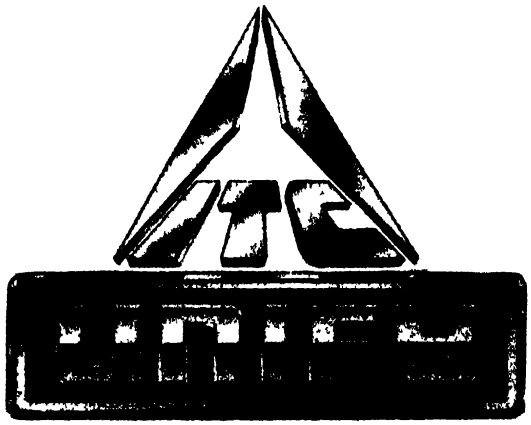
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YOUR MOVE, BLIP BLIP

Chess would be a difficult game to describe to a totally obedient moron. Space is not always an important factor unlike draughts or *go*. Material superiority is sometimes a vital factor, sometimes not. For every rule there are several exceptions. In fact a great player is one whose intuition tells him or her when an exception occurs.

All this arises from the biggest dichotomy of all. The object of the game is to capture the king which makes that piece infinitely valuable. The king is also royally impotent, being one of the weakest units on the board. Complicated huh?!

Another complication—the number of possible moves in a chessgame is approximately equal to the number of atoms in the universe—give or take a couple of billion. Variation-crunching by brute force is rather tough even on a modern mainframe.

So its a challenge writing strong chess playing programmes. Human beings pick a few possibilities out of the millions by a process they cannot really explain How do you get a moronic computer to do that.

Computer programmers tend to be enthusiastic chess players if usually poor ones, and chessplayers tend to programme lots of bugs. Lots of bright lads and lasses have had a good time attempting to codify the principles of woodpushing

Dr Mikhail Botvinnik, a computer scientist who played reasonable chess (he was world champion from 1948-63) predicted in the Fifties that there would be Grandmaster strength programmes available by the 21st century. There were pitying looks and whispers that "Botty's gone batty".

He was rather conservative actually. In February 1989 a machine named *Deep Thought* started afflicting human chessplayers with *delirium tremens*. DT tied for first spot with GM Tony Miles in a Long Beach, California meet ahead of 738 human beings including six other GMs and a former world champion.

Some said it was a fluke—DT's opponents had perhaps erred humanly. Within six months the euphoneously named Carnegie Mellon machine stretched both Karpov and Kasparov to the limit before going down.

Now people started discussing the implications of having non-human members in the GM Association. There have been no title applications by a machine yet but the time will surely come—perhaps before this year is out.

There are now hundreds of chessplaying programmes and machines on the market. Most are not in the class of DT but they are all getting better, quickly and surely. Kasparov may well be the first world champion who has to defend his title against a machine. Also the Queen hit, *Another one bytes the dust* now has sinister connotation for chessplayers.

All the machines have interesting names like *Mephisto* and *Sargon*. The

There's no law that says that a Grandmaster has to be human. So watch out, Kasparov.

DEVANGSHU DATTA squares off

first machine, of course, was the mechanical *Turk* which was exhibited at the turn of the century. This actually had a human being concealed in its artistically designed innards.

Some of them, like *Boris* for example, are endorsed by top players like Boris Spassky, and the *Kasparov Galileo* is endorsed by you know who. Most of the new models have large opening 'books' incorporated in the programme. These randomly select well known gambits and defences. Some have several levels of play in order to give all classes of players a good game.

Pretty soon one will witness regular man versus machine meets. The *Kasparov Galileo* was launched at a display in Zurich where the world champion and eight other top players took on 181 machines, simultaneously and not too successfully. GM Lajos Portisch, a world championship candidate for two decades went down while the world champion was in trouble against one of his digital clones.

Sometimes strange glitches are discovered in programmes. Some programmes maniacally push pawns and repeatedly make the same errors. More subtle is the "horizon effect". Unlike human beings computers are normally programmed to calculate, say five moves deep. A cunning human being will then start looking for traps which are "over the horizon" that is six or more moves deep.

The attempt to develop better chess playing machines has resulted in cross-fertilisation. Programmers have benefitted by learning new techniques to replicate intuition. Chess players have learnt more about calculating like machines.

Computer 'seconds' are also in vogue. Players feed in position and use the self-play capacity to search for new possibilities. This is safer than using a human second who may leak information to opponents.

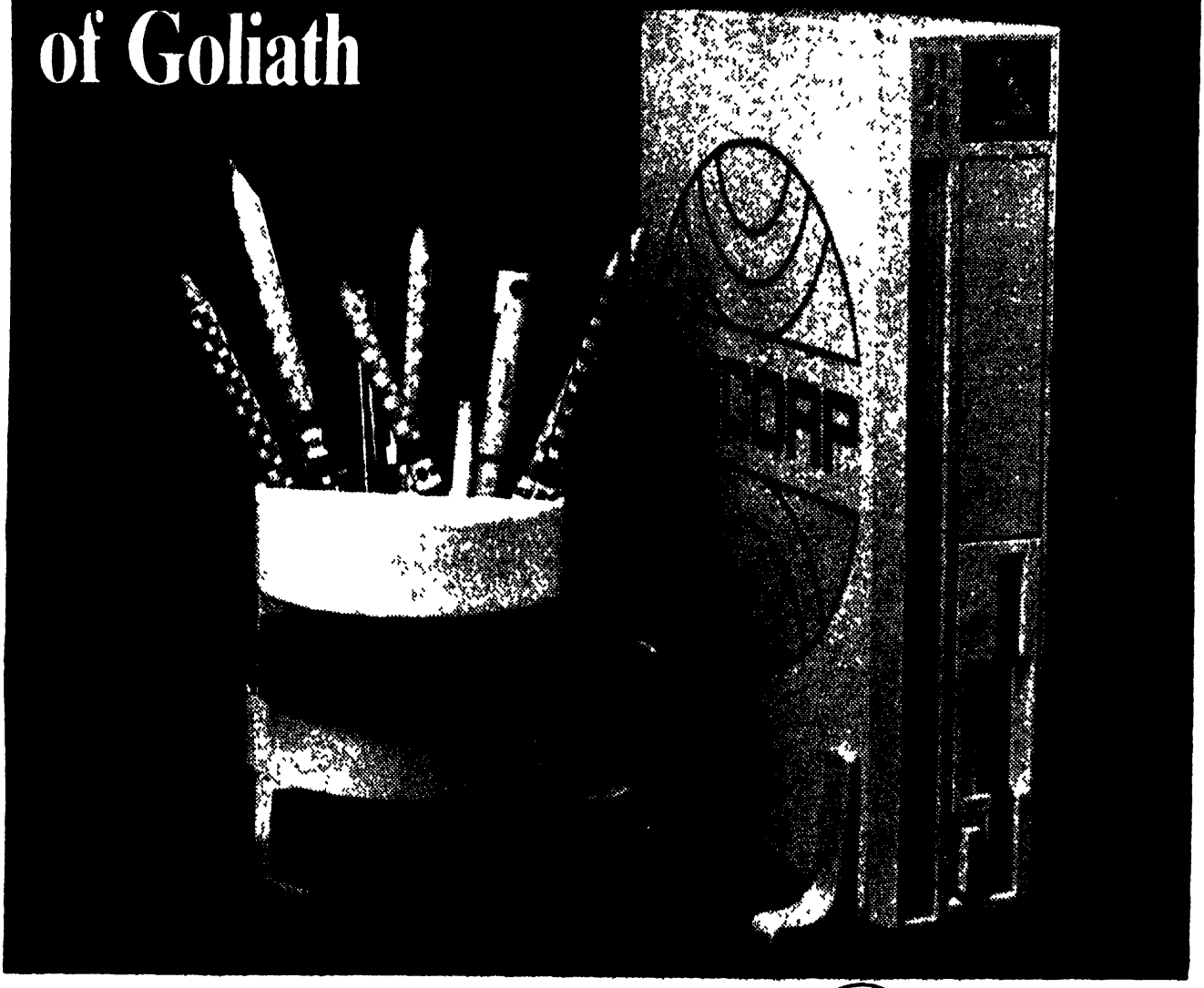
Most of all, playing chess with a computer is unalloyed fun The computer has unlimited patience and will wait uncomplainingly for its master to make a move He can always pull the plug or retract a bad move. When he's feeling sadistic he can play deliberately badly and then switch sides. Most of all a victorious computer does not gloat though cheeky repartee is sometimes programmed in by those who like a bit of needle. But by defintion a computer's bark can only be as good as its byte.

In *2001-A Space Odyssey* the super ship's computer HAL 9000 plays chess with its astronaut charges in order to keep them sane. HAL also cheats—in order to let them win occasionally. In a quirky twist HAL eventually goes insane—something that happens to a lot of chessplayers.

The possibilities are endless. In this century the Russians have dominated chess. In the 21st it may well be machines. Kasparov has gone on record that he sees it as his duty to the human race to maintain the superiority of flesh and blood over the mean machine. He also admits that it is getting more and more difficult. Incidentally there is a $1,000,000 award going to the first machine that beats the world champion.

Maybe there will be a machine world champion by the next decade. Maybe some engineer will invent some ingenious device to nobble the incorruptible computer. Here in Bengal of course the WBSEB will no doubt do its best to ensure that they are unable to function at all.

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CLEA D

HARDSELL

PUMMY NARANG tells you how to buy the real thing, and be at home

So you want to buy a computer! You must have your own reasons for owning one of these gadgets which will eventually change your life at home (make life miserable !!!!). Your reason may be that you want one because the neighbour has one. Or because it's Diwali, and you already have a colour TV, a VCR, a push button phone, a tape recorder and a compact disk, and you don't know what to get now. Or because your son/daughter is attending a school which has introduced him/her to this contraption, and he/she is making your life miserable about practising for the oncoming examinations. Or because you use such a tool at office and wish you had one at home so that you could meet that deadline without staying late at office (instead you wish you could work at home, and maybe, impress the family with your expertise).

Anyway, no matter what your reason for wanting to own a computer, the important point is that you have decided that you need such a thing. It's a wise decision. I don't have one at home, but I wish I had one, if I could afford one. No, don't panic, it's not that expensive. But it could become so, once you have decided what you really want.

And what you really want is related to your basic reason for wanting one.

Computers come in many shapes and sizes. There are 8-bit and 16-bit and 32-bit computers, they come with 32 kilobytes of RAM (Random Access Memory) or 256 KB (kilobytes) or 640 KB, or 1 MB (megabyte), you can have a regular keyboard or an extended keyboard or one that has 'chiclets'. You can buy a TV or you can use the one at home. You can have tapes or disks, and in the later case you can choose 3.5", or 5.25" or 8". And so on.

Enough of all this confusing talk. What is important to understand is that these choices are made available because each choice offers a specific advantage, or addresses a specific need. It is not necessary to have all of them, but it is essential to have some of them. The vendors give you these choices not to confuse you, but to tailor your computer system to your need (and pocket).

We will classify your reasons by the objective that you wish to achieve:

- You want to buy a computer so as to ensure that your children, who have been introduced to computers in school, or who soon will be, have the opportunity to understand this monster, and in the process you hope you will too.
- You want to learn to use this machine so that you can improve your own productivity. Or that you are already using one of these at office, and you want to finish off your work at home, over that weekend.

So the reason is your own productivity and/or your children's need. If it is only for your children, and you have no interest of your own (you'll soon get addicted to it, so think about it) then you need to investigate what computers are being used in their schools. These could be BBC Micro machines or IBM PC compatible systems. If IBM compatibles are being used, then I would strongly recommend that you go in for one of these. If only BBC Micros are being used, then visit the school, and talk to their teachers and discuss whether the IBM compatible can meet their requirement. The BBC Micro is an excellent machine, it has very good educational software available on it, but it is limited in scope—as far as the full family's use is concerned. And believe me, everybody in the family is going to be using it very soon (even the dog for its many hiding places for your slippers). So, if it is for yourself and your family, then the choice is the IBM PC compatible.

But please don't get me wrong. The BBC Micro computer (like the HOPE machine) is excellent to get introduced to computers. It has some very good software available. (Software is what you get on disks or tapes, which make the computer do all those wonderful things at such fantastic speeds.) It is a very good entry point introduction to computers, and it is easy on the pocket. But, you will soon grow out of it (as many of the DB Spectrum owners will vouch to you), and then you will have to buy the big daddy (as compared to the BBC)—the IBM PC compatible.

The PC, as I will refer to the IBM PC compatible, was introduced quite sometime ago, and was aimed at personal productivity. But it is now used in many ways—even by the shopkeeper at the corner to keep track of his inventory.

Depending on what you are going to use the computer for, you can make a list of the various kinds of software that you may need. This list would then decide the various features that you must have on the computer so as to enjoy/achieve your objective. If you are using a computer in the office, then you would have access to the software you need (but don't tell anyone you are taking—pirating—it away. If nobody knows, nobody cares. But always remember that piracy is an offence, and that if you bought your own software, then nobody can call anybody a thief). But you may not have ready access to the educational software that is available on the BBC Micro. Please note: the software that your child needs to prepare for the computer exam in school, is available. I am referring to that software that is available on the BBC that may teach your child other subjects such as math, or physics, or chemistry, or English, and so on. Such software is available for the PC, but currently, not in India.

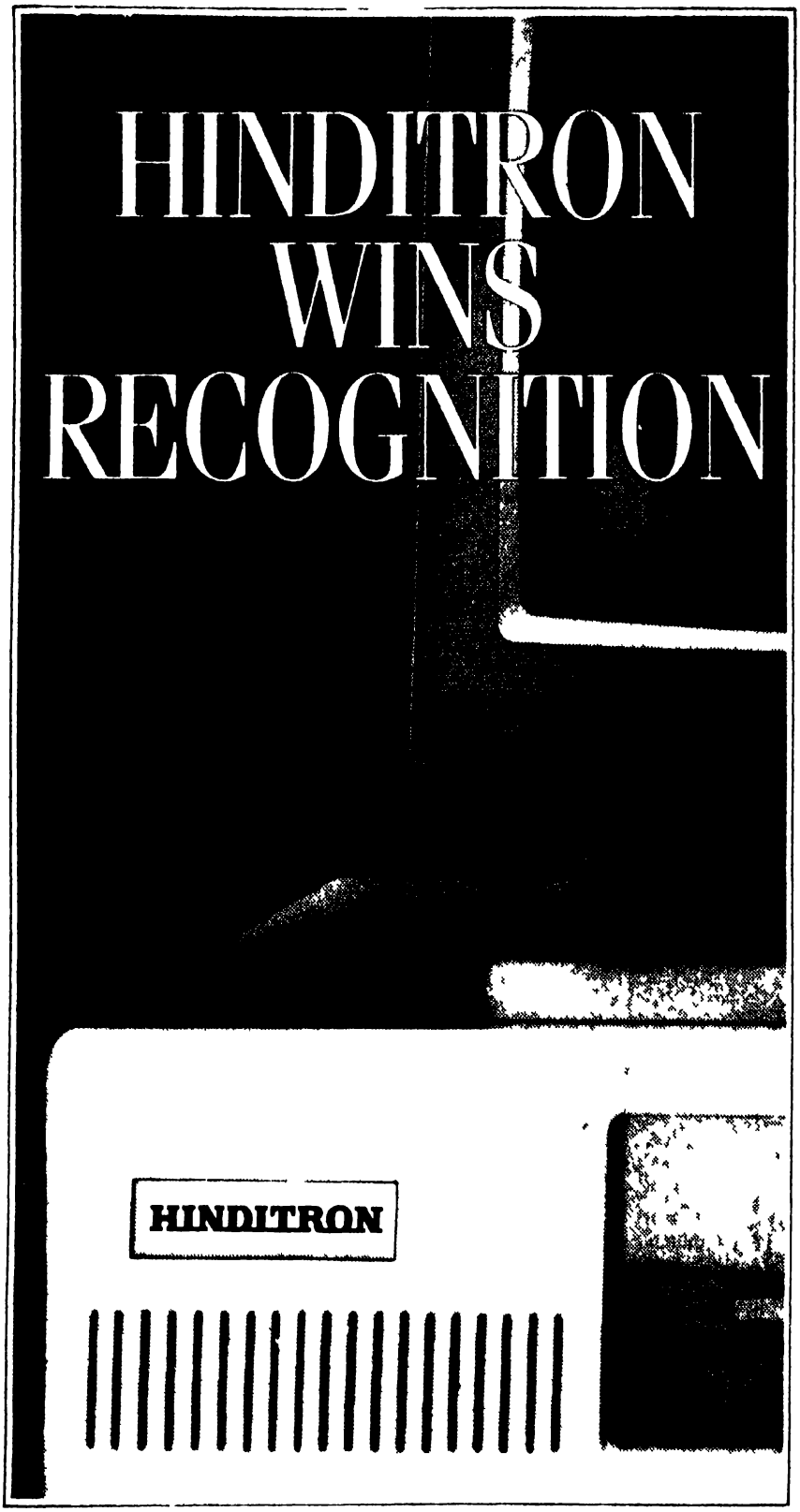
Some organisations have been offering low priced computers: a computer with 256 KB memory, one floppy disk drive and a monitor for Rs 12,000 . Such a computer system would definitely work, but it is not a practical configuration. I would recommend that you buy the full 640 KB memory, at least two floppy drives (if you replaced one of the floppy disk drives with a hard disk, I would be more comfortable), and a monitor and keyboard. Such a system would cost you more than Rs 25,000 but it would definitely allow you to work with most of the software available on the market. You do not have to buy a printer—you could either use the one at office, or maybe go to the corner computer centre and get your stuff printed at a nominal charge.

And you must insist that the supplier load the operating system on the machine. Without the O/S, your computer will not work. And insist that the supplier give you a copy of the O/S on a disk.

And join a computer club. This will give you access to a body of computer users with whom you can discuss your problems (and even share your software).

And be ready to buy another computer at the earliest—the one you have is soon going to be in such demand, that you may have to line up for it, or use it after everyone has gone to sleep.

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THE RIGHT COURSE

Unlike previous occasions the CSI exhibition will no longer remain the domain of the computer literate only. Thanks to the new-found acceptance of the edict "you may love computers or you may hate them, but in modern times you will not be able to do without them" the average Calcuttan will flock to the exhibition to quench this new found thirst for knowledge about this hi-tech marvel

Over the past four years various computer training organisations have sensed this feeling of acceptance among the average Calcuttan,especially the younger generation, and moved into the city to cash in on the resulting explosion of demand in computer related training. A city where 10 years ago you could count the number of computer training centres on one hand is suddenly witnessing the mushrooming of training centres and computer clubs all over, even in places like Santoshpur and Belgharia. Hoardings, newspaper ads and banners extolling the virtues of these institutions are luring in hundreds of people craving to become computer experts.

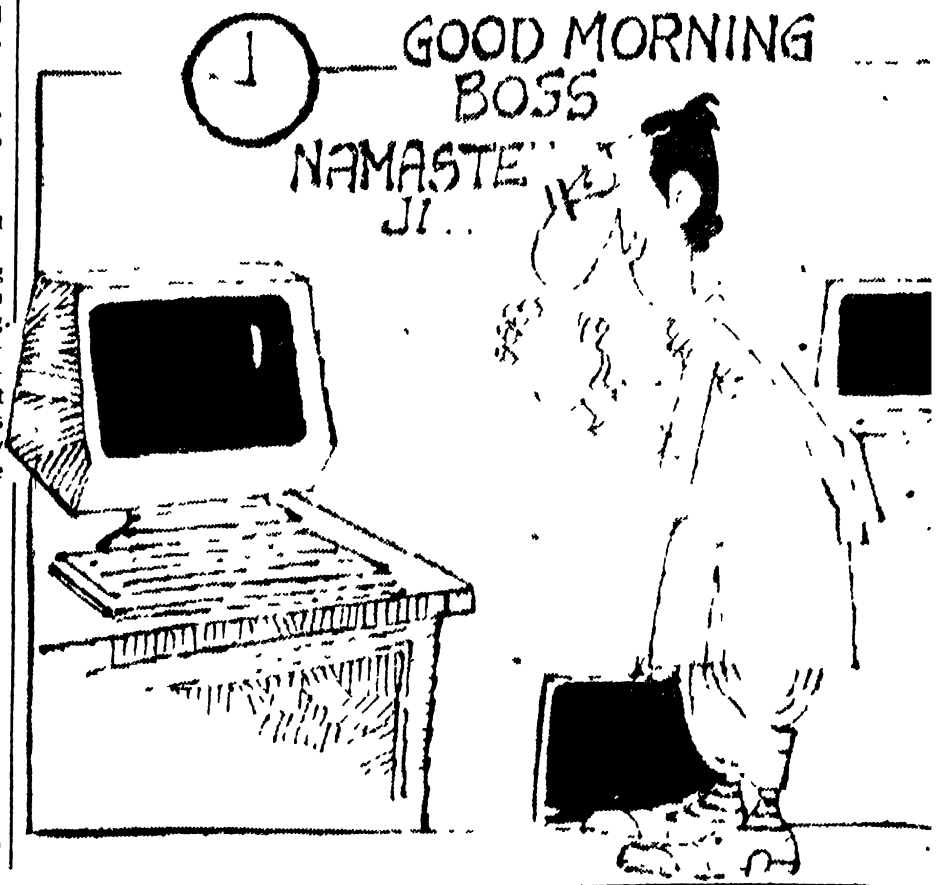
Computer education means different things to different people. While it provides a new status symbol to the young upper class person as a logical extension of his "yuppie image" the underlying motive is far more relevant and understandable when it comes to the middle-class Calcuttan. **The vast employment potential of the computer industry has provided him with new hope in a city where job opportunities are otherwise not growing.**

Unfortunately, along with reputed training organisations of long standing experience a very large number of fly-by-night operators without any credentials whatsoever have decided to make a quick buck out of this phenomenon, specially in the suburban areas of the city. These people have overnight set up "Computer Centres providing training of the highest quality guided by experienced computer professionals". In reality these centres are far from what they **claim to be. Poorly equipped—with obsolete machines and a semi-trained staff—they lure gullible career** seeking Calcuttans with tall promises of "Job Guarantee with reputed organisations'. The people who pass out from these centres with hopes of a lucrative career find themselves stranded in a job market that is highly demanding and quality conscious. The lucky ones who do manage employment find themselves hopelessly out of depth and thoroughly unprepared to handle the real life environment. According to a disgusted senior consultant from the industry, "Employing people passing out from such shady institutions is as good as committing professional *harakiri*. Their productivity is very low, their technical knowledge poor and their business communication skills atrocious."

SANTANU GUPTA's advice on how to be a pro

The words of this particular expert make it quite obvious that without proper career counselling, guidance and scientific channelising of this demand for computer education, the tremendous manpower potential Calcutta has in this field will be reduced to a mass of semi skilled clerical quality aspirants completely ignored by a contemptuous industry.

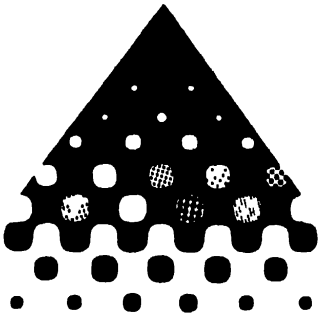
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computer knowledge it is important for an aspirant to "computer literacy' to understand and analyse his own objectives. Is it mere thirst for knowledge that drives him to educate himself or does he plan to find a career on the basis of this knowledge? Does he feel that knowledge of computers will be an added advantage in his existing career or will computers help him streamline his business activities?/ According to L. Gopinath, area manager of Datapro Information Technology in Calcutta, knowing one's objectives in advance can help an aspirant choose the right course, one which corresponds with what he wants to achieve. According to Dr Smaranjit Dey, group consultant at the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT), just as important is the aspirant's attitude towards computers. What this means is that any subconscious mental block or preconceived, unsubstantiated notion about the subject can lead to serious deficiencies in the learning process. A person who lacks sincere interest in computers as a subject and is only interested because it can help him find a job will probably make a very poor student. He'd be better off spending his time and money elsewhere.

The next stage is even more important: finding an institution which suits his requirements. This is an extremely difficult task, specially with over 200 such schools to choose from. In most cases the aspirant depends on references from other students, advertisements in newspapers or simply plumps for a conveniently located centre.

A more scientific method, though, would be to devise a tabular chart containing various decision making factors like course contents, cost, timeframe, references, recognition, location etc. By visiting various institutions and putting down the information obtained from them against each factor an aspirant can make a clear comparative study before taking a decision.

Finally comes the most critical test of all. The aspirant has to find out whether he has the fundamental skills to take on a computer course or not. This kind of test is normally administered by the institutions themselves, generally consisting of a test of reasoning, numerical ability and English, not different from the examination held for clerical jobs in banks. The aspirant should try to avoid institutions which do not require any test at all. In all probability if the aspirant does not have the basic skills, he will be wasting his time and money. If the aspirant does not perform satisfactorily in a test he should not be discouraged. He should instead rectify his deficiencies and take up the course when he has sufficiently improved.

The courses available to the aspirant can be categorised as academic and vocational. The first consists of full-fledged degree courses in computer sciences and applications conducted by engineering colleges and management institutes. These programmes are long term, highly competitive and require a very high degree of logical and mathematical skills. Since these courses are part of the curricula of reputed institutions like the IITs, IIMs Jadavpur and Calcutta students passing out from there are snapped up by organisations like banks, computer manufacturers and multinationals. The kind of programmes available under this category are B. Tech, M. Tech & Ph. D in computer science & engineering for the research and development-oriented students, Master of Computer Applications (MCA) for those who are interested in applying computer technology to business and industry needs and finally MBA (Information Systems) for those who would like to specialise in computer applications to aid analysis and dissemination of management information. Normally many of the modules in the programmes mentioned are common and often overlap. It is only during the advanced stages of the programmes that the students branch out into areas of specialisation.

Interestingly, the Regional Computer Centre, located at Jadavpur University but funded independently by the Central government conducts an excellent vocational Post-Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications (DCA). The industry is all praise for this intermediate course which not only has the support of the best faculty available in Calcutta but is also recognised all over the country. But admission to this course is through a very tough competitive examination and is restricted to science and commerce graduates only.

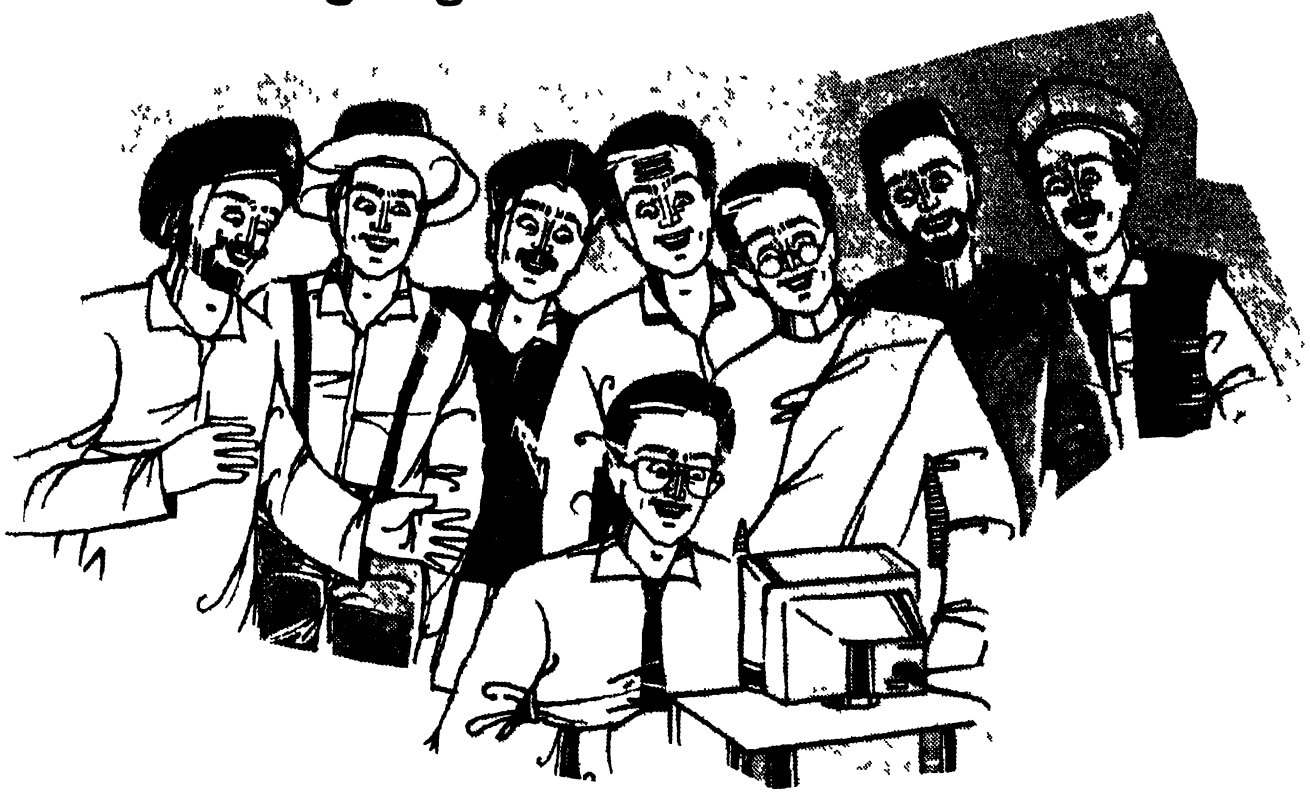
This stance of the RCC has been criticised by many in the computer training industry. Pummy Narang, a leading consultant in the city and franchisee of the APPLE Computer Education Centre in Calcutta feels that this kind of discrimination anywhere can lead to potential talents from other streams of education losing out to mediocre aspirants from science and commerce. Smaranjit Dey of NIIT strongly believes that a formal background in science or commerce is not required for aspirants who plan to work at the application level. But for more research-oriented work, a strong mathematical background is essential, he adds. A mathematical/engineering background is definitely desirable also for aspirants who want to use computers for scientific/ engineering analysis.

The vocational courses are conducted mainly by private institutions all over the city. These can be roughly divided into three kinds Persons aspiring for a full-time career in computers should normally opt for the comprehensive long-term courses ranging from one to two years. These long-term courses start with computer fundamentals, take you through a gamut of programming languages, teach you how to design a computerised system specific to real life applications and finish off with a live project on their own premises or in a local organisation. Short-term courses ranging from six weeks to six months are also available in specialised subjects of interest e.g. in the COBOL language or the UNIX operating system. These courses are more valuable to people who are already working on computers in some capacity and would like to specialise or extend their knowledge. There are short-term courses on general awareness for people who are simply curious or would like to get a clearer picture before they decide to go in for a long-term course. For the busy executive or businessman who has no time to attend courses, there are executive development programmes ranging from one to 14 days conducted in luxury hotels with lunch and refreshments. The retentivity value of these programmes is unlikely to be very high. People attending these programmes are more interested in the contents of the day's menu rather than the beautifully printed and bound course material

Computer related education can be further subdivided into areas of specialisation depending on its relevance to a person. Sujoy Das, partner in a chartered accountants firm, digs into books on computer applications whenever he has the time. He is not really interested in programming, but would like to add design of computerised accounting systems as a logical extension to the services he offers to his clients. Systems analysis, more a management than a computer subject, is his area of specialisation.

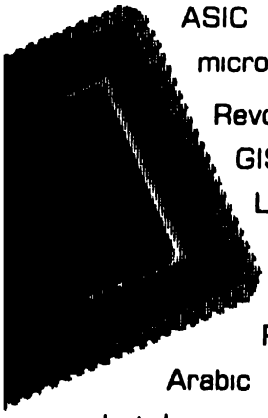
Mihir Ray, chairman of a pharmaceutical company, has specific management information and documentation needs which can be successfully met by learning how to use packaged computer software like word processors and electronic spreadsheets. He needs to know only how to operate the relevant software packages to get necessary results. Programming and systems analysis are irrelevant to him. What he needs to know is how to switch on the computer and get to his programme. He is interested in computers merely as an end user. For him a short programme teaching IBM PC packages like Lotus 123, Wordstar or dbaseIII plus is suffi-

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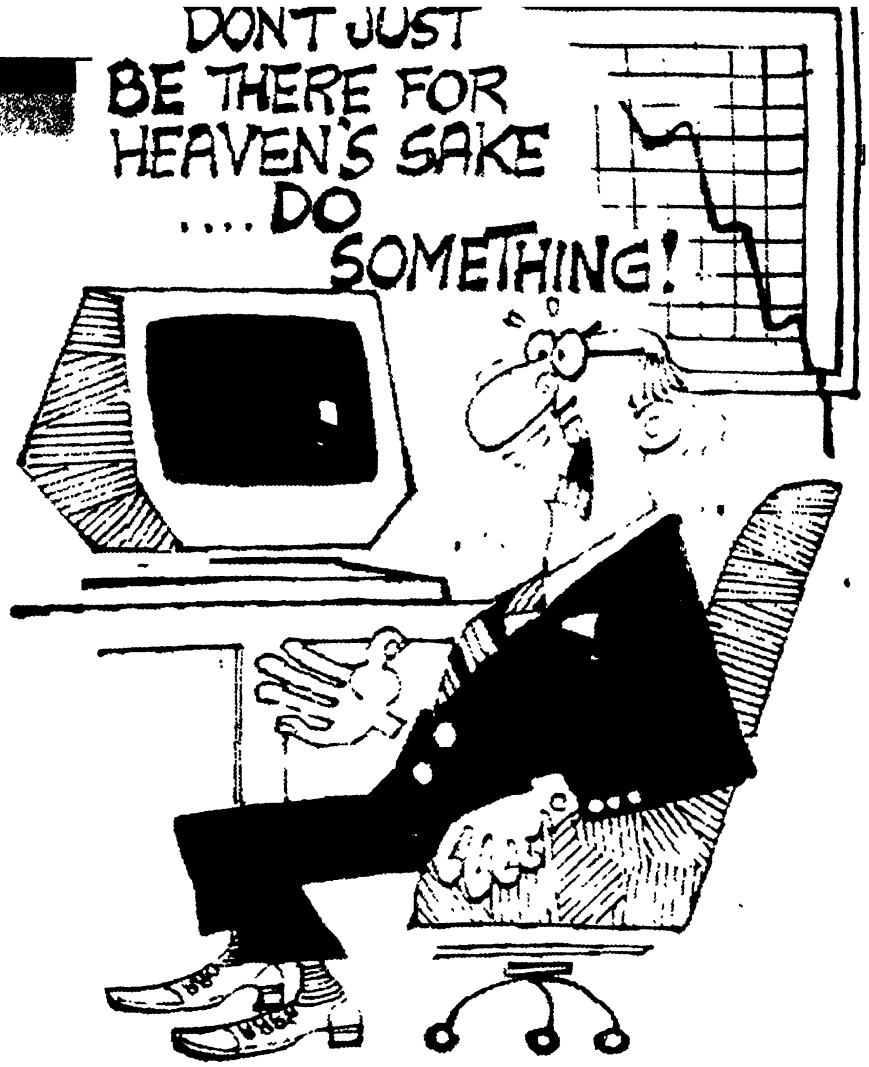
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cient.

Soma Gupta is a programmer with a large export house working with personal computers. Mrs Gupta wants to learn an advanced programming language called 'C' because she feels that her productivity will improve by incorporating this knowledge in her work, which increases in complexity day by day.

Betty Basu, a hotel management graduate wants to know it all. She aims at being a computer specialist so that she can design and develop software for her chosen profession, the hospitality industry. To achieve this ambitious task, Ms Basu has to be a proficient computer user, a good programmer, an excellent systems analyst and an efficient manager of computer resources. Hence, she attends a one-year comprehensive diploma course at the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) to achieve all-round proficiency.

Vocational courses catering to all aspects of computer learning i.e. programming, systems analysis and design as well as end-user applications are available in this city through nationally and internationally reputed training organisations. With a little bit of planning and patience as mentioned earlier it is possible for an aspirant to get into the right course in a reputed institution.

Among the hundreds of training organisations which have sprouted in this city, the institutions which have really left a mark of quality are the National Institute of Information Technology, Datapro Information Technology and CMC Ltd. These organisations are mentionable not only because of their professional approach and high quality of teaching, but also because they are officially and unofficially recognised by various segments of business & industry in India and abroad. A late but nevertheless important entrant in the fray is the APPLE Computer Education Centre.

There is really very little to choose from among these institutions as far as the type of courses and the course contents are concerned. The difference lies more in the course structure and training methodology that can be plus or minus a few points depending on the varying objectives and skills of individual aspirants.

CMC Ltd, a public sector organisation with vast expertise in various areas of computer technology probably ranks the highest in terms of faculty expertise. This very advantage turns to a disadvantage where long-term courses are concerned since the cost of engaging such personnel in a single course over an extended period becomes prohibitive to the company and therefore to the participant. CMC is a favourite with people already engaged in computer related activities who want to attend short-term intensive courses in highly specialised subjects. The courses are full day and expensive. Participants are normally sponsored by employers. A calender of CMC courses is available at its office on Camac Street.

NIIT—the largest single training organisation in the country with over 42 centres (excluding franchisees)—has two centres in Calcutta, the main one at Azimgunge House on Camac St and a branch in Salt Lake. It is the most popular training institution among the younger generation, largely because it is unofficially recognised among many corporate houses as a reliable recruitment source for trainee level requirements. Along with the usual gamut of short term courses in general awareness, computer languages and operating systems, NIIT offers three long-term post graduate diploma courses in system management. Students can choose a one-year programme, and optionally extend it to an 18-month honours programme and further up to a two-year advanced programme depending on a 70 per cent plus performance at each stage. An excellent performance in the admission test, consisting of test of reasoning, numerical ability and English communication and interview ensures direct admission in the two-year advanced diploma. The one-year programme is completely based on the IBM PC and aspirants wanting exposure to computing techniques on the larger mini computers are offered UNIX and C training in the 18 month-programme. The two year programme gives additional modules, very advanced hi-tech computer concepts like fourth generation languages, artificial intelligence, computer-aided systems engineering etc. The two-year programme will give the graduates education continuity and relevance well into the future.

According to Betty Basu, her one-year course gives her approximately 96 hours of classroom sessions and the same amount of time in the practical laboratory. The classrooms themselves consist of a large number of personal computers for demonstration exercises. Lecturers depend largely on audio-visual aids like video, overhead transparency projections and computer-based training software for classroom presentations. NIIT is affiliated to a US-based organisation called the American Council of Education which allows its students to claim credits in specific American universities.



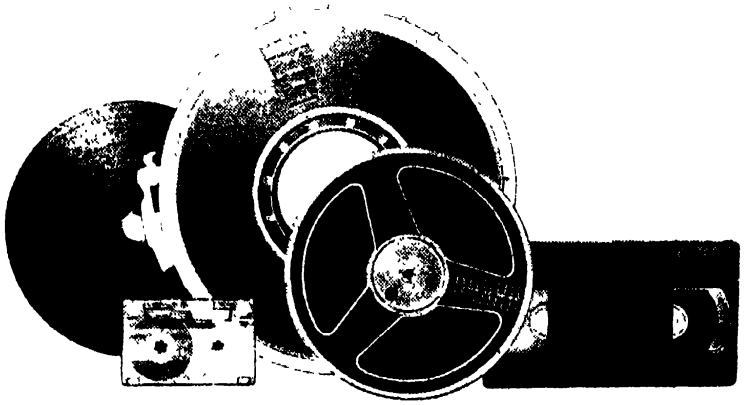
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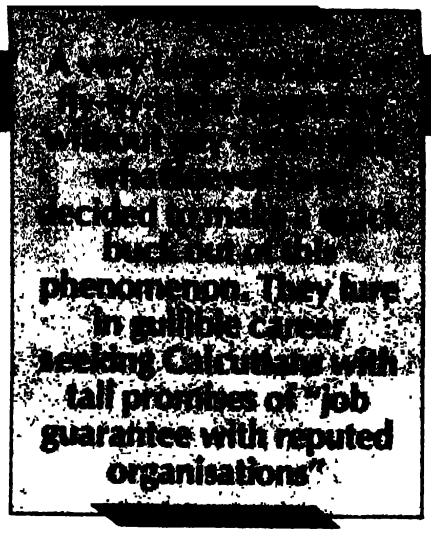
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The common complaint about NIIT is that the Camac Street centre is so overcrowded with students that they can be found sitting on the staircases of Azimgunj House and even spilling over to the sidewalk on Camac Street while waiting for their classes to start. A more serious complaint comes from prospective employers. Many of them feel that the students come out with sky high expectations regarding their job content and are consequently dissillusioned when they have to start at the bottom of the rung. This is an area which happens to be the direct responsibility of the concerned counsellor and placement executive.

Datapro Information Technology, another very reputed company is a more recent addition to the city, having taken off in 1988. This organisation which also boasts of a large number of centres all over India, has so far only one centre in south Calcutta—Lake Road. They have plans to open two more centres, one on Loudon Street and another in Salt Lake. Since its establishment, Datapro has provided keen competition to NIIT. While the standard of its permanent faculty is probably not as high as NIIT, Datapro scores over NIIT with its ATCs or authorised training courses. It is the authorised training centre for three major American software companies, Microsoft Corpn, Lotus Development Corpn and Autodesk Inc. Datapro hence has access to training aids and material directly from the the manufacturers of international standard packaged software like MS-word for word processing, LOTUS 123, the world favourite in spreadsheets and Autocad, the most popular software for computer-aided engineering design. End-users of these software are numerous in Calcutta and would do well to take formal training from Datapro.

Training certificates for these packages are provided by the manufacturers themselves, thus lending more credibility to the ATCs. On the higher end Datapro conducts two long– term courses, a one year Diplima in Computer Science, and an 18-month Master in Computer Science. According to L. Gopinath, area manager, these courses stand apart from other similar courses in that they are completely modular. Each module is an independent short-term course in itself and a specified number of modules lead up to a diploma. This kind of system is advantageous to aspirants with less than clear-cut objectives who would prefer working up the ladder one step at a time rather than invest in a long-term course. One major disadvantage of the modular system, according to Debashish Gupta of the APPLE Computer Education Centre, is that it actually discourages a student from devising a proper long-term objective so important to planning a career.

The APPLE Computer Education Centre whose strongest asset is its international collaboration with the National Computing Centre, UK, has since its inception in 1985 in Bombay trained almost 12,500 students all over India. Unfortunately , this high profile training organisation has been a late entrant here. Still, initial figures of 150 students in the first month of operation shows that their future as a training force in Calcutta is to be taken seriously both by competitors and aspirants.

APPLE does not give its own certificates and diplomas. What it does is coach students for two important international computer examinations held by NCC-UK worldwide, the International Diploma in Computer Programming and Applications (IDCPA) and the International Diploma in Computer Studies (IDCS). The first exam requires a coaching period of one year and the second, 18 months. On completion of coaching, the student takes the offical exam conducted directly by NCC officials visiting India. Certificates and diplomas are directly issued by NCC-UK. APPLE also conducts independent short-term courses on specialised subjects. The examinations are conducted and certificates issued by NCC.

Since NCC is a well known name in computer circles, manufacturers and software houses will probably look towards APPLE passouts for filling in junior level positions. APPLE passouts will also have clout with multinationals of British origin. Computer personnel planning to work abroad, especially in Commonwealth countries like the British Isles, Singapore, Hong Kong and Australia will find that short of a full-fledged academic degree in computers, an NCC diploma will stand them in good stead because of its international acceptability. APPLE programmes are comprehensive hierarchical courses which do not follow the modular system since they are bound by the objective of preparing a student for a specific public examination. Their classroom methods are state-of-the-art. Presentations are made with the help of Kodak datashow video projection systems which magnify the screen of an operational computer to blackboard size thus making teaching by example truly effective. A large number of personal computers complete the lab infrastructure. The beginning seems good, but how effective APPLE training will be for the aspirants is to be judged over a longer period of time. APPLE is situated at the crossing of Middleton Row and Camac Street in a new building.

While talking about the high calibre of training these organisations impart it must be said in the same breath that their courses are prohibitively expensive. At a glance, NIIT charges Rs 12-15000 for its diploma courses while Datapro is slightly cheaper at Rs 10,000. APPLE charges about the same as NIIT, plus £70 in foreign exchange from the students' Reserve Bank allowance. Schemes for installment payment do not ease things very much for the middle class aspirant.

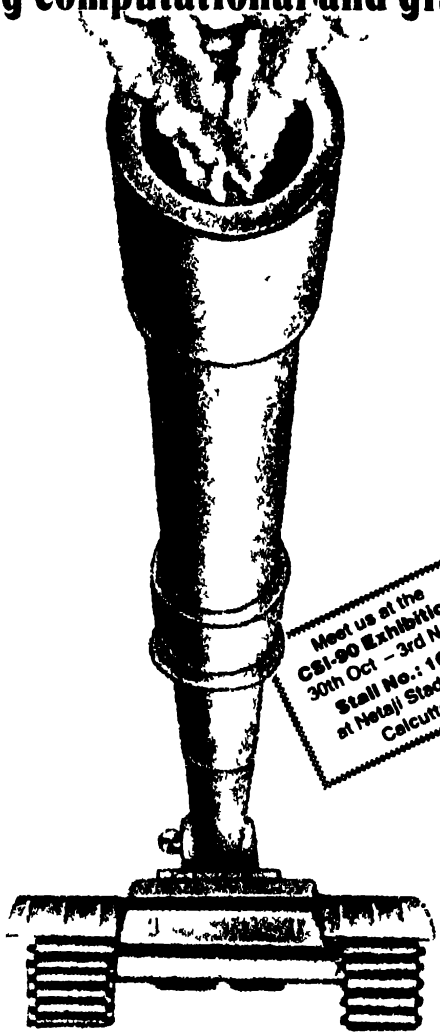
For aspirants who simply cannot pay so much but would still like to undertake a fair standard of computer training, branches of Lakhotia Computer Centre are there in many places in the city. A local outfit of long standing, LCC is unique in the sense that it also conducts training exclusively for women in collaboration with the two YWCA branches in the city. A real boon for paranoid parents who wouldn't like their young daughters to come in contact with computer class Casanovas. LCC offers a variety of short-term courses on programming and packaged software as well as a one-year diploma course. The exclusive courses for women offer certificates from the vocational wing of the YWCA.

For computer enthusiasts and hobbyists, PC Centre, a well-equipped computer club on Lansdowne Road near Hindustan Club, offers a relaxed setting for meddling with the machines. It is not possible to cover all the good computer training setups in the city and hence only those with large infrastructures to cater to a lot of people are covered. But with time and increasing demand, those organisations which maintain consistently high standards and operate with honesty and genuine concern for the paying students will sooner or later be able to compare with institutions like NIIT, APPLE, Datapro and CMC.

With proper planning, guidance and support from Calcutta's computer fraternity and consistent, high-quality, up-to-date education from reputed training organisations, the existing potential of a traditionally cerebral city like Calcutta can be converted into a force to reckon with in the computer world.

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POST MORTEM

Killing Calcutta for Lucre?

V.S. Naipaul has conveniently killed Calcutta so as to sell a book priced at Rs 250 (August 26)!

There seem to be two reasons for Naipaul's seeing Calcutta in a different light. First, he was a younger man when he visited Calcutta earlier. He can no longer see things from a fresh point, but only as Rabindranath once did: an old man's melancholy farewell to Calcutta.

Secondly, the very way in which he visited south Calcutta shows he has seen only one side of the coin. He admits having gone by a car in the early hours. To visit a lane of south Calcutta, a car is the worst vehicle possible. From central Calcutta the best way would be to take the Metro to Rabindra Sarobar or Tollygunge and walk the rest of the distance. A car would take more time to enter a lane than it would to reach the lane!

Manoj Mishra,
Ranchi

■ In the extract from Naipaul's book (September 2), it was stated, "This was the incident in North Bihar, after which the Naxalite movement was named " But it is a well known fact that the Naxalite movement first started from a tiny village adjacent to Naxalbari PS, a small town in North Bengal.

Sushil Kumar Sarkar,
Siliguri (W.B.)

Deadly Disease

The cover story, 'AIDS Strikes Calcutta' (August 19), was very timely. It is a matter of great regret that the state government is taking no interest to curb this serious trend or in providing proper treatment for AIDS patients in hospitals.

The social organisations and youth groups of the city should also cooperate with the government in making people aware of this deadly disease.

Harekrushna Mahanta,
Bokaro (Bihar)

■ AIDS, in fact, struck Calcutta a long time ago

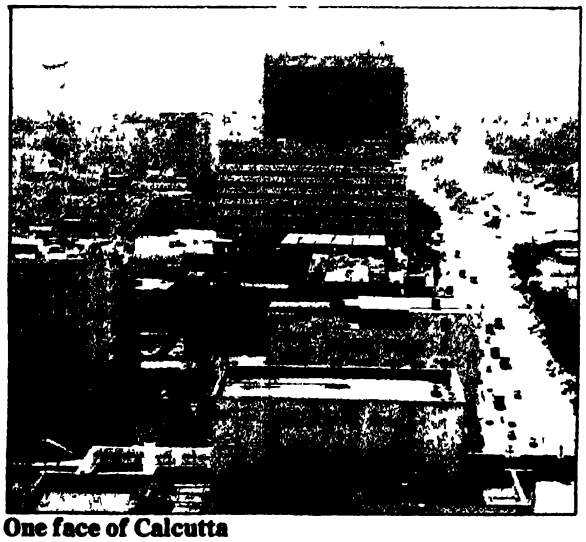
Sunil Sachdev,
Calcutta

■ Your perception that women are the only carriers of the disease is wrong. Men and women are equally responsible

Jeteendra Kishor Sahoo,
Burla (Orissa)

Even the doctors are reluctant to treat AIDS patients! If this trend goes on, we will have to face the music of this deadliest of all diseases. It has every possibility of breaking out in epidemic form by 2000 AD.

Manohar Mandal,
Nabadwip (W.B.)



Sanjay Sarma

One face of Calcutta

Hemant's Music

Your tribute to Hemant Kumar on his first death anniversary was touching (September 23). He was the last of the Bengali 'line' that gave us jewels like Pankaj Mullick, Sachin Dev Burman and K.C. Dey

Rich and full, his distinctive voice helped popularise many heroes, but age and illness prevented him from singing much in the last years of his life.

After his service to music for more than 40 years, this thorough gentleman left us at the age of 69. But his songs and tunes will be remembered for ages to come.

Ramesh Pal Tewari,
Calcutta

Lata's Record

Vivek Agarwal pointed out in his letter (Post Mortem, September 9) that Mohd. Rafi is the record holder for the maximum number of songs. That is not correct

Who else but the legendary Lata Mangeshkar could have the record in her name with 30,000 songs up to 1987 (*Guinness Book of Records*, 1990)?

Saurav Mitra,
Calcutta

Rafi's Voice

I was delighted to find that lovely sketch and translation of songs of Mohd Rafi (July 29) on the occasion of his 10th death anniversary.

In the near future we expect to see a similar tribute to Kishore Kumar, but please translate his sentimental numbers and not the va-va-voom ones

Shankar Ghosh,
Howrah (W.B.)

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The Telegraph

4 NOVEMBER 1990



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Cover Utpal Sorkar


LIMELIGHT

War or peace. The choice is clear. And while mankind, having marked time during centuries of war games, still awaits a final decision, a handful of the city's theatre people now once again bring to us the all-important question in the form of *Kumari-Kurukshetra-Comedy* - that promises to be a never-seen-before theatrical blitzkrieg played out in the open in an arena as large as a football field.

Beside the Lake Stadium on Southern Avenue, Theatre Arts Workshop (TAW) in collaboration with Max Mueller Bhavan has painstakingly toiled for more than three months to transcreate this widely used fair ground into a very realistic warscape. On exhibit is a set of actor soldiers, two women with a horse-drawn carriage (Yes, real. One among the few still in use in the city has been obtained) that trots along 10 feet deep trenches and jumps across a long and winding canal. A battle tank strategically placed above a hill stands mute witness to their movements amid the blazing guns and flashing search lights. At the other end is the Berlin Wall, to be demolished as a finale to every performance scheduled to be held throughout November.

Inspired by Thomas Brasch's *Frauen-Krieg-Luztspiel (Women-War-Comedy)* TAW's magnum-opus is being produced on the scale of Hyme's *Antigone*, which had an extremely successful run at the St Paul's Cathedral grounds in '79. Director Amitava Roy and his assistant Dattatreya Dutt, known for their critically acclaimed work with Guenter Grass in *Biplaber Mohora (The Plebians Rehearse the Uprising)*, have both worked under Hyme and are eager proponents of such non-conventional forms. It is therefore hardly surprising that Roy chose Juergen Lancier—currently among the top rung of theatre designers in Germany—to plan and work out this modern day *Kurukshetra*.

Juergen, who was once an assistant to Hyme's designer Wolf Muenzner, has successfully created theatre in abandoned warehouses, dilapidated football stadiums and is at present working with a young theatre group in the basement of an ancient castle in Moers, some 100 miles from his hometown, Cologne. "Both Roy and I agreed that it had to be an arena production with all the war sounds and action brought live. Otherwise the central anti-war theme would have got lost."

◀ Actor soldiers in battle gear, rehearse a scene at 'Kurukshetra' and (inset) Peter von Becker discusses the finer points of the play with the cast at Max Mueller Bhavan

Photographs: Ashoke Chakrabarty



An ambitious play, covering the size of a football field, opens in the city. Shantanu Datta reports

Juergen came down to Calcutta for a week to select the venue and "get a feel of the city's theatre language". He sent back his detailed drawings upon which work was started and Juergen is now back here to supervise the final grafting of the "war stage."

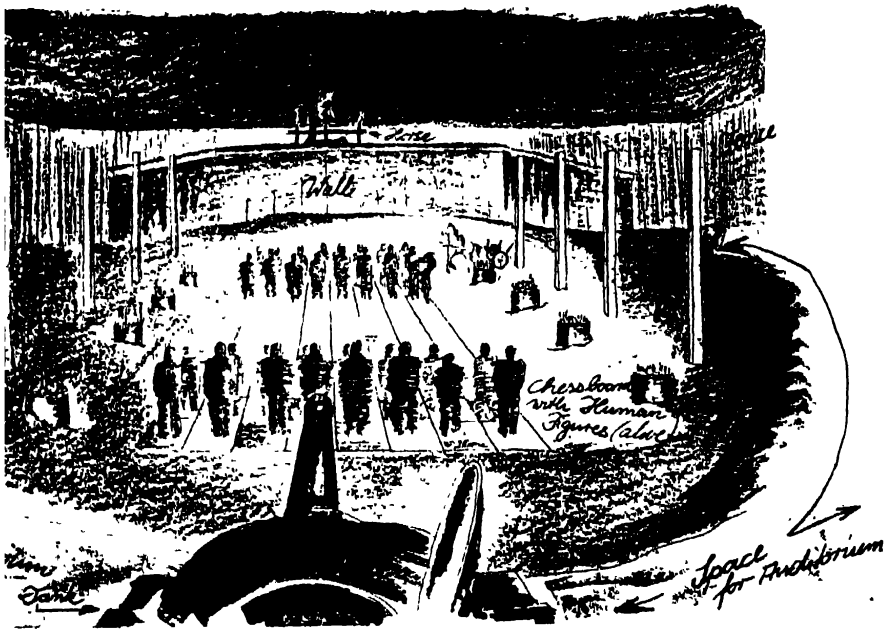
Brasch's play, set in an undefined historical war zone, unfolds through the experiences of two washerwomen who move from camp to camp in search of one of their husbands. What follows is a sequence of events which are in turn grotesque, funny and apocalyptic. There is also an onstage prompter, the Pander (courtesy *Trollus and Cressida*) and of course a bunch of universal soldiers—representing all of the first, second and third worlds.

However, Roy had serious problems with the text, which was first translated into Bengali by an expert, and after consultations with the group he decided to go in for the workshop method based on improvisations. "What I did was explain the frame of a sequence from the play upon which the actors improvised." Their dialogues were taped and based on such repeated improvisations with different sets of actors a script finally emerged. The actors who were asked to "gear up for war" through literature, films and newspaper clippings thus created a script that was ingenuously original, spontaneously funny and at times unwittingly profound. To add another experimental dimension, TAW decided to do away with the convention of theatrical continuity of scenes and instead opted for the filmic technique of cuts and dissolves into the different playing zones of the arena.

Roy cites an example of the first section where the two women are playing a game of chess. Juergen here has brilliantly given shape to Roy's idea of having a life size chess board with real soldiers as pawns in the game which immediately dissolves and, through the use of innovative light effects, cuts into another play zone where the same soldiers are shown greeting in

not-so-friendly terms a new recruit. Thus by seeking out such simultaneity of action, coupled with the contunuous interaction of the washerwomen as the only immediate link, Roy hopes to create a conceptual frame in which the multifaceted aspects of war are equally highlighted.

There is bound to be a lot of debate on this but even if you do not approve of the method you are sure to be stunned into silence on first sight of the design of the warscape. The entry is beside a hill, atop which is the "I am the monarch of all I see"-battle tank. Just below is the life size chessboard beyond which passes a canal that winds its way through the arena. On either sides of the chess board are deep trenches—Roy insists that visitors are welcome to join in with the soldiers there, but those less inclined the Army way can always find a place in the galleries placed beyond the trenches. Overlooking the arena from behind a huge wall that spans the entire breadth of the field is the massive head of the Trojan horse, mercilessly robbed of all its strength and vitality in the raging wars throughout centuries.



Yet another surprise in TAW's Kurukshetra is the horse-drawn carriage which the women use and a nerve shattering climax that offers a breathtaking marriage of the ancient and the modern—The Trojan or the Berlin Wall is broken down.

But the play is not just about wars between two nations, explains Peter von Becker, editor *Theatre Heute*, Germany's foremost theatre magazine. Working with TAW as a dramateur, Becker says, "Brasch's play is also about the continuous war within ourselves and between the sexes. Brasch, unlike Brecht, puts across more questions than answers and because his highly modern work renders itself to such breaking up of the text, I am quite optimistic about the outcome of this production."

Juergen, too, sounds encouraging when he says he would never have come down all the way from Germany for only "a handful of Calcutta's intellectuals. It is only because Roy and his group are creating something original out of their own experiences that I am here."

Engel Hardt, director of Max Mueller Bhavan, is also very excited about the play although he feels it will create a lot of controversy. "Brasch's play is a tremendous challenge to perform and in a way I am prepared for the initial battering of the critics. The most important thing is to pick up the glove and make sure that the work is easily comprehendable to the general theatre-going public."

And now that the battle lines are drawn for a dramatic fight between war and peace, join in for a feel of today's *Kurukshetra*—it is worth the experience.■

PANORAMA

On many world maps the Soviet Union is bigger than the continent of Africa. South America is smaller than Europe. The state of Alaska is about the same size as the world's fifth largest country, Brazil. The island of Greenland is double the size of the island-continent Australia.

In the real world none of the above is true. South America, for example is almost twice as big as Europe, and Greenland is less than a third the size of Australia.

Mapping the world as it really is may prove an impossible task

The centuries-old challenge of mapping the round Earth on a flat surface—of peeling the skin off the globe and forcing it to lie flat—cannot be met without some distortion in size, shape, distance or direction. The larger the area to be covered, the greater the distortion.

"The world's the toughest problem of all," says the recognised dean of academic cartographers in America, Arthur H. Robinson of the University of Wisconsin. "The question is: How do you manipulate the distortion?"

Potentially, the number of world-map projections—the cartographic system for transforming the Earth's rounded surface onto a flat one—is infinite. Actually, more than 200 identifiable projections have been produced, Robinson says, with about a hundred used significantly.

These projections appear in almost every imaginable form, from the traditional circle, oval and rectangle to the star, heart and even butterfly shape. To preserve relative sizes and shapes some split the world into quarters. Others provide a bizarre global perspective—some of them even turning the world "upside down."

Still the most popular world map is the rectangular projection devised more than four centuries ago by Flemish geographer Gerardus Mercator. It has endured as a general reference map, although that was not its purpose.

Mercator introduced his projection in 1569 as an aid to navigation on the high seas during the great period of world exploration. Any straight line on Mercator's world map is a line of constant true bearing, enabling mariners to plot a straight-line course between any two points.

Although a boon to navigators, it fails as

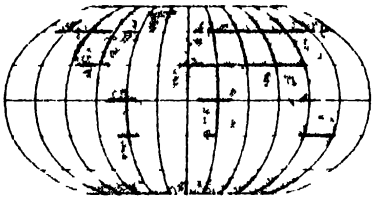
SIZING UP THE EARTH

a world reference map, says John P. Snyder, vice president of the American Cartographic Association.

In higher latitudes the Mercator projection distorts large shapes and greatly exaggerates the size of landmasses It inaccurately depicts the distances between Paris and Chicago and between Moscow and Beijing as greater than the distance between Africa's western and eastern-most tips

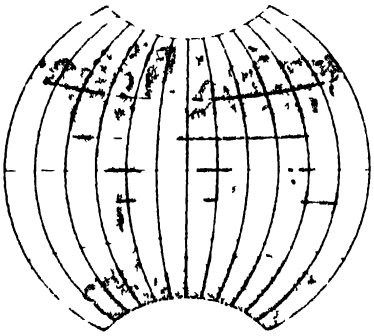
"We have a highly biased Mercator image of the world," says Robinson "Other maps simply don't look right "

The centuries-old challenge of mapping the round Earth on a flat surface—of peeling the skin off the globe and forcing it to lie flat—cannot be met without some distortion in size, shape, distance, or direction. More than 200 world-map projections have been produced, with about 100 used significantly. Four well-known ones appear here



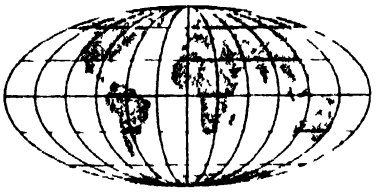
ROBINSON

A more realistic view of the world than most this compromise projection produced in 1963 by Arthur H Robinson, minimizes distortion of size and shape The Soviet Union Canada, and Greenland are truer to relative size, although Greenland appears somewhat compressed



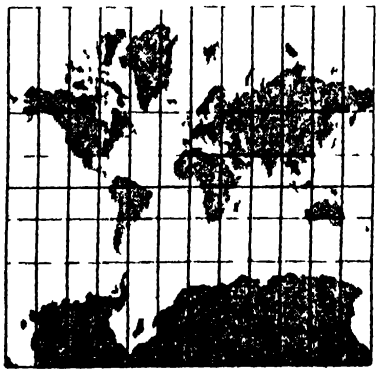
VAN DER GRINTEN

Another compromise projection, patented in 1904 by Alphons van der Grinten of Chicago this map balances size-and shape distortion without the extreme exaggeration of Mercator or the extreme compression of Mollweide in the high latitudes But Greenland looks about as big as South America, although it is roughly as large as Mexico



MOLLWEIDE

Produced by German mathematician Karl B Mollweide in 1805, this map depicts all regions of the Earth in correct relative size, but compresses, elongates, or warps lands in the higher latitudes



MERCATOR

Still the most widely recognized map, this projection was introduced in 1569 by Flemish geographer Gerardus Mercator as an aid to navigation As a general reference map, it greatly exaggerates the size of landmasses in the high latitudes The Soviet Union appears much larger than Africa, although it is much smaller Alaska and Brazil look about the same size, but Brazil is nearly six times larger

Once a favourite in classrooms the Mercator is the backdrop for many television newscasts and for news briefings at government agencies such as the US State Department. "It conditions us," says Snyder "People don't realise that Greenland is not really as large as South America."

Equal-area projections, such as the Mollweide, produced by a German mathematician in 1805, depict all regions of the Earth in correct relative size. But most compress, elongate, or warp lands in the higher latitudes and cause shearing and stretching along the outer longitudinal lines

A compromise projection, patented in 1904 by Alphons van der Grinten of Chicago, allows some size distortion to improve general shapes In the high latitudes it avoids both Mercator's extreme exaggerations of size and Mollweide's extreme compressing and shearing. But the Soviet Union and Canada show up at more than twice their relative size.

Another compromise produced by Arthur H Robinson in 1963, cuts some bigger countries down to size, providing a better balance between size-and-shape distortion Although Greenland appears somewhat compressed, its area exaggeration is considerably less.

Mapping the world as it really is "is mathematically impossible," explains Snyder. The Robinson projection comes close, according to Snyder and John B. Garver Jr, chief cartographer of the *National Geographic* Society, which switched in 1988 from the Van der Grinten to the Robinson projection for all its world maps

"It is a more realistic view of the world," says Garver. "Its compromises of size and shape are the most reasonable." The US Defense Department now uses the Robinson projection at its news briefings.

Robinson's map, Garver explains, also does not espouse any special viewpoint. Some maps propagandise, such as today's Gall-Peters projection which seeks to promote Third World recognition. The projection shows the landmasses in their true relative sizes, greatly elongating some shapes

They look, says Robinson, like "wet, long, ragged winter underwear hanging on the Arctic Circle to dry "

(National Geographic News Service)

The Soul of Sahir

It's been 10 years since Sahir (Magician) Ludhianvi died (October 25). But the mesmerising effect of his poetry just cannot be shaken off. A selection of lyrics, straight from the rebel poet's heart...

Chalo ek baar phir se...

(Film: *Gumraah*; music: Ravi; singer: Mahendra Kapoor)

Let us, once again, become
Strangers, the two of us.
Let me not hope for a soft corner in your heart,
Nor you look at me with covetous eyes anymore;
Let not my heart miss a beat when I talk of you,
Nor should your dilemma be evident in your eyes;
Let us, once again, become
Strangers, the two of us.

This conflict stalls you from receiving me warmly,
And I'm told these splendours are for me no more;
There are, my companion, shameful moments in my past,
There are the shadowy nights spent in your arms;
Let us, once again, become
Strangers, the two of us.

When proximity a pain becomes, 'tis better to forget it,
When the bond a strain becomes, 'tis better to sever it;
That tale which cannot be brought to a climax,
Give it a pleasant twist and leave it at that;
Let us, once again, become
Strangers, the two of us.

Ponchh kar ashq apni aankhon se...

(Film: *Naya Rasta*; music: N. Datta; singer: Mohd. Rafi)

Wipe away those tears from your eyes,
And smile; only then will something emerge.
Stand bowed, and nought will come of it,
Raise your head high; only then will something emerge.

This colour and caste, this creed and religion,
Are all far less than the status of man;
If you could reckon the truth of this,
Only then will something emerge.

Life is never doled out for you,
Life is a right that must be snatched.
Snatch your rights from this ruthless society,
Only then will something emerge.

Kisi patthar ki moorat se...

(Film: *Humraaz*; music: Ravi; singer: Mahendra Kapoor)

I intend to profess love to an idol of stone,
I wish to worship it, I intend to honour it;
It can't understand heartbeats, nor the language of the eyes,
It can't parley with the eyes, nor read the emotions;
Before this very idol of stone, I intend to make my plaint,
I intend to profess my love to an idol of stone.

They say every young stone has a heart within,
But till you set it, the fire within lies dormant;
[illegible] ceremony I intend [illegible]



I intend to profess love to an idol of stone.

She knows not that her vanity will incite my love,
She knows not that her airs will excite my feelings;
She knows not the doom I have chosen to plunge into,
I intend to profess love to an idol of stone.

Woh subah kabhi to aayegi...

(Film: *Phir Subah Hogi*; music: Khayyam; singers: Mukesh and Asha Bhosle)

Some day that dawn will come,
That dawn will come some day.
When the black hood of the Ages will slip off,
When the clouds of gloom will melt,
The rains of joy swell;
When the heavens will dance in ecstasy, the good earth sing aloud,
That dawn will come some day, some day that dawn will come.

That morn for which we all kill ourselves today,
That divine nectar in the hope of which we gulp venom;
Some day some mercy will be shown to these parched souls,
That dawn will come day, some day that dawn will come.

Granted that today, your desires and mine have no value,
Granted that even dirt has some value, but humans don't;
When human dignity will not be weighed by filthy lucre,
That dawn will come some day, some day that dawn will come.

When woman's purity won't be bartered for some coins,
When desires won't be trampled upon, or self-respect sold;
When the world stands ashamed of its dark deeds,
That dawn will come some day, some day that dawn will come.

These days of anarchy by the rich will end,
These memorials to hunger and emptiness will crumble;
When the foundations of a unique world will be laid,
That dawn will come some day, some day that dawn will come.

When bent old age won't stand lonesome on dusty streets,
When innocent boyhood won't beg in filthy bylanes;
When those who demand their rights won't be shown the noose,
That dawn will come some day, some day that dawn will come.

When humans won't be burnt alive on the pyre of hunger,
When hopes won't smoulder in the hellholes of the heart;
When this hellish world will become a paradise on earth,
That dawn will come some day, some day that dawn will come.

Translated by Anil Grover

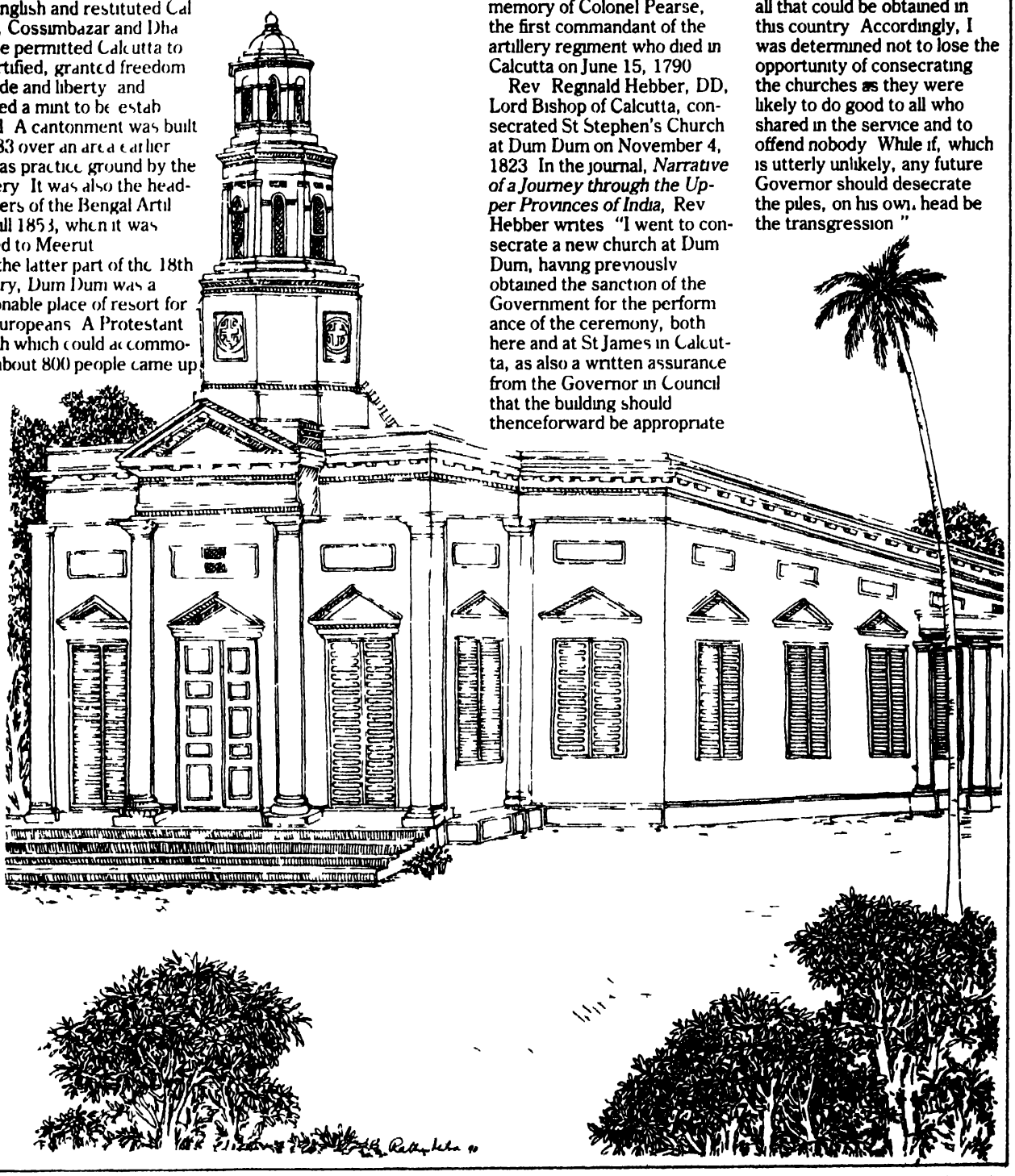
ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

On February 6, 1757 the Nawab of Bengal restored through a treaty at Dum Dum all privileges earlier enjoyed by the English and restituted Calcutta, Cossimbazar and Dhaka He permitted Calcutta to be fortified, granted freedom of trade and liberty and allowed a mint to be established A cantonment was built in 1783 over an area earlier used as practice ground by the artillery It was also the headquarters of the Bengal Artillery till 1853, when it was shifted to Meerut

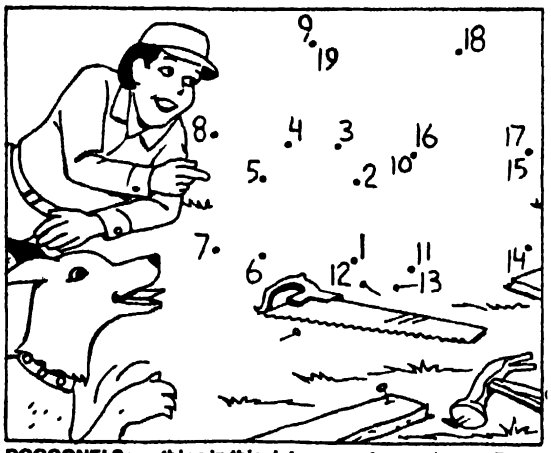
In the latter part of the 18th century, Dum Dum was a fashionable place of resort for the Europeans A Protestant church which could accommodate about 800 people came up during this time Another two churches, the Roman Catholic and the Wesleyan Chapel, were also built in that period

Within the balustrade which surrounds the Protestant church is a handsome pillar of the Corinthian order, raised in memory of Colonel Pearse, the first commandant of the artillery regiment who died in Calcutta on June 15, 1790

Rev Reginald Hebber, DD, Lord Bishop of Calcutta, consecrated St Stephen's Church at Dum Dum on November 4, 1823 In the journal, *Narrative of a Journey through the Upper Provinces of India*, Rev Hebber writes "I went to consecrate a new church at Dum Dum, having previously obtained the sanction of the Government for the performance of the ceremony, both here and at St James in Calcutta, as also a written assurance from the Governor in Council that the building should thenceforward be appropriate to the worship of God after the forms and laws of the English Church This I thought a sufficient title and it was certainly all that could be obtained in this country Accordingly, I was determined not to lose the opportunity of consecrating the churches as they were likely to do good to all who shared in the service and to offend nobody While if, which is utterly unlikely, any future Governor should desecrate the piles, on his own head be the transgression "



JUNIOR WHIRL ◻ Hal Kaufman



DOGGONE! Something in this dot scene, above, pleases Rover What can it be? Connect dots 1 to 2 to 3, etc , to find out

• HAUL OF FAME! Who improved the steam engine? Watt s his name Who perfected the telephone? Sir Arthur Conan Dial Who furthered use of the wheel? Axle ander the Great Any to add?



ROUGH TRIP TO FATHOM!

Fill blanks of this vintage poem with missing words two of which join together to form the third word

I'm glad to see the line of piers,
It means our boat's made ****
at last
And brings an * to all my fears,**
To know that dangers now are past
For those rumbling clouds out yonder,
That eerie silence on our lee
*********ill for those who wander,**
In vessels on the open sea
What are the words?

Port and portend

• **SUM LUCK! Magic number squares such as this (see below) once were considered lucky and used as charms to drive off evil spirits When completed, each 5-number row and diagonal totals 65**

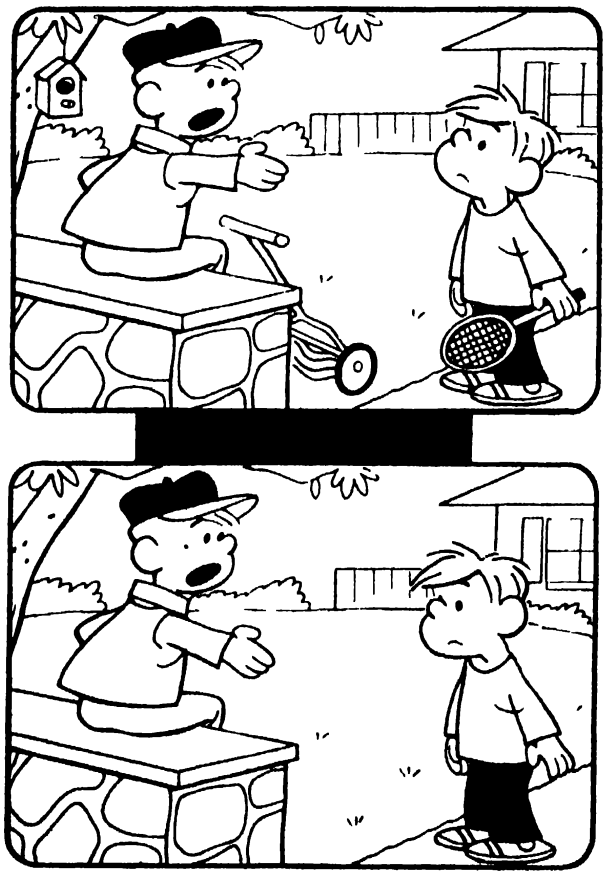
For better or worse, the centre number is 13 Number 9, 11, 15 and 17 are r issing

Can you insert them?

Top left—17 right 15 bottom left—11 right—9

	24	1	8	
23	5	7	14	16
4	6	13	20	22
10	12	19	21	3
	18	25	2	

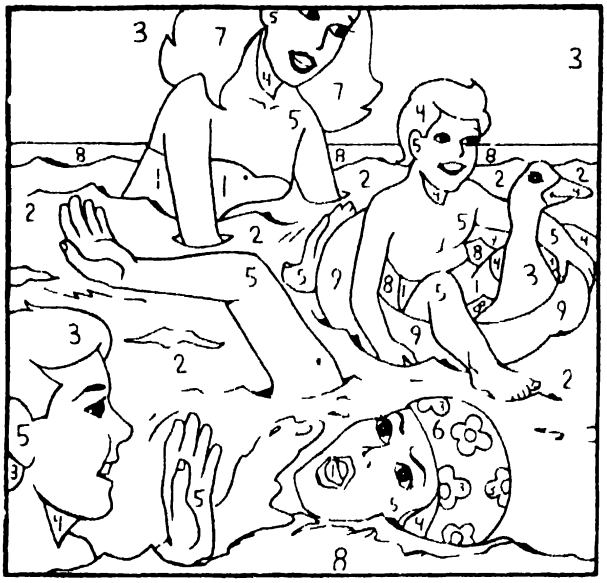
HOCUS-FOCUS



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differ ences in drawing details between top and bottom panels How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below

Differences 1 Birdhouse is missing 2 Arm is moved 3 Lawn mower is missing 4 Fence is shorter 5 Head is tilted 6 Tennis racket is missing

FUNSPOT



POOL CUES! Soundtrack above — Hold tight! Quit splashing! You did it to me! Colors 1—Red 2—Lt blue 3—Yellow 4—Lt brown 5—Flesh 6—Green 7—Dk brown 8—Dk blue 9—Purple

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words

EMPATHIC

- - - - - - -

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters

Try to score at least 50 points

Possible anagram Mice path

ARIES
March 21—April 20

The week offers excellent job prospects, loans, funds, journey, trading and brokerage as the sun sextiles Uranus. You will fuse business and play superbly. Travel is favoured in the next two weeks and, strictly speaking, the travel bug will keep biting you till December 21. No major health problem is foreseen

TAURUS
April 21—May 20

The main trends are romance, marriage, alliances at all levels, collaborations and trips. Romance will be characterised by passion and protection. Loans, mortgage, security and opportunities constitute the financial front As regards health, nothing in excess should be the guiding principle. Additions and alterations in the home are fated.

GEMINI
May 21—June 20

Hard work, recognition and a bit of play acting are advised. Health precautions are necessary. Perks and possibility of a promotion are indicated. In romance, a wicketfull of runs. Travel is well signified this week and the coming one too. Finish all pending chores. Expenses, buying/selling and a home away from home are likely.

CANCER
June 21—July 20

Children, childbirth, work pressures, contacts, good luck, creativity, functions, ceremonies, hobbies and happy events constitute the week. Romance will be available in happy and handsome measure Money is your birthright and you shall have it in a fortnight. In health matters, you are on the road to recovery Visitors will descend upon you, and you will feel wanted and loved

LEO
July 21—August 21

The domestic scene may undergo a sea change. Differences are likely, you will have to strike a balance between work and love. Children give satisfaction. You will have nothing to complain about romance. The home, property and business will be interlinked. Travel offers excellent opportunities. The health of elders remains suspect.



VIRGO
August 22—Sept 22

You will be living with gusto and gaiety, entertain happily and not neglect your duty. In romance, you sizzle and scintillate and that is something In finance, not only a fast buck but future prospects on a long-range basis are bright Travel and correspondence make an ideal team. You will overcome health problems.

LIBRA
Sept 23—Oct 22

The focus is on buying, selling, trading, negotiating, investing, loans, travel and ties. Romance will be exciting and exhilarating. Your work may demand you to travel. Slight health hassles will be there, but you can glide over them. Renovation, partying, entertainment and decoration keep you busy and happy.

BIRTHDAYS

November 4
Sun sextile Neptune: This sextile refers to opportunities for artists, scientists, agriculturists, chemists and most certainly the common man. Look forward to promotion and happiness.

November 5
Moon conjunction Mars: You will be able to amass wealth, especially in business and profession. Loans and funds will be available. Your love life will pick up. Take chances at all levels and travel.

November 6
Moon conjunction Uranus: Your success depends upon the effort you put in. Many of you will be restless and hoping for a change of scenery, a house move or a new job. Love will find wing.

November 7
Moon trine sun, opposition Saturn: The end result of your endeavours and attempts will be [illegible] and [illegible]

friends but also learn to rely upon yourself. That's the astro way to succeed.

November 8
Venus conjunction Pluto: Never allow disappointment and melancholia and moods to get the better of you. The Venus-Pluto union helps you to push ahead and be imaginative and innovative. Changes in the social and personal life will be for the better. Be cheerful and never mind doors.

November 9
Moon-Jupiter conjunction: The conjunction offers extra excitement and success at the mind relate to the mind and intellect, money and general prosperity. Invest time, you will [illegible] gains in your efforts and [illegible] at the first signs of [illegible] stress.

November 10
Moon trine Saturn: [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

SCORPIO
Oct 23—Nov 20

Romance, marriag and secret ties ar foreseen. You will accomplis much, both in personal and pro fessional affairs. In romance, th singing bird definitely comes o your bough. Opportunities an happy results are predicted i finances during the next 5 days. Expect visitors to drop i and get your travel-kit ready too

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 21—Dec 20

Journey, religiou rites, ceremonies collaborations, travel and heav expenses are the week's high lights. In romance, contacts, cor respondence and love have definite connection. Outlets i sales, commission, brokerag and knowhow will be available Work and pleasure may compe you to travel. Health safeguard are a must Entertainment, in vitations and visitors make you day.

CAPRICORN
Dec 21—Jan 19

Help and love from known and unknowr quarters will be available. Gooc news elevates you. Finalise travel plans and catch up or contacts as well as correspond ence. Romance will be fantastic. Transactions, settlements, loans, new enterprise and better job prospects are predicted Get set to travel. You will be riding high and health will not come in the way.

AQUARIUS
Jan 20—Feb 18

Romance, power game, new assignments, law suits, tangles and entertainment all in a grand paradox lie in store. In romance, wait a week at the most for lions to roar in your blood. In finance, promotion, opportunities, new outlets, perks and a change of scenery are predicted.

PISCES
Feb 19—March 20

Loans, funds, capital raising, friendships, entertainment and hectic socialising are the main trends of the week. Financial prospects are bright. From tender love to torrid affair will be the range of romance. Except for untoward happenings your health should be splendid. Buying, selling, refurbishing, shopping and entertaining are also destined.

AN URBAN CANVAS

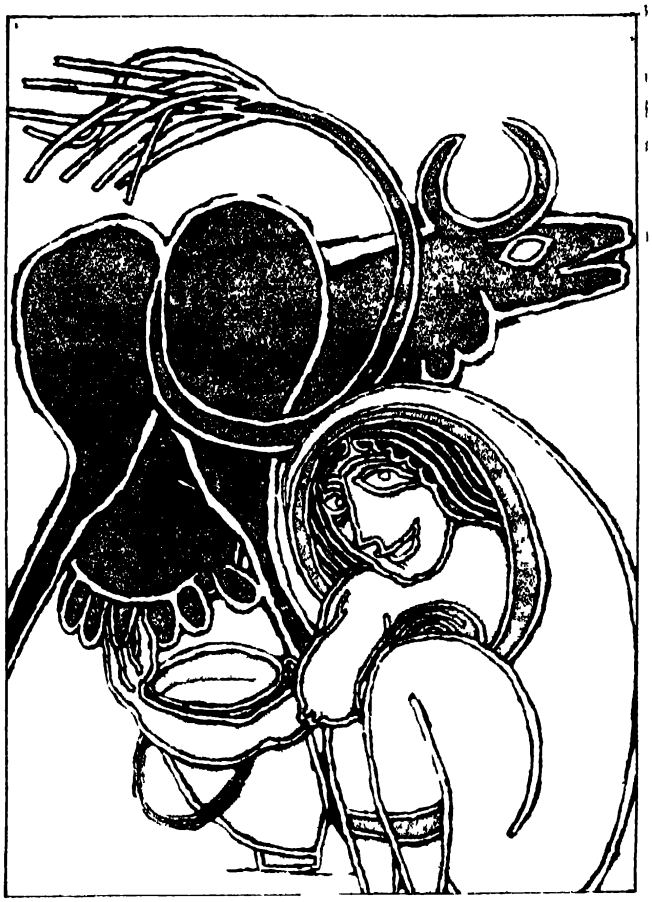
Prokash Karmakar's concern for the have-nots finds expression in his coming exhibition

In the 1950's, Prokash Karmakar was portraying urban life around him Today, four decades later, he is still doing the same He has mellowed with time and drifted from his early plastic vocabulary, black and grey giving way to pleasanter brown and ochre But his basic concern and deep empathy for the have-nots still remain and are expressed in his choice of subjects After losing his father early in life, Karmakar endured many miseries and experienced life in the raw Small wonder, the most obvious elements of his oeuvre concern those perennially in the trenches More often than not, the central figure is a farmer, a daily labourer, a pavement dweller, a pimp or a prostitute

Karmakar's plump and fleshy women are often picked up from the infamous quarters of the city and portrayed in all shapes and sizes His understanding of the human form is superb and with swirling and twisting linear pattern, he is able to express the sensuality of the female form Self-appointed guardians of morality have often accused him of bad taste Karmakar remains unperturbed, and paints with feeling and tenderness "True, I have changed with the times but my awareness of the social process has not waned a bit", says the artist One cannot agree more

Karmakar loves to draw, more than paint at times In an exhibition in the city from November 10 to 22 he will present 12 carefully selected drawings and two serigraphic works About the serigraphy, he says, "For many years, along with some fellow artists, I have tried to infuse an interest in art amongst our people But in Calcutta painters and sculptors seem to occupy a back seat

"I have specially done the two serigraphic works taking great care for the show These are primarily aimed at initiating the non traditional buyer Modestly priced, these works should find wider appreciation."



Milkmaid



Couple



Text and photographs Arup Datta

SIR RICHARD RECALLS



The legendary cricketer, who retired from Test cricket recently, talks about the other great all-rounders of his time

There's always been a fascination about all rounders, ever since the earliest days when the good doctor, W G Grace dominated cricket. I think of all rounders of more modern times and some names come to mind quicker than others like the Australian pair Alan Davidson and Richie Benaud or England's Trevor Bailey.

And there's the prince of them all (and maybe the greatest player, period) because so many people have said that about him through the years. But I can only echo those sentiments about a player who was something else, a true cricketing phenomenon who will probably never be equalled, let alone bettered. He could do it all—bat in the top six and use the new ball (not necessarily a fast bowler but a very good swing one) before reverting to left-arm spin when required. It didn't stop there. He was an outstanding fieldsman almost anywhere, finishing up a brilliant slip, and he also captained without the responsibilities of leadership ever really affecting his game, unlike so many other players.

The beauty about Sobers was not merely what he achieved, though. While he'll be remembered always for his deeds, he's cherished more so for the 'how' factor; to watch him batting, fielding or bowling was to marvel at a pure genius at work because there was so much silky skill, class and panache in all he did. He was an achiever certainly but he was also a pleaser. Just the same, figures are the ultimate tribute to Sobers' all round achievements and his test record constantly amazes any cricket follower: 93 tests, 8032 runs at 57.78 (including 26 centuries), 235 wickets at 34.03 and 109 catches.

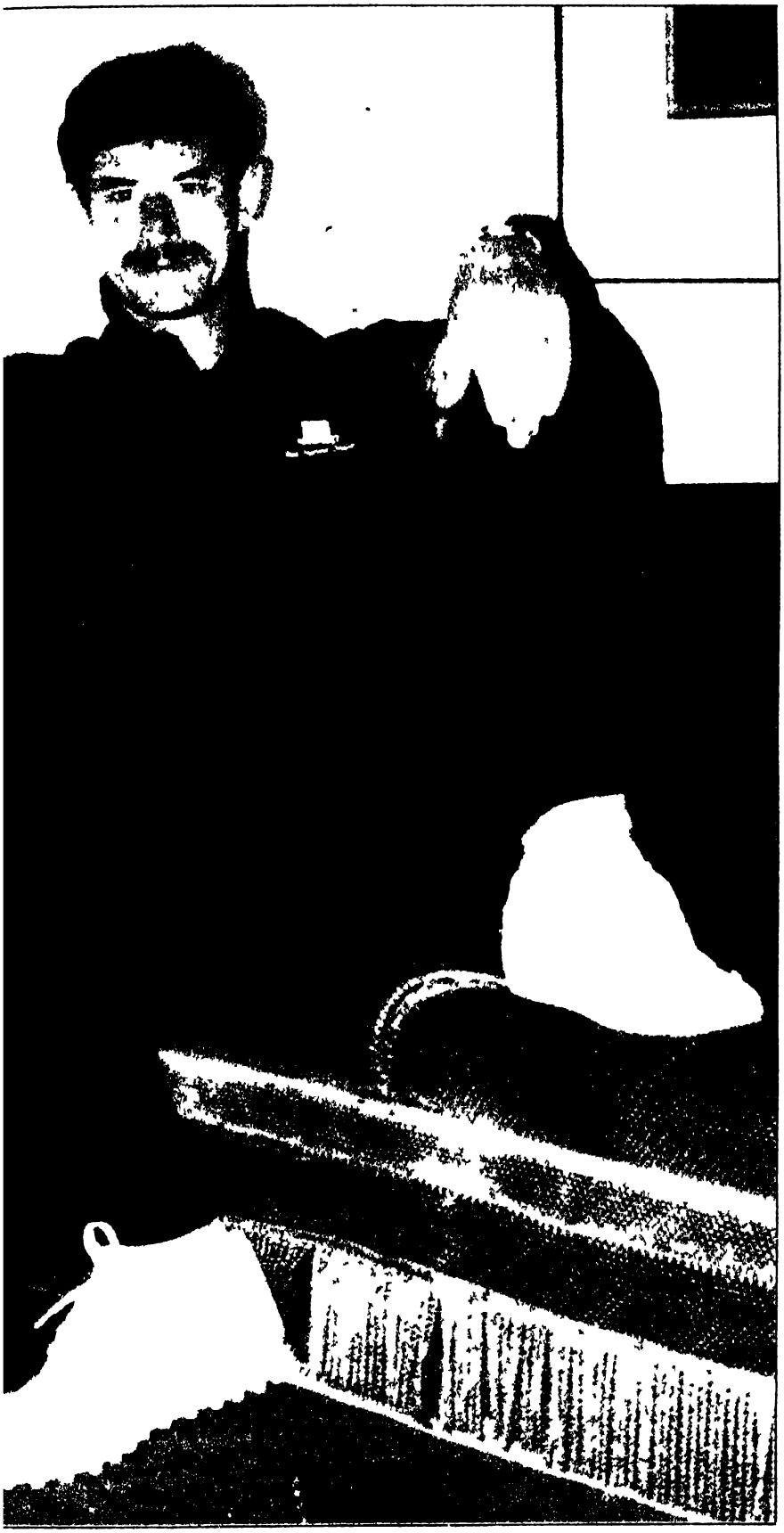
I was among a world-wide army of Sobers admirers when I was a youngster but, being more analytical about it now, I think he was a player who excelled when he had good players around him. Strangely enough, when he played for Nottinghamshire, he struggled by his standards because he was among lesser players. He always enjoyed a challenge, matching his boundless talent with fierce determination; the Rest of the World's series against Australia in 1971-72 illustrated that. A young fast bowler named Dennis Lillee had been giving Sobers some problems but he came back to destroy Lillee--and the rest of the Australian attack--with is unbelievable 254 in Melbourne. Another contemporary he had some good battles with was England's Geoff Boycott, although I don't know that Sobers really rated him, certainly not as high as Boycott rated himself. Boycs once said to Sobers: "Are you still playing the game, Gary?" And the reply came back: "If I had to bowl to you every day, I'd play until I was 90!"

To compare today's all rounders with Sir Garfield Sobers is a forlorn exercise; there quite simply isn't room for comparison. While Imran Khan, Ian Botham, Kapil Dev and I all have better bowling records than Sobers we just can't come close in the true all round sense. At the same time, the fascination about all rounders has turned into a fixation today. Cricket has become attuned to the battle of the all rounders in this age, a development which has come about only recently, perhaps since the late 1970s. It may be a by-product of Kerry Packer's World Series days when so much hype was built up in the game. The all rounder has become the player who receives most attention from the media and the public, which is fairly understandable given that these players are constantly involved with either bat or ball, while many of them also become test captains.

During my test career there has been a solid core of all rounders in Imran,

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Extracted from *Rhythm And Swing* by Richard Hadlee (with Richard Becht); MOA Publications, Auckland, New Zealand



Utpal Sorka

Botham, Kapil and myself and, had South Africa not been banished from the international scene, I'm sure my former Nottinghamshire team-mate Clive Rice would have been in the same bracket

To me, an all rounder is a player who can make a test team as either a specialist batsman or a specialist bowler, and I don't honestly believe I fall into that category Other people may choose to argue the point but I don't fancy I could play in a test side as a straight batsman, I haven't been consistent enough On the other hand, Botham, when he was at his best could make a side on that count and the same applies for Imran and Kapil, plus Rice (who has played rebel tests in South Africa as only a batsman, because of a back injury)

Public opinion and I guess that of the national selectors as well—places me in the all rounder class but I regard myself as a bowler who bats, rather than a player who can do either task sufficiently well I think you need a batting average up towards the mid thirties to be considered a competent batsman and, while I've improved my test batting average from 19 18 in 1978 to about 27 00 today, it's still well short of the standard I'd accept for a specialist batsman My all rounder status, at first-class level at least, arrived only in 1981 when I began to make hundreds and more substantial scores on a consistent basis for Notts My achievements as a test batsman also improved significantly around that time but, with just the two hundreds and a 99, I can't compare with my contemporaries—yet, as a bowler, I'm superior on strike rate and wickets taken

The point is, I never made a conscious decision to become an all rounder in my earlier years I just slowly developed and, in time, adopted a more responsible approach to my batting, although I've never been able to capture the day in day out discipline required It's interesting, though, that the introduction of the Deloitte Ratings in 1988, a computerised system of ranking test cricketers on a points basis, worked me out close to the best of the all rounders when combining batting and bowling points

My battles with Imran Botham and Kapil have been important throughout my career and I'm sure the media hype about the all rounders has built up the intensity of a Botham v Hadlee showdown or Imran v Botham or whoever Whenever New Zealand played England, you could bet the old confrontation line about Both and me would be thrown up But, quite frankly, it's the all rounder who does best in a series who generally affects the outcome, in other words, if I take 18 wickets in a series and my opposite number takes 12, and if I score 230 runs and he makes 180, then I've probably done enough to help my side finish ahead in that series

One of the vital components in the New Zealand team's test series preparation in more recent times has been that of prearranged private battles, the exercise of pairing off against equivalents in the opposition and looking to outplay them. For the last five or six years, I've picked the all rounder and said: "Right, you're mine." I've concentrated on keeping tabs on him, on trying to outdo him as an extra motivational thing. I look at it as an innings by innings operation knowing there'll be a confrontation between the two of us sooner or later. at some time he'll be batting and I'll have the ball in hand, or I'll be batting and facing up to my rival. I'll be aware of what he's done in any given match and will dig deep to outpoint him, to return better bowling figures than him or to top his last score The sight of Imran, Botham or Kapil at the crease gives me just a little more bounce in my step if I'm bowling, a touch more aggression and determination Don't think it's somehow premeditated that I should have a stronger edge when I'm bowling to them; it's a subconscious reaction

The way I look at it, the all rounder is the pivotal player in a side. He'll come in at No. 6 or No. 7 in the batting order and, if you can remove him quickly, it turns the whole contest in your favour. If he gets away on you with the bat and makes 80 or 100, you have lost the initiative in the match, which is just what happened when we played England in the third test at Trent Bridge in 1983; England was 169 for five in its first innings but Botham and Derek Randall took England to 355 before the sixth wicket fell. Botham finished with 103 and Randall with 83 as we completely lost all the ground we'd made early on. . and went on to lose the match by 165 runs.

Obviously, various captains have relied on the all rounders of today's cricket world to single-handedly turn a game around, especially with the ball. As it happens, we've all been strike bowlers during this age and we've usually been called on to try and break a stand, or to come back with the new ball for a fresh burst. It's symptomatic of teams experiencing the greatest problems that they've been without all rounders of genuine ability. England without Botham has been an obvious case in point from time to time.

Like England, Australia has also been through tough times at test level and, once again, I think that can be traced back to having no true all rounder in the side; it hasn't had one of note for years and that has obviously affected the balance of its side, although Greg Chappell and Steve Waugh may disagree.

The West Indies doesn't really have a true all rounder –but it doesn't need one, not as long as it can rely on four quick bowlers to do the desired job. I suppose that's hard to reconcile remembering what Garfield Sobers did for West Indies cricket; after all, the West Indies side of the modern era is technically unbalanced, usually made up of six specialist batsmen, wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon and any combination of four fast bowlers. But that attack so often reduces opposition batting line-ups to very little and, with batsmen like Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes, Viv Richards and Richie Richardson, not to mention Dujon, the West Indies hasn't needed to deviate. It hasn't been shown up too often.

One day cricket has helped produce more all rounders, at least of a type Players like Australia's Steve Waugh who has improved considerably, performing well in both the World Cup in 1987 and in the WSC competition against New Zealand and Sri Lanka in 1987 88. Primarily a batsman, he's a useful change bowler who certainly operates effectively in limited overs games. He has also bowled very well at the 'death' in one dayers, so has to be regarded as a full blooded all rounder who still has plenty of potential for further development at test level.

The all rounder's place in cricket's spectrum is further reinforced by gimmicky competitions which are run to try to determine the world's best A good example is the Silk Cut contest in Hong Kong which I've competed in a couple of times; it's a competition I'd like to win but Clive Rice was on another level. Denied the chance to mix with players on the international stage, Rice plans meticulously for an event like this and that's why he has done so well. I see it more as a novelty event which, at the end of the day, proves very little...but Ricey wants to win it like nothing else because this is his moment among all rounders like Kapil Dev, Imran Khan, Ian Botham, Malcolm Marshall and others. He sees it as a way of proving himself against the best, in a competition which uses a special points scoring system which punishes dismissals, when you're batting, and rewards wickets taken, when you're bowling. What it does show, though, is that there's unreal interest in the all rounders.

Cricket's critics will write about the world's great batsmen and bowlers but it seems the all rounders command more of the written word for whatever reason. Writers are constantly delving into the psyche of players, trying to work out what it is that makes them



Nikhil Bhattacharya

Kapi

what they are and how their personalities are mirrored in their approach to the game.

Newspapers feast on the all rounder line of thinking, most of all in England where the papers—especially the tabloids—seem to run incessant stories on Botham doing this or that.

It was *The Sun*—of London origin, not the ill-fated Auckland version -- which set up a so-called battle of the giants during the 1986 England v. New Zealand test series. Of course, the confrontation never really happened with Botham being banned for the first two matches in the contest, but Pakistan's Imran Khan was asked to make his assessment on the two of us and "try to settle the argument" about who was the best.

So, taking the idea on board, I decided to come up with my own ratings for my rivals, broadening the scope slightly by introducing a captaincy component, because the players I've analysed all have leadership experience at international level. I've also included one player who hasn't had the fortune to play test cricket—Clive Rice. I think he de-



oints

serves to be considered even though his rating must suffer through not playing the genuine article just the watered down version of rebel tests

Ian Beefy' Botham seems a good target to start with His life in cricket has never been comfortable—and he has only himself to blame for much of the trouble he's been in Both has always been a larger than life character who has been dogged, even hounded, by controversy of some shape or another Drugs, booze, women, brawls, assaults, bans and fines have almost been par for the course for him He's been in strife for things he has written, and for comments he has made, and then, in 1988, his whole career was put on hold when he needed major back surgery He's just so different from me in every respect and at times his general attitude towards cricket has left a lot to be desired, even some of his teammates have been disappointed with his approach to training and practice And yet, on the field, there's no greater triер

Forgetting the personality factor, though, I've always admired his enormous ability as a cricketer, even though he hasn't harnessed that talent as he might have. He was the world's greatest all rounder a few years ago, but then his halo slipped, and I've got to say it gave me immense pleasure to pass him in India in 1988 as test cricket's leading wicket taker It always rankled me that Botham was the world recordholder because, frankly, I don't rate him as a bowler these days While he may have taken more wickets than Dennis Lillee, I could never accept his ranking at the top

Botham s done some good things outside cricket—like his walk for leukaemia—but for the purpose of this exercise I m judging him on his cricketing performance

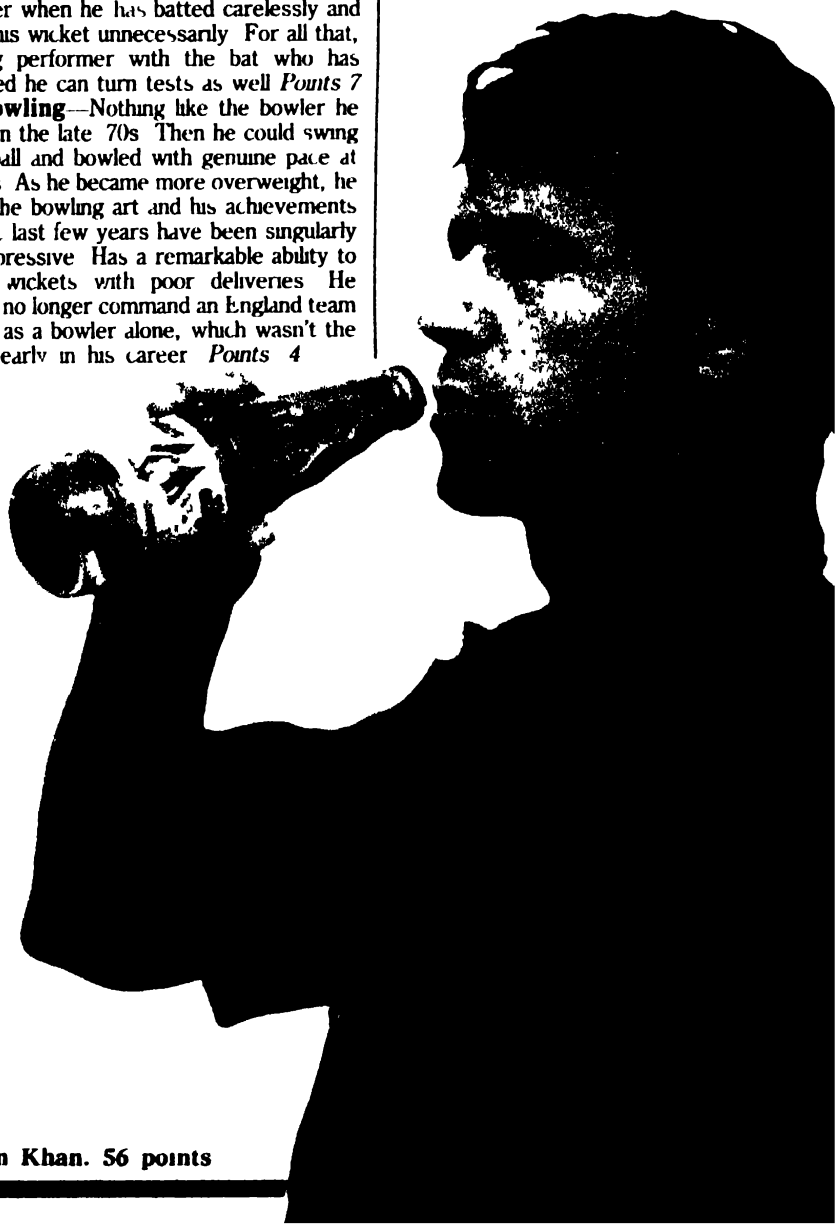
Batting—Obviously a gifted batsman with a track record to back him up, including 13 test centuries He can utterly destroy the best attacks when he s in the mood Being in the mood is the critical factor, though, because there have been too many occasions in the latter part of his career when he has batted carelessly and lost his wicket unnecessarily For all that, a big performer with the bat who has proved he can turn tests as well *Points 7*

Bowling—Nothing like the bowler he was in the late 70s Then he could swing the ball and bowled with genuine pace at times As he became more overweight, he lost the bowling art and his achievements in the last few years have been singularly unimpressive Has a remarkable ability to take wickets with poor deliveries He could no longer command an England team place as a bowler alone, which wasn't the case early in his career *Points 4*

Fielding –Unquestionably a magnificent fieldsman at slip, but gives the impression he's a little laid back at times Has excellent reflexes and has grabbed some wonderful catches behind the wicket *Points 7*

Experience—Can t be faulted on the score of test experience Of the players under review, he and Kapil Dev have played the most test cricket (more than 90 matches each) But, as Imran says of him, he doesn t use his accumulated experience to good effect *Points 6*

Stamina Whatever deficiencies there may be in his bowling nowadays Botham has never been short on stamina His spreading girth would seem to suggest he could bowl only in short spells but nothing could be further from the truth Given the



Utpal Sorkar

Imran Khan. 56 points

chance, he will bowl and bowl *Points 8*

Temperament—Has a sound temperament, generally, for the game Not one to get too upset or despairing if things are going against him Has the attitude that, if he keeps going when bowling, he'll eventually succeed There might be a question mark or two over his batting temperament, though Guilty of indisciplined batting on numerous occasions *Points 7*

Dedication- Must score low here because, of the all rounders under the microscope, he's definitely the least dedicated Too casual about fitness work and match preparation he just doesn't work as hard as he ought to and it's that slackness which largely accounts for his downward slide *Points 1*

Captaincy Didn't appear to have a great deal of perception of what test captaincy was all about, or have the players' whole hearted support and the job affected his own performances He couldn't motivate others by leading from the front with inspired individual performances To be fair, he had an unenviable task starting his England captaincy reign against the West Indies in 1980 before quitting during the 1981 series against Australia Had little previous experience but Botham, always one for the ultimate challenge failed to live up to expectations *Points 2*

Total Points 15

Kapil Dev has been something of a freak in Indian cricket, providing that country with one of its rare quality new ball bowlers Born in 1959 he's easily the youngest of this group of all rounders and yet he's closing in on 100 tests He's also well into the 300 wicket club and is undoubtedly in the top bracket of all rounders So how does he rate?

Batting –An exciting strokemaker, he's prepared to take risks He looks to dominate in attack as soon as he can, settling in for just a few balls and then unleashing in often devastating fashion Exciting to watch While flamboyant, he's still reasonably selective about what ball to hit *Points 7*

Bowling Kapil's not a genuine pace bowler but certainly a very capable operator with the new ball, easily the best India have had in a long time when you remember they've used players like Madan Lal to open the attack Leaves a bit to be desired with his technique especially the way he lets his head fall about, but he's definitely a useful bowler in all sorts of conditions While he's proved himself all around the world, his strike rate has dropped off over the years. *Points 6 5*

Fielding—Such a supple athlete, Kapil's brilliant in the outfield, in the West Indian style Very loose and almost casual, he can stoop down, pick up the ball and flick it back to the wicketkeeper in one movement He'd be the most talented fieldsman of all of us *Points 8*

Stamina –Difficult to fault When you play in the kind of conditions he's used to in India, you need ample stamina just to survive Has had some injury niggles but keeps coming back so he must be rated for his ability to recover and for his capacity for hard work *Points 7*

Experience—No shortage of test experience since his debut against Pakistan in 1978 79 when he was a teenager Has crammed a lot of test cricket into a short period but unlike the other all rounders, has only limited county experience through brief stints with Northamptonshire and Worcestershire *Points 8*

Temperament—Can be a little fiery and hot headed Must be vulnerable on this score in view of some of the problems he's had with Indian authorities and his subsequent loss of the captaincy He can be upset and if niggled, will react, which is not unusual for Indian and Pakistan players who tend to be somewhat excitable *Points 5*

Dedication Came into test cricket as a youngster and has fulfilled all his early promise so he must be fairly dedicated A lot of players can burn themselves out and lose interest when so much is asked of them so soon but Kapil has survived That's a tribute to his tireless devotion to his profession *Points 8*

Captaincy –Didn't achieve too much as Indian captain, although there have been so many captains through the years that he was never given the real benefit to develop into the position I don't think he knew how to win games with his captaincy, and India has had relatively few test wins in the last few years He may have been tactically deficient or he might have been a victim of the political pressure which abounds in Indian cricket He did however, lead India to its World Cup victory in 1983 *Points 5*

Total points 54 5

Imran Khan's the all rounder I most admire and respect of those I've encountered in my time I'd unhesitatingly tag him the best of this age, the difference between Imran and Botham is summed up in one word dependability Imran has been so much more consistent, able to turn on one good performance after another with either the bat or ball You just never know with Both He might be out of this world one moment but then fickle for long periods I'd line Imran up like this

Batting—Imran's the most refined batsman among the all rounders of my time More subdued, he's technically very sound and is prepared to build a long innings where most of the others tend to attack from the start This is not to say he doesn't look to dominate because he's adept at coming down the pitch to the spinners, but is more circumspect against quick bowlers *Points 7*



Bowling—Initially only a medium pacer before suddenly developing into a genuine fast bowler Tends to come in wide of the crease and angle the ball in to the batsman, able to get a lot of lift and can be quite lethal even with the old ball Came back superbly from injury problems and, while he's not as quick as he was, he's still effective and respected *Points 8*

Fielding—Previously rated as useful, until Pakistan's New Zealand tour last summer He'd slowed down considerably in the field, letting the youngsters do the chasing On that evidence, he was no better than mediocre *Points 5*

Experience—Has packed in an enormous amount of experience at all levels of cricket First played test cricket as a teenager against England in 1971 Has used his knowledge to good effect, showing an ability to perform in all manner of conditions. Hasn't been so keen to play in



series in Pakistan in recent times *Points 8*

Stamina—Imran has no shortcoming in this area He has a magnificent physique and comfortably handles long bowling spells while still maintaining his pace Even when he came back from injury, Imran didn't have problems with stamina at the bowling crease *Points 8*

Temperament—A cool operator, generally unflappable Has the ability to change mode to suit the circumstances in a match Can switch his batting approach from tight defence to aggressive hitting if required, and can also tailor his bowling to suit He's essentially an attacking cricketer but I'd still term him a safe one However, he has had problems off the field with Pakistani administrators and selectors At times, he has questioned the timing of internationals in Pakistan (claiming it has been too hot) and he has had so much influence the selectors have changed teams because he has said he wouldn't play otherwise All in all, I'd say he has had too much power for the good of cricket *Points: 8.*

Dedication—Imran trains hard and work diligently on his game Disciplined about his fitness and attitude towards cricket *Points 7*

Captaincy—Another facet of his game which disappointed in New Zealand last season Tends to be a solid captain but proved to be a bit negative in New Zealand. Didn't always exercise control over his players Not an astute skipper Created some strife when he closed Pakistan's innings in the Wellington test when I needed one more wicket to give me my 100th bag of five in an innings Stopped me inching closer to 400, too *Points 5*

Total points 56

I have no trouble in liming Clive Rice up in this exercise as well, even though he fails the test cricket qualificaton (through no fault of his own) I played with him for 10 years and saw him perform on all the first-class grounds and against top international players in England He has rated very well and deserves to be considered along with the other all rounders

Batting—Very watchful and desperately determined. A bit like Boycott in some ways in that he would play a bowler out Generally a collector of runs but, when he drives, he does so very firmly Isn't afraid to pull the quicks either when aggression is required A very good all round batsman, better than the rest of us *Points 8 5*

Bowling—When I joined Notts in 1978, Rice was as lethal as any other fast bowler around, he got the ball through very quickly and, when he learnt how to swing the ball, it added a new dimension to his game However, back and leg injuries restricted him and, when he eventually came back to bowling, it was as medium pacer, although he couldn't be underestimated Bowled more loose balls than the rest of us but was just as capable of removing a batsman *Points 5*

Fielding—A very good slip, probably averaging about 80 to 85 per cent of chances offered, which isn't too bad Also sharp at leg slip where he took a lot of good catches for Notts Only steady in the outfield, lacking pace when turning and chasing *Points 6*

Experience—Misses out here because he hasn't played test cricket but I'm considering him more as a first-class all rounder and giving him a special rating on that basis Scores well through experience on the county scene *Points 5*

Stamina—A strong, fit man who enjoyed some benefits through living and playing some 5000 feet above sea level in South Africa Had a great capacity for work and pushed himself physically to keep in shape Probably did more than anyone else on the county circuit *Points 9*

Temperament—Usually unflappable and got on with the game, no histrionics, just played it hard but fair Didn't quite do himself justice on many big occasions, like one-day finals at Lord's (the 1987 Natwest final being an exception) He rarely managed the magical important innings when run-chasing in the second innings of county matches He also had a tendency to fail against West Indian bowlers on the county circuit While it was the ultimate challenge for him to compete against them, the West Indians usually had the better of him *Points 6*

Dedication—Ultra determined to do well Because he missed out on test cricket, he was dedicated to proving himself whenever he played in the company of top players It was his only way of measuring his ability, as he did when he was called into the Bicentennial test match at Lord's in 1987 There was just no way he was going to lose his wicket *Points 8*

Captaincy—A tough and demanding leader, he expected everyone to be at optimum all the time He commanded and demanded that kind of effort but I thought he was a bit inflexible Tactically he was sound but not overly innovative I'd call him a percentages captain After being sacked as Notts captain, he was reinstated and played a major role in our success He had a creditable record as Notts skipper although I thought he was prone to drift at times perhaps other things were on his mind and distracted him *Points 6*

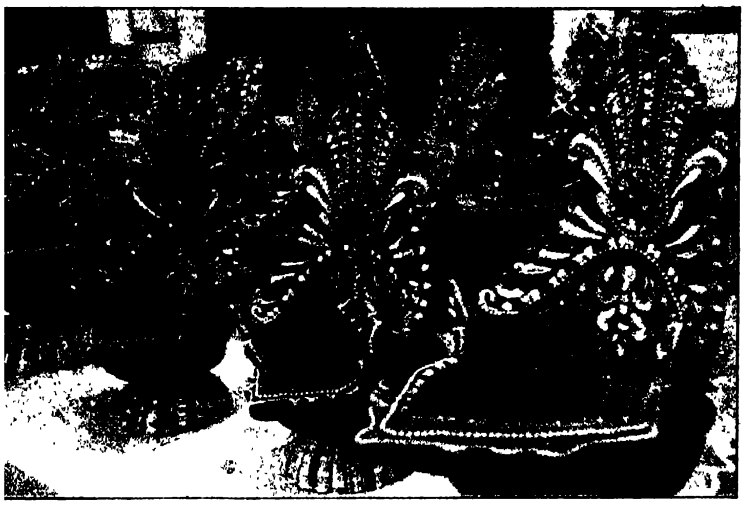
Total points 53 5

I've got no qualms about rating Imran the best—while Botham is well down Botham was undeniably brilliant in the earlier phase of his career, but I've looked at the players over their entire careers with a special view to analysing their performance in more recent times And I don't think there would be any argument that Botham's on shaky ground on the basis of displays later in his career

It's pertinent in that regard to look at some facts and figures from the 1987 calendar year, the last time the four of us (excluding Rice from this naturally) were all in test circulation Significantly, Botham scored only 248 runs at 27 55 (highest score 51 not out) in six tests in 1987 while, in the same period, he took just seven wickets at a cost of 70 28 each

Imran played in 10 tests in the 1987 calendar year, scoring 515 runs at 57 22 and taking 29 wickets at 29 20 while Kapil, in nine matches, totalled 349 runs at 31 72 and captured 23 wickets at 35 47 My return in seven tests that year was 336 runs at 48 00 and 39 wickets at 20 74

It doesn't really matter who's the best It's a case of we're only as good as our next performance That's the way we are judged by cricket writers, commentators and the game's lovers I'll leave it to you to decide ■





IN GOOD LIGHT



Uma Saraf recently exhibited her collection of exotically designed *diyas*



Photographs:
Kishor Roy Chowdhury

All information given on these pages is accurate at the time of going to press.

REGULAR SHOWS

Hindi Films

•**Aashiqui:** Orient (Bentinck Street, 281917)—12 3 6 9

Mahesh Bhatt s tribute to young love, starring debutants Anu Agarwal and Rahul Roy The music is by Nadeem Shravan

•**Agneekaal:** Opera (Lenin Sarani, 281849) Basusree (S P Mukherjee Road, 484808) Moonlight (T C Dutta Street 254956) Bina (Bidhan Sarani, 311522)

A tale of mass revolt, starring Jeetendra, Raj Babbar Madhavi, Sonu Walia, Kiran Kumar and Sadashiv Amrapurkar The film is directed by Abbas and Mustan

Milind.

•**Jamai Raja:** Paradise (Bentinck Street; 285442), Gem (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road, 249828), Jagat (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, 365108), Talkie Show House (Shibdas Bhaduri Street, 552270), Menoka (Sarat Chatterjee Avenue, 410417) Malancha (Regent Park)

Directed By A Kodandarami Reddy and with music by Laxmi kant Pyarelal the film stars Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit Hema Malini and Shakti Kapoor

•**Pratibandh:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141)—3 shows

A film by Ravi Raja, starring Chranjeevi and Juhi Chawla The music is by Laxmikant Pyarelal

Bengali Films

•**Aashrita:** Rupbani (Bidhan Sarani, 553413), Aruna (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 359561) Bharati (S P Mukherjee Road, 474686)—1, 4, 7

Mithu Mukherjee, Kanwaljeet and the music is by Hridaynath Mangeshkar

•**Balidaan:** Uttara (Bidhan Sarani, 552200)—3 6, 9 Purabi (Mahatma Gandhi Road 350680)—2 30 5 30 8 30, Ujjala



***Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, showing at Globe**



Manjula Das, Kanwaljeet and Mithu Mukherjee in *Aashrita*

and the music is by Pankaj Bhatt

•**Dil:** Metro (Chowringhee Road, 280141)—noon.

One of the recent big hits, starring Aamir Khan and Madhuri Dixit. The film is directed by Indra Kumar and the music is by Anand

and Manjula Das are the major attractions Others co-starring are Manoj Mitra, Bankim Ghosh, Prema Narayan, Shashi Puri, Bishnupriya Dutta, Sailen Mukherjee, Macmohan and Alpana Gupta The film is directed by Chandra Barot

(Russa Road, 478666)—3, 6, 8 45

Anil Ganguly's maiden Bengali directorial venture, starring Raakhee, Subhendu Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar, Papiya Adhikari, Nayana Das, Shakuntala Barua, Biplab Chatterjee, Abhishek Chatterjee, debuatante Rupali and Tapas Paul The music is by Bappi Lahiri

•**Chakranta (A):** Darpana (Bidhan Sarani, 558080)—3 shows Prachi (Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road, 271282)—2, 5, 7 45

Directed by Deb Singha and with music by Mrinal Banerjee, the main cast includes Prasenjit, Satabdi Roy, Biplab Chatterjee, Rabi Ghosh and Soumitra Chatterjee

•**Debata (A):** Minar (Bidhan Sarani, 552753), Bijoli (S P Mukherjee Road, 473462), Chhabighar (Mahatma Gandhi Road, 352740)—2 45, 5 30, 8 15

Victor Banerjee Debasmree Roy, Dilip Roy Anup Kumar Kali Banerjee, Indrani Halder, Arjun Chakraborty and Ranjit Mullick comprise the main cast The film is directed by Abhijit Sen and the

Poonam Dhillon in *Nyaydando*



music is by R.D. Burman

•Monmayuree: Sree (Bidhan Sarani, 551515)—3, 6, 8.45

Moushumi Chatterjee, Tapas Paul, Deepankar De, Sreela Majumder, Subhendu Chatterjee, Lily Chakraborty, Sunil Mukherjee and Master Rintu are the chief attractions of this film, directed by Biresh Chatterjee The music is by Swapan Chakraborty

•Nyaydando (A): Hind (Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 272473), Radha (Bidhan Sarani, 553045), Purna (S P Mukherjee Road, 474567)—3 shows.

Poonam Dhillon's debut Bengali film which also stars Arjun Chakraborty, Utpal Dutt, Biplab Chatterjee, Papiya Adhikari, Soumitra Banerjee, Rajeshwari Roy Choudhury, debutant Sukanta, Master Bubun and Piya Das The film is directed by Sukhen Das and the music is by Ajoy Das

Special Events

4 November: 3 pm

Natasena will stage *Pratibidhitsa*—a play by Amal Chakraborty and directed by Saroj Roy The music and costume are by Debangsu Sengupta and Jochan Dostidar, respectively

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road 284302)

4-7 November: 3 pm—8 pm

An exhibition of J S Schuldess' paintings in the Central Gallery

• Akeeo will hold an exhibition of paintings in the North Gallery.

• An exhibition of paintings by Arghya Priya Majumdar, Parag Roy and Ashok Bhaduri in the New South Gallery

• Photographic Association of Belgharia will hold an exhibition of photographs in the South and New galleries

4-10 November: 3 pm – 8 pm

Sanjit Saha will hold his exhibition of paintings in the West Gallery

8 November onwards: 3 pm – 8 pm

A week long exhibition of paintings and sculptures, organised by Impression 87 in the New South Gallery

• Photographic Association of Bengal will hold a week-long exhibition of photographs in the New Gallery.

At Academy of Fine Arts (Cathedral Road; 284302)

8 November: 6 pm

Binkar presents a vocal smyphony (audio visual) and Bengali songs by Jayanta Bose.

At Kala Mandir (Shakespeare Sarani, 449086)

8 & 9 November: 6.30 pm

Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Indo-US Subcommission on Education and Culture present Merce Cunningham Dance Company from the US in *Rainforest, August Pace* and *Pictures*

At Rabindra Sadan (Cathedral Road. 289978)

Planes

NOTE: All arrival and departure times are for Calcutta. Figures in brackets denote the days, 1 being Monday.

International

London-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (1) AI-132 AI-1320 at 1300

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York. Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240

Calcutta-Bombay-Dubai. Dep (2) AI-101/AI-743 at 0240

Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Tokyo: Arr (5) AI-306 at 1830 Dep (5) AI-306 at 1930

Tokyo-Bangkok-Calcutta-Bombay: Arr (6) AI-309 at 1825 Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935

Calcutta-Bombay-London-New York: Dep (6) AI-309/AI-1101 at 1935

Calcutta-Delhi-Paris-London: Dep (7) AI 1651/AI-135 at 0500

Calcutta-Delhi-Rome-Frankfurt: Dep (7) AI-1651/AI-165 at 0500

New York-London-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (7) AI-112/AI-1122 at 0340

Frankfurt-Rome-Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-162/AI-1320 at 1300

Moscow-Dubai-Calcutta. Arr (4) SU-537 at 1525

Calcutta-Dubai-Moscow. Dep (4) SU-538 at 1725

Amman-Calcutta: Arr (1 4) RJ-184 at 0730

Calcutta-Amman (via Bangkok): Dep (1, 4) RJ-181 at 0830

Calcutta-Singapore: Dep (2) SQ-416 at 1120 and Dep (4) SQ-420 at 1315

Singapore-Calcutta: Arr (2) SQ-416 at 1020 and Arr (4) SQ-420 at 1215

Calcutta-Bangkok: Dep (2, 4, 7) IC-731 at 1050, Dep (1, 3, 6). TG-314 at 1355, Arr (2, 4, 7) IC-732 at 1640, Arr (1, 3, 6) TG-313 at 1240

Delhi-Calcutta-Dhaka: Arr (6) IC-843 at 0755; Dep (6) IC-843 at 0855

Dhaka-Calcutta-Delhi: Arr (6) IC-844 at 1115, Dep (6). IC-844 at 1215

Calcutta-Kathmandu: Dep (2 4, 6 7) IC-747 at 1600, Dep (1, 5) RA-214 at 1530 Arr (2 4 6 7) IC-748 at 1930, Arr (1, 5) RA-213 at 1430

Calcutta-Dhaka: Dep (1, 3 5, 6) IC-723 at 1340, Dep (7) IC-223 at 1340, Dep (2 3, 5, 6) BG-092 at 1050, Dep (4) BG-092 at 1130, Dep (2, 3, 6) BG-094 at 1620 and BG-096 at 1940, Dep (5) BG-098 at 1820

Dhaka-Calcutta: Arr (1, 3, 5, 6) IC-724 at 1600, Arr (7) IC-224 at 1540, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) BG-091 at 1010, Arr (2, 3, 6) BG-093 at 1540 and BG-095 at 1910, Arr (5) BG-097 at 1740

Calcutta-Chittagong: Dep (6) IC-225 at 1330 Dep (2 5) BG-698 at 1415

Chittagong-Calcutta. Arr (6) IC-226 at 1550 Arr (2 5) BG-697 at 1330

Calcutta-Paro: Dep (2) KB-106 at 0900, Arr (2) KB-105 at 0800

Domestic

Air-India

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (7) AI-1651 at 0500

Delhi-Calcutta: Arr (1) AI-1320 at 1300, Arr (7) AI-1122 at 0340

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (2) AI-101 at 0240, Dep (6) AI-309 at 1935

Bombay-Calcutta. Arr (5) AI-306 at 1815

Indian Airlines

Calcutta-Delhi: Dep (daily) IC-263 at 0630 and IC-402 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-401 at 1135 and IC-264 at 2225

Calcutta-Bombay: Dep (daily) IC-273 at 1955 and IC-176 at 0855 Arr (daily) IC-274 at 1855 and IC-175 at 0755

Calcutta-Madras: Dep (daily) IC-265 at 1700, Arr (daily) IC-266 at 2150

Calcutta-Bangalore: Dep (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-271 at 1500, Arr (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-272 at 2025

Calcutta-Vizag-Madras: Dep (1, 2 4, 6) IC-542 at 0730, Arr (1) IC-541 at 0945 and Arr (2, 4, 6) IC-541 at 1310

Calcutta-Guwahati. Dep (daily) IC-229 at 1250 Arr (daily) IC-230 at 1550

Calcutta-Dibrugarh: Dep (1 2, 3, 4 5 6) IC-201 at 1130, Arr (1, 3 5, 6) IC-202 at 1245 Arr (2, 4) IC-202 at 1500

Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1030, Arr (3, 5, 7) IC-213 at 1540

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur: Dep (1 3, 5 6) IC-219 at 1120, Arr (1, 3 5, 6) IC-220 at 1600

Calcutta-Bagdogra: Dep (daily) IC-2211 at 1100, Arr (daily) IC-222 at 1320

Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (daily) IC-241 at 0700, Dep (2, 4) IC-243 at 1400, Dep (3 5, 6, 7) IC-243 at 0600, Dep (1) IC-243 at 1400, Arr (daily) IC-242 at 0900, Arr (2, 4) IC-244 at 1600 Arr (3, 5, 6, 7) IC-244 at 1020, Arr (1) IC-244 at 1600

Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal: Dep (daily) IC-255 at 0600, Arr (daily) IC-256 at 1030

Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad: Dep (3, 5, 6) IC-269 at 1710, Arr (3, 5, 6) IC-270 at 2040

Calcutta-Hyderabad: Dep (1, 2, 7) IC-277 at 1745, Arr (1, 2, 7) IC-278 at 2215

Calcutta-Port Blair: Dep (2, 4) IC-285 at 0545, Arr (2, 4) IC-286 at 1015

Calcutta-Port Blair-Car Nicobar: Dep (1) IC- 287 at 0545, Arr (1) IC-288 at 1235

Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi: Dep (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-410 at 0630 Arr (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) IC-409 at 1510

Printed here is the regular Indian Airlines schedule. This is, however, subject to change. Passengers are advised to keep track of announcements made by Indian Airlines in the press. For assistance, they may contact 262548, 262685, 266869, 262417, 569433, 569841/2/3/4/5 and 569633.

Vayudoot

Calcutta-Agartala-Imphal: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-727 at 0530, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-728 at 1120

Calcutta-Agartala-Silchar: Dep (7) PF-729A at 0550, Arr (7) PF-730A at 1050

Calcutta-Shillong-Guwahati-Calcutta: Dep (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-701 at 1140, Arr (1, 3, 5, 7) PF-702 at 1615

Calcutta-Agartala-Kamalpur-Kailashahar-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-729 at 0550, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-730 at 1040

Calcutta-Silchar-Shillong-Guwahati-Silchar-Calcutta: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF-701 at 1100, Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-702 at 1715

Calcutta-Rourkela: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-715 at 0600, Arr (1, 3, 5) PF-716 at 0855

Calcutta-Guwahati-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep (2, 6) PF-709 at 0815, Arr (2, 6) PF-710 at 1840

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh: Dep (4) PF-709 at 0815, Arr (4) PF-710 at 1750

Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur-Jorhat-Lilabari-Dibrugarh-Tezu: Dep (7) PF-709 at 0600; Arr (7) PF-710 at 1705

Calcutta-Aizawl-Silchar-Guwahati: Dep (1, 3, 5, 7).

PF-705 at 0915; Arr. (1, 3, 5, 7): PF-706 at 1620.
Calcutta-Agartala: Dep (1, 3, 5): PF-729A at 1130; Arr. (1, 3, 5): PF-730A at 1410

Calcutta-Aizawl-Agartala-Calcutta: Dep. (2, 4, 6). PF-705 at 0910 and PF-729B at 1310; Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-706 at 1255 and PF-730B at 1655

Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Patna: Dep (1, 3, 5) PF-725 at 0550; Arr (1, 3, 5). PF-726 at 1115
Calcutta-Jamshedpur: Dep (2, 4, 6) PF- 717 at 0550; Arr (2, 4, 6) PF-718 at 0745
Calcutta-Cooch Behar: Dep (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-707 at 0600, Arr (2, 4, 6, 7) PF-708 at 0855

Trains

EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Time	Arrival Dn
2311	19-00	**Delhi-Kalka Mail**	8-30	2312
3005	19-20	**Amritsar Mail**	8-05	3006
3003	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Allahabad	13-15	3004
2381	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Gaya-Varanasi Dep—Tues, Thurs & Sat Arr—Wed Fri & Sun	18-00	2382
2303	9-15	**Air-Cond. (New Delhi) Express** via Patna Dep—Mon Wed Fri & Sun Arr—Mon Tues Thurs & Sat	18-00	2304
2301	16-00	**Rajdhani Express** 5 days a week Dep- Mon Tues Thurs Fri & Sun Arr—Tues Wed Thurs Sat & Sun	11-30	2302
2373	23-00	**Himgiri (Jammu-Tawi) Express** Tri-Wkly Dep—Tues Fri & Sat Arr—Tues Wed & Sat	11-10	2374
2547	13-15	**Purbanchal (Gorakhpur) Express*** Dep Mon & Thurs Arr—Thurs & Mon	4-15	2548
3009	20-05	**Doon Express** via Grand Chord	7 20	3010
3007	9-45	**Udayan Abha Toofan Express** via Main Line	18-15	3008
3049	13-05	**Amritsar Express**	15-45	3050
3011	20-45	**Delhi Express** via Main Line	6 10	3012
3039	20-55	**Delhi Janata Express** via Main Line	5-30	3040
3019	16-00	**Lucknow Express**	11 55	3020
3021	22-00	**Mithila Express**	5 00	3022
2557	6-00	**Kanchenjunga Express**	20 50	2558
5659	17-35	**Kamrup (Guwahati) Express**	6-30	5660
3317	6-10	**Black Diamond Express**	21-25	3318
3029	17-15	**Coalfield Express**	10-30	3030
3035	18-20	**Asansol Express**	8-45	3036
3031	21-00	**Danapur Express**	6-35	3032
3025	23-00	**North Bihar Express** Dep—Wednesday Arr—Friday	11-10	3026
3071	22-05	**Jamalpur Tri-wkly Express** Dep—Tues Thurs & Sat Arr—Mon Thurs & Sat	6-00	3072
3015	9-55	**Santiniketan Express**	15-40	3016
2159	15-25	**Chambal (Gwalior) Tri-weekly Superfast Express** Dep—Thurs Sat & Sun Arr—Tues Wed & Thurs	7-30	2160
1171	15-25	**Shipra (Indore) Express** Dep—Tues & Wed Arr—Sat & Sun	7-30	1172
3327	15-25	**Shaktipunj (Chopan) Express** Dep & Arr—Mon & Fri	7-30	3328
5049	22-25	**Gorakhpur Express** Dep & Arr—Sunday	10-40	5050
		Sealdah		
3143	19-00	**Darjeeling Mail**	8-45	3144
3153	21-40	**Gour Express**	6-15	3154
3151	11-20	**Jammu-Tawi Express**	16-30	3152
3133	20-45	**Mughal Sarai Express** via SBG Loop	12-50	3134
3103	18-20	**Bhagirathi (Laigola) Express**	10-25	3104
5185	12-40	**Chhapra Express Tri-weekly** Dep & Arr—Wed Fri. & Sun	4-30	5186

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

Departure Up	Time	Howrah	Time	Arrival Dn
6003	20 45	**Madras Mail**	6-45	6004
8002	20-00	**Bombay Mail** via Nagpur	7-25	8001
2860	13-10	**Gitanjali (Bombay) Express**	14-30	2859
8034	21-00	**Ahmedabad Express**	4-30	8033
8030	12-05	**Bombay Express** via Nagpur	15-15	8029
2841	14 45	**Coromandel (Madras) Express**	11-30	2842
2611	22-35	**Bangalore Express** Dep—Tues Arr- -Sun	13-45	2612
8013	17-30	**Tata Steel Express**	10-20	8014
8011	6-10	**Ispat Express**	21 45	8012
8005	21 40	**Sambalpur Express**	6-55	8006
8015	21-15	**Ranchi Hatia Express**	6-05	8016
8007	22 15	**Puri Express** Via Cuttack	5-30	8008
8409	19 20	**Jagannath (Puri) Express** Via Naraj	7-45	8410
2821	5-55	**Dhauli (Bhubaneswar) Express**	21-20	2822
8079	23-15	**Tirupati Express**	4-15	8080
8045	11-30	**East Coast (Hyderabad) Express**	14 45	8046
8017	16 45	**Purulia Express** Dep –Except Saturday Arr– Except Sunday	11-20	8018
2602	22-35	**Guwahati - Howrah - Trivandrum Central Express** Monday only	22-15	—
	14-10	**Trivandrum Central - Howrah - Guwahati Express** Saturday only	13 45	2601
–	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Howrah) Thursday only	13 45	2649
2650	22-35	**Guwahati-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Visakhapatnam) Saturday only	22-15	
2652	22-35	**Cochin Harbour Terminus Superfast Express** (via Visakhapatnam & Madras) Dep—Fri & Sun Arr Tues & Fri	13 45	2651
2674	22-35	**Guwahati-Bangalore City Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Wednesday only	22-15	—
–	14-10	**Bangalore City-Guwahati Weekly Express** (via Howrah & Cuttack) Monday only	13-45	2673
2610	22-35	**Patna-Cochin Harbour Terminus Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Thursday only	22-15	—
—	14-10	**Cochin Harbour Terminus-Patna Weekly Express** (via Howrah) Wednesday only	13-45	2609

ENQUIRIES: For round the clock information of Eastern Railway trains, please dial 203545-54 for in-coming trains; 203535-44 for all other information. For information about reservations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways trains, dial 203500 (from 9 am to 9 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 2 pm on Sundays and gazetted holidays).



Dr Ashish Kumar Roy reports from Jamshedpur

"A quiz was organised in the M G M Medical College, Jamshedpur Quiz Master Kaushik Bhattacharya conducted the quiz along with Anurag Srivastav as the hostess Kaushik conducted a special round for the audience in which even the senior doctors participated enthusiastically Dr B Mohanty, Dr Kishore and Dr K N Sharma had done the research work for the quiz '

'In which film did Charlie Chaplin play the LittleTramp for the last time? asks one of our readers

Modern Times was the last appearance ever made by the Little Tramp as Chaplin s baggy-pants character was known for two decades *Modern Times* was also the last major silent picture made until Mel Brooks *Silent Movie* It was filmed in 1935 and released in 1936 almost 10 years after the advent of sound Chaplin the genius of silents, made a heroic stand against talkies saying "A good silent picture is superior to a good stage play, while a good talking picture is inferior to a good stage play ' He planned to continue making silent films, using famous casualities of the sound era such as John Gilbert, but he got no further than *Modern Times* His next picture, *The Great Dictator,* was done with recorded dialogue (Actually, *Modern Times* does have a sound track, but it consists only of Chaplin s score, the gibberish ditty he signs while waiting on tables, and some sound effects)

Chaplin, whose ideas for films often gestated for years began thinking about *Modern Times* when a reviewer wrote that *City Lights,* a film Chaplin made in 1931 about a little flower girl was sentimental and that Charlie should address himself to more realistic stories Then the plot began to jell when a reporter told Chaplin about automobile assembly-line workers who went crazy on their jobs in Detroit factories

Some of the reviews were favourable, others were not Today Chaplin s gags and stunts seem devastatingly inventive and funny, but in 1936 *Modern Times* was not to the public s taste They no longer found slapstick amusing and preferred the witty repartee of such films as *The Thin Man* and *It Happened One Night*

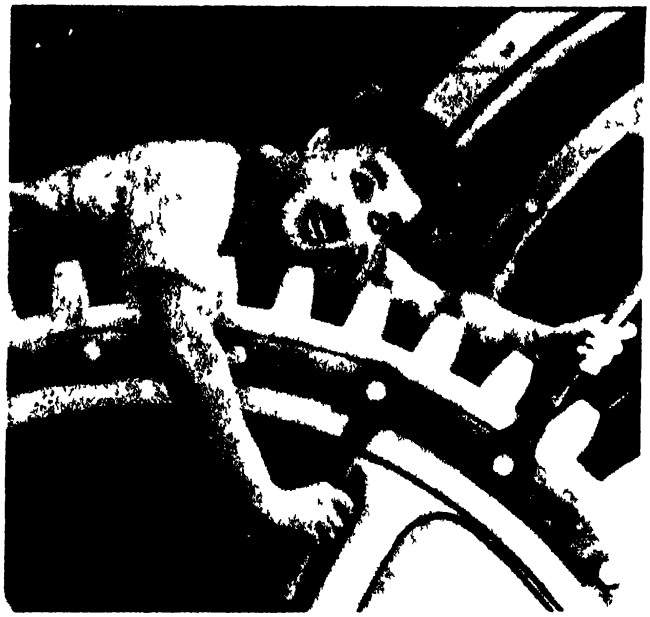
Also Chaplin s political views were questionable to many people and they considered *Modern Times* to be communist propaganda The film was banned in Germany and Italy However according to a critic who saw it in Moscow the Russians thought it was an insulting commentary on Soviet efficiency and sat through it in absolute silence Chaplin himself denied that the picture had political implications The theme is about two nondescripts trying to get along in modern times he said There are those who always attach social significance to my work It has none

Postscript: I have received many letters asking for the dates of the All-India North Star Quiz in various cities The bad news is—The North Star Quiz is postponed Await further details The good news Argus Close Up Quiz at the DI this week—9th, 10th and 11th

CBS

11th Question: **In the USA, what is job action? (Othello Mazoomdaar, c/o B.N. Ghosh, Sripur, Charaktala, Boral 743 505.)**

Ans: **Any means of organised protest short of general strike, as a work showdown, used by employees legally forbidden to strike.**



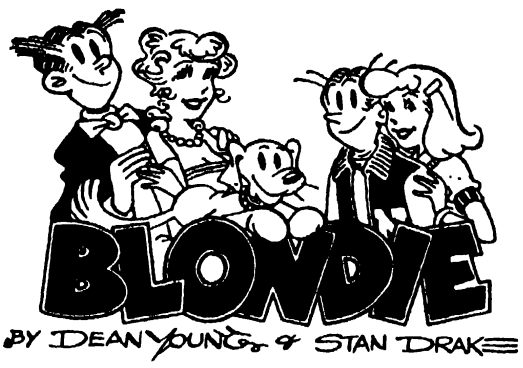
Charlie Chaplin in *Modern Times*

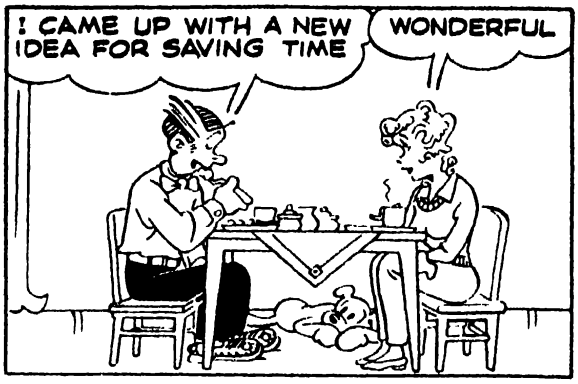
QUESTIONS

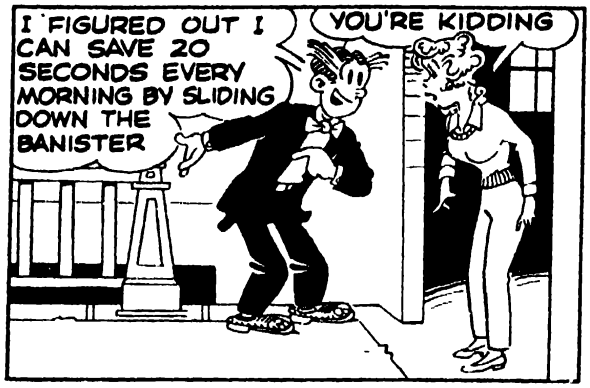
1. Which Bengali poet died in a tram accident in Calcutta? (Manohar Mandal, Nabadweep 2)
2. What is the name of the Best Picture award given at the Cannes Film Festival? (Santosh Kumar Saha, Bargarh 40)
3. Which Indian singer performed in the Royal Festival Hall in the Queen Mother's 80th birthday concert? (Sudesh Kumar Pandey, Bargarh 40)
4. What is Dutch treat? (Ajay Kumar Panigrahi, Bargarh 40)
5. Who discovered the transmission of blood from one man to another and when? (Rezaul Arfin, Calcutta 14)
6. Only two cricketers who got a place in Sunil Gavaskar's book, Idols, did not play in a Test. Name them. (Mohan Kumar Agarwal, Bargarh 30)
7. What did the famous poet, Lord Byron write on "Darkness"? (G. Rajesh, Bargarh 30)
8. Who is the author of the book, Sahitya Samrat Bankim Chandra? (Sudhendu Banerjee, Dasghara)
9. Who said, "The hardest metal yields to sufficient heat. Even so must the hardest heart melt before sufficiency of the heat of non-violence. And there is no limit to the capacity of non-violence to generate heat."? (Harsh Chopra, Calcutta)
10. What is the name of the space between the rings of the planet Saturn (Biswajit P. Bora, [illegible])

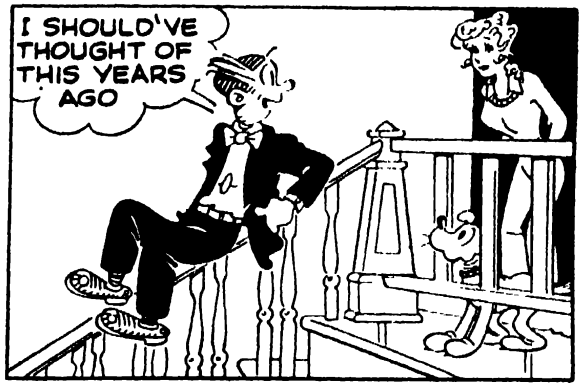
ANSWERS

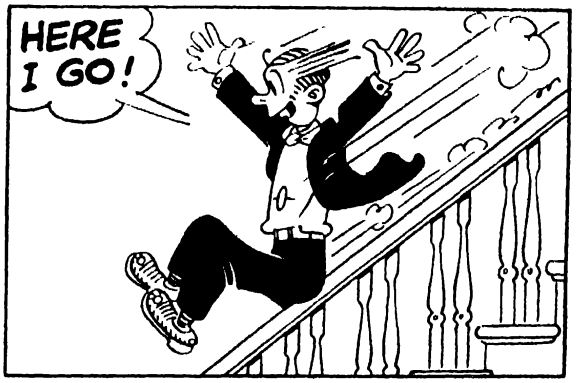
1. Nabakanta Barua (Dodoma)
2. Palme d'Or
3. Ravi Shankar
4. Dutch treat is a meal where each one pays his own bill.
5. An environment in which every one plays the game.
6. "The Alps Mountains.
7. Rajesh Singh.
8. Manohar Gandhi.
9. Mahatma Gandhi.
10. Cassini's Division.

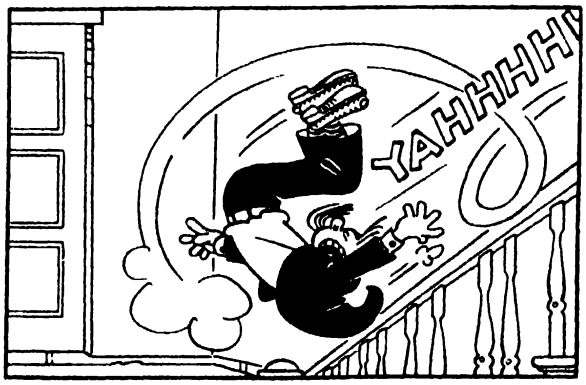


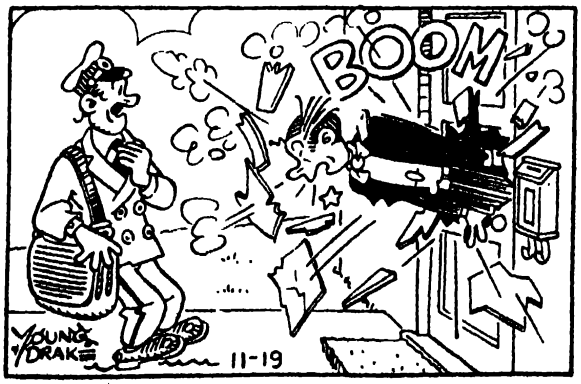




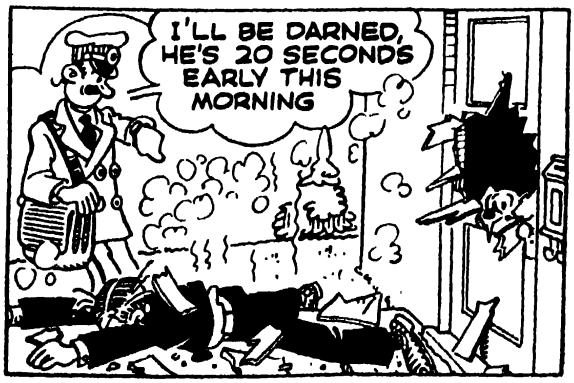




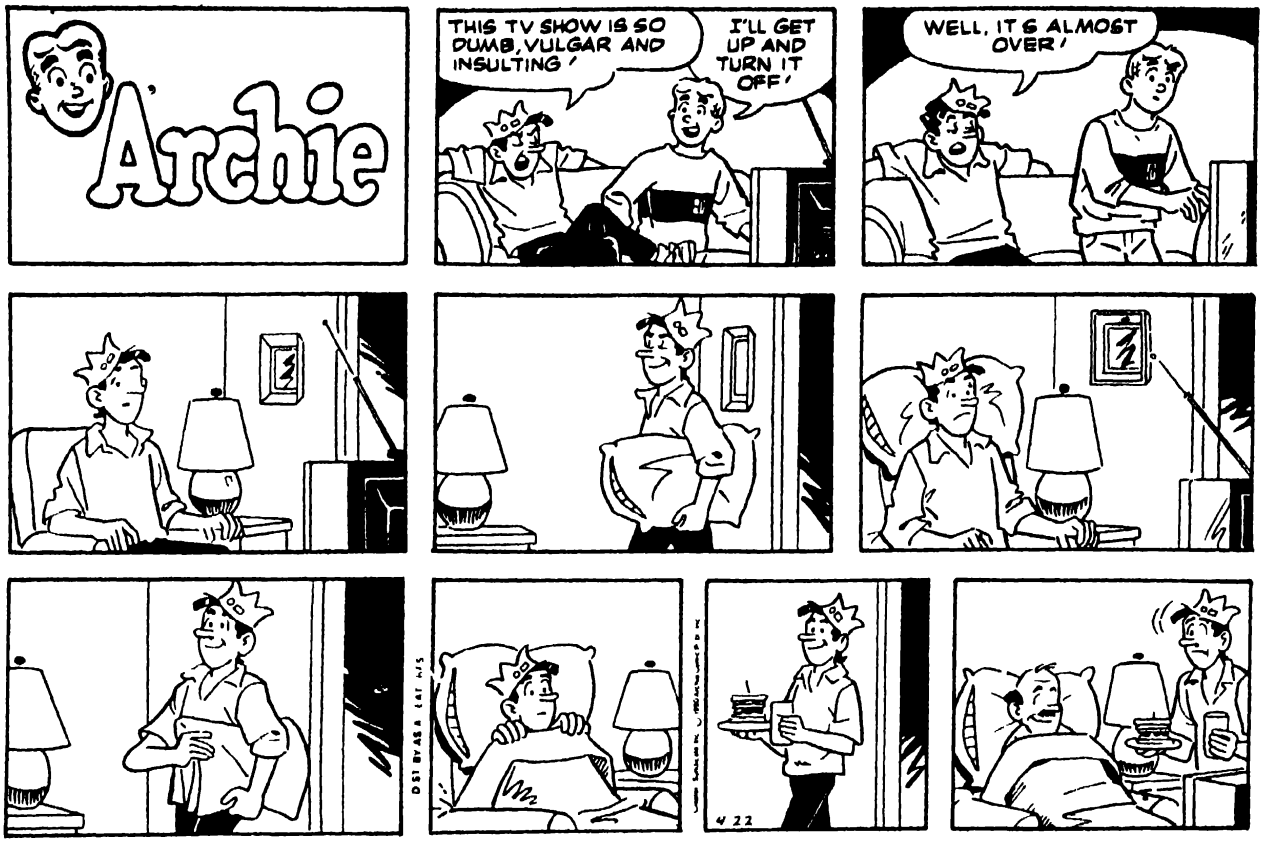




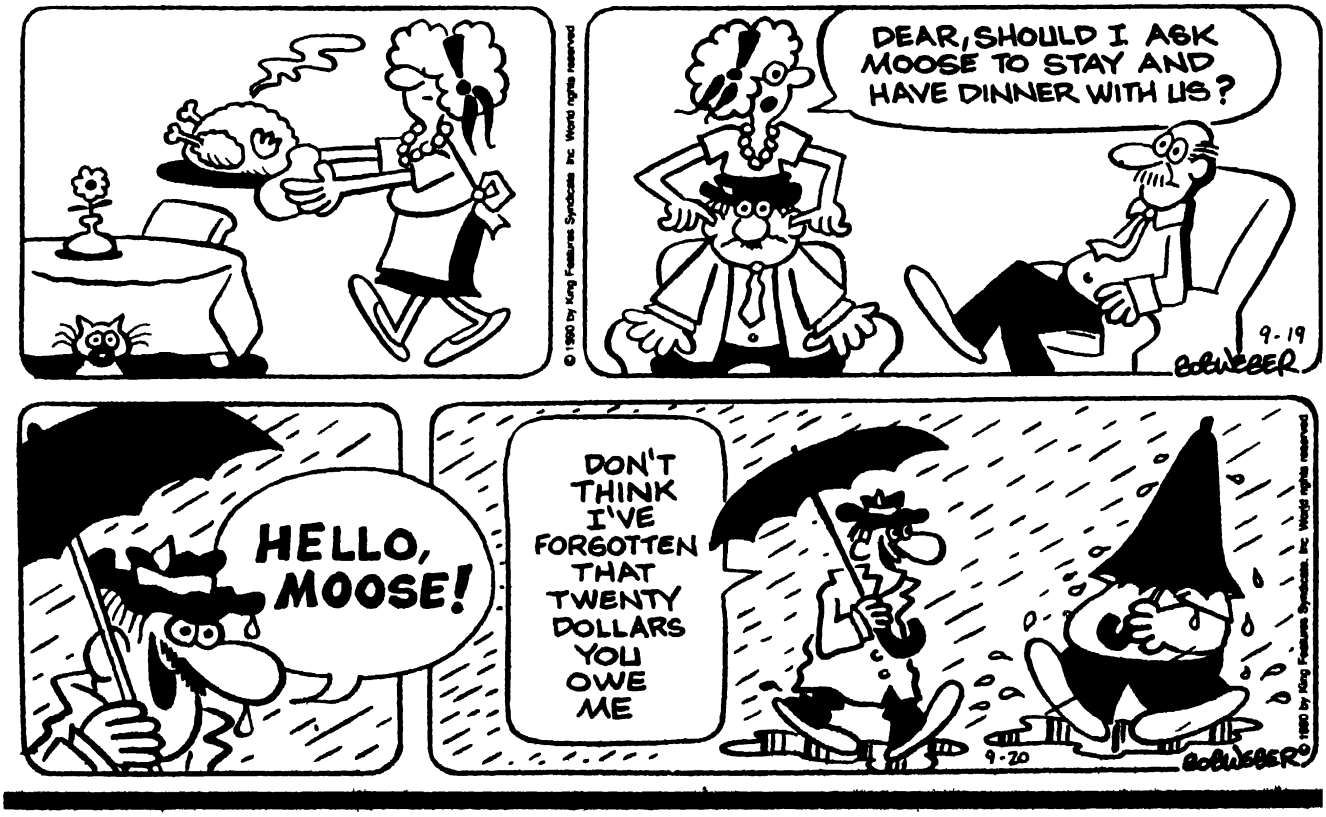
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ARCHIE

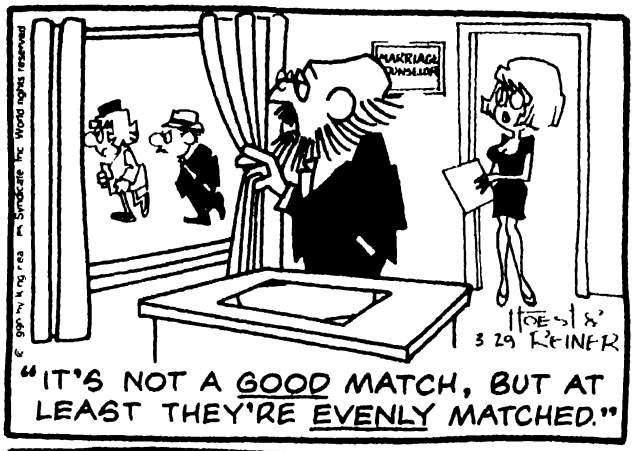


MOOSE MILLER by BOB WEBER



THE LOCKHORNS

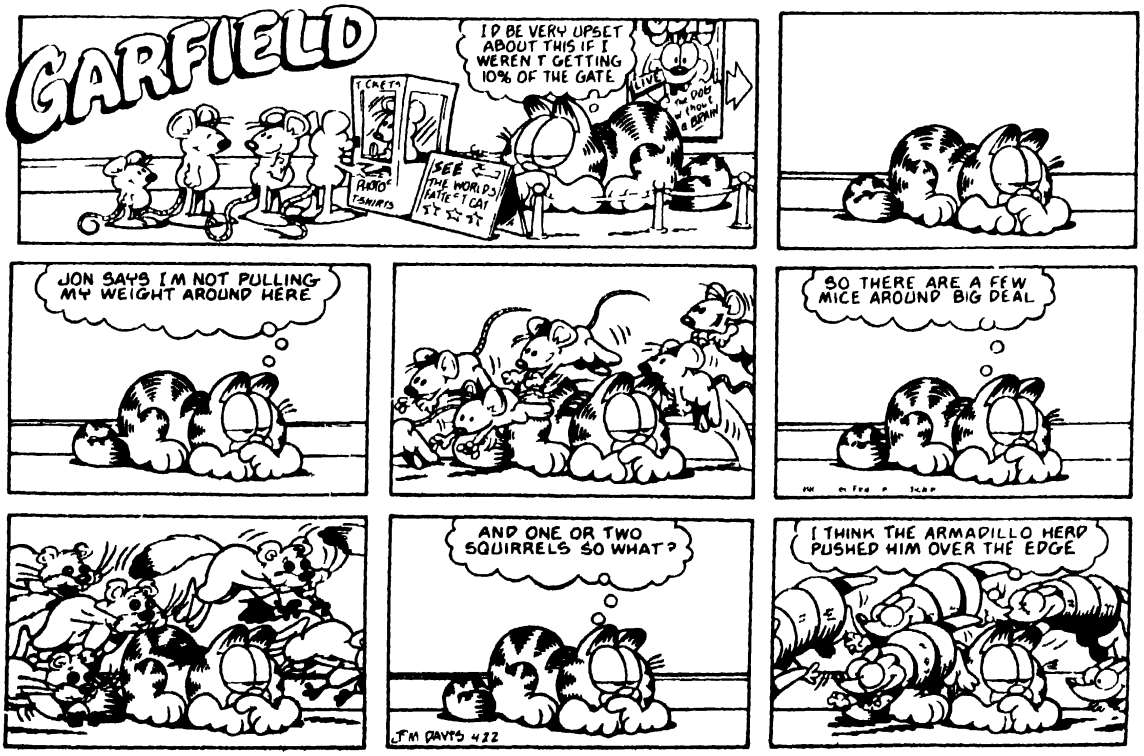






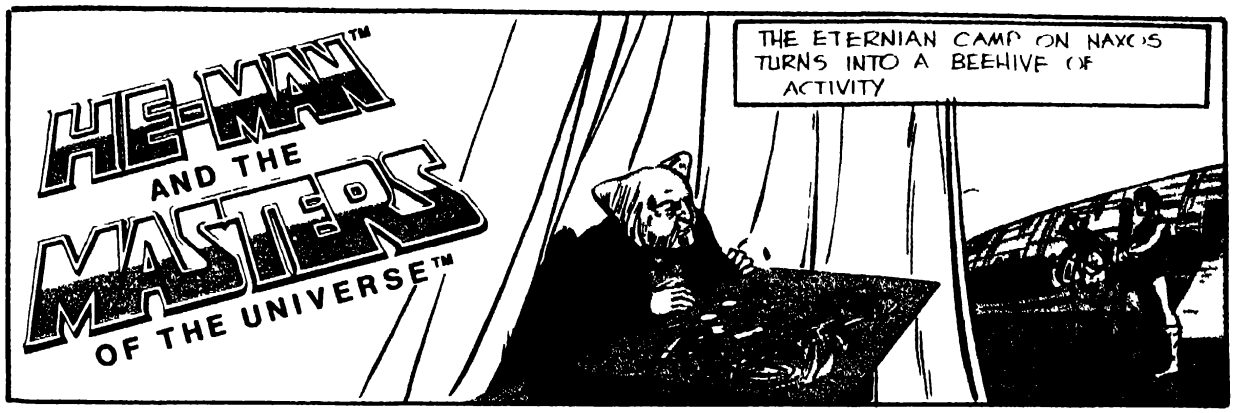


GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE ADVENTURES OF LEGIONNAIRE DEAD HEAT




HE-MAN™
AND THE
MASTERS
OF THE UNIVERSE™
THE ETERNIAN CAMP ON NAXOS TURNS INTO A BEEHIVE OF ACTIVITY

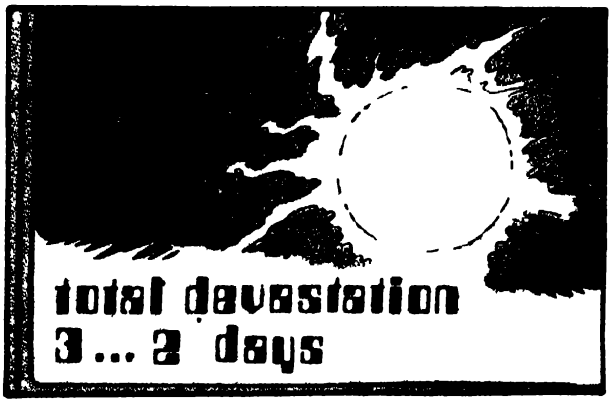

AS SOON AS GWILDOR READIES THAT LEONAT TRANSLATOR WE'LL ORKO?!
I'M SO HOT GETTING DIZZY

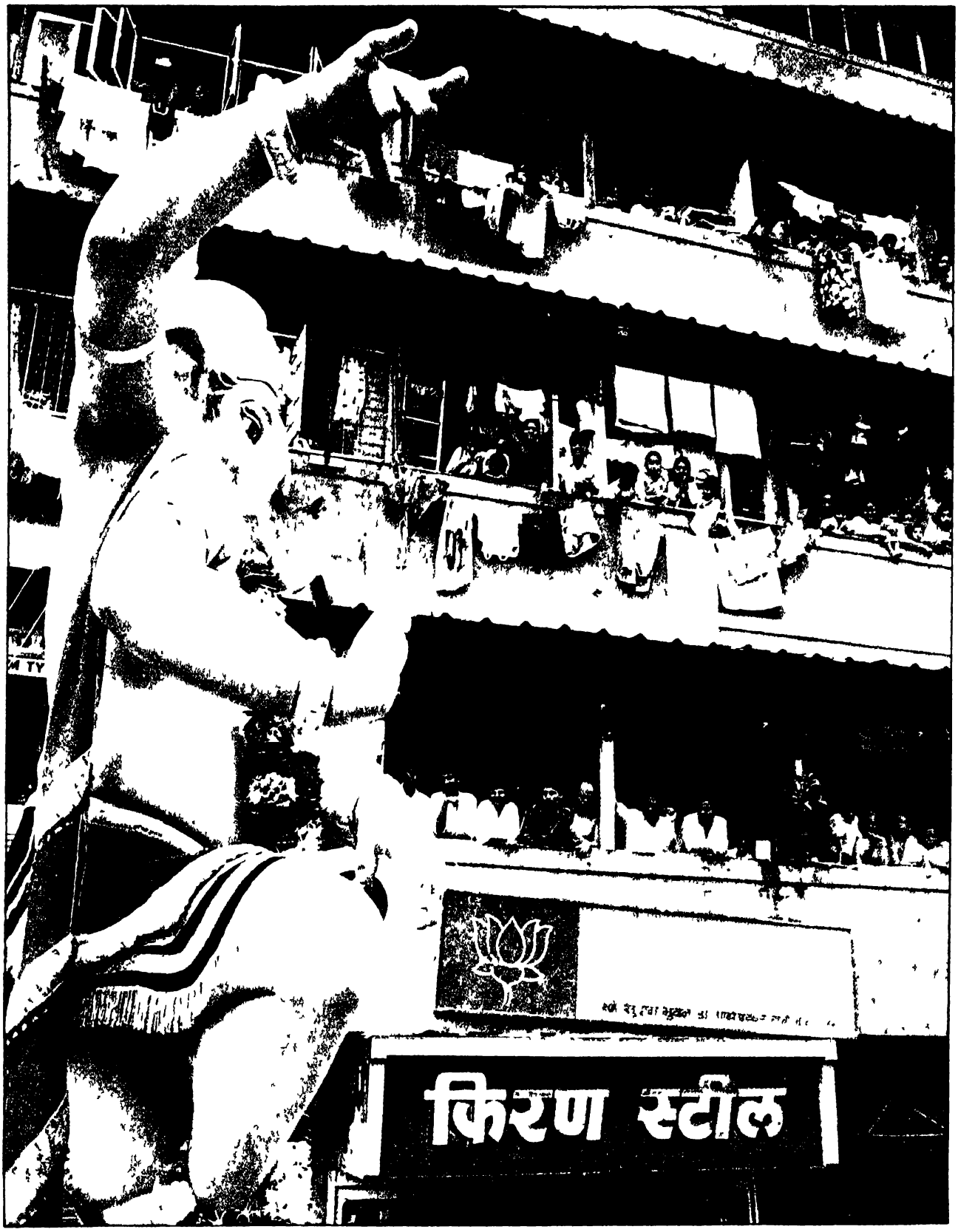

MOMENTS LATER...
MORE SOLAR FLARES?
EXACTLY!
ORKO'S TRALLAN METABOLISM REACTS TO THE RADIATION QUICKER THAN YOURS OR MINE!


THE RADIATION... I BET THAT'S WHAT'S THREATENING THE LEONATS!


OOH! YOU MEAN THOSE LITTLE GUYS WERE TRYING TO ASK US TO TURN DOWN THE HEAT?
10/15


OF COURSE! MY FIGURES CONFIRM WHAT THE LEONATS GUESSED LOOK WHAT HAPPENS IF THESE SOLAR FLARES CONTINUE!
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total devastation
3... 2 days

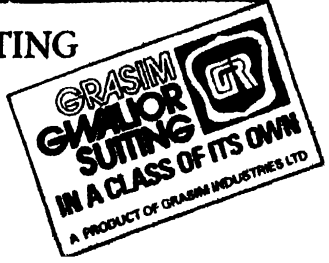


Photograph: **Rajesh Kumar**

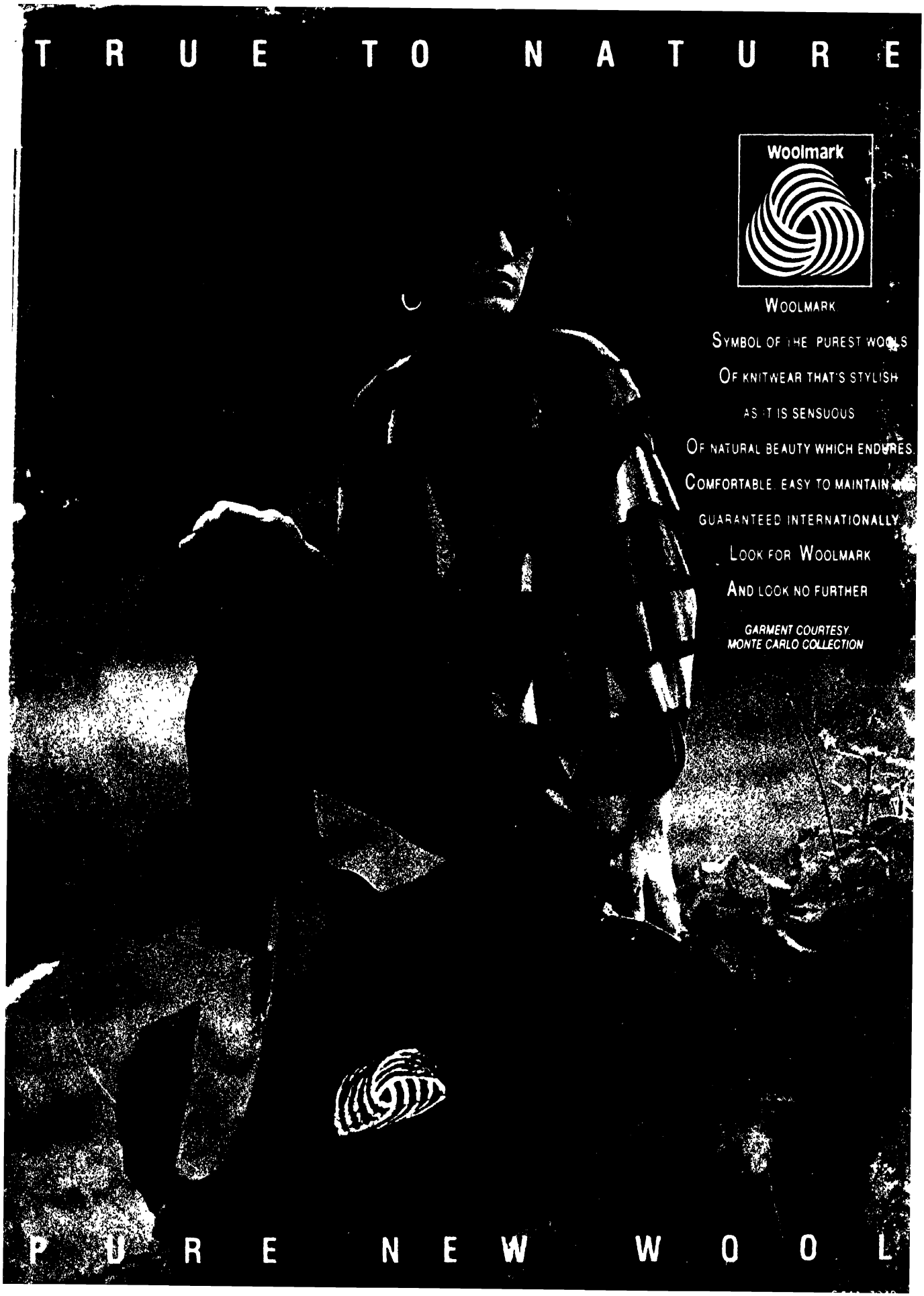
LIKE THE WARMTH IN YOUR HEART



TERENE/WOOL WORSTED FROM GWALIOR SUITING






TRUE TO NATURE
Woolmark
WOOLMARK
SYMBOL OF THE PUREST WOOLS
OF KNITWEAR THAT'S STYLISH
AS IT IS SENSUOUS
OF NATURAL BEAUTY WHICH ENDURES
COMFORTABLE EASY TO MAINTAIN
GUARANTEED INTERNATIONALLY
LOOK FOR WOOLMARK
AND LOOK NO FURTHER
GARMENT COURTESY
MONTE CARLO COLLECTION
PURE NEW WOOL